

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, February 2, 2008
Administrative Center – Room 3220
4:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Bina, Beverly Mach, Dennis Manthei (4:05), Marilyn Pedretti, Tom Rauk, and David Hansen (FSA rep.)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Don Meyer, Bob Keil

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF & GUESTS: Jeff Bluske, Steve Doyle, Ray Ebert, Brian Fukuda, Jason Gilman, Karl Green, Charles Handy, Mary Meehan-Strub, Bryan Meyer, Margaret Norden, Richard Sarazin, Sue Sheehan, Gregg Stangl, Tina Wehrs (La Crosse Area Builders Association), Mike Weibel

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Vice-Chair Tom Rauk called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Request for amendment to the December 29, 2009, Minutes made by Supervisor Mach, who noted that she also attended the Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committee State Conference Planning meeting, along with Bina, and Karl Green, Bob Matysik, Steve Huntzicker, and Mary Meehan-Strub.

MOTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT by Mach/Bina. Carried unanimously, Meyer and Keil excused.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AS AMENDED by Bina/Pedretti. Carried unanimously. Meyer and Keil excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Gilman, City of Onalaska, on behalf of the City, and authorized by the Mayor, stated that in regard to the Resolution on Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hamilton, Village of West Salem, City of Onalaska and La Crosse County, that the City of Onalaska does not want conflict among the parties, or expend resources, but to have open communication with its neighbors and promote conservative development.

ANNUAL WISCONSIN ASSOCIATED COUNTY EXTENSION COMMITTEES CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Supervisors Mach and Bina stated that the planning committee met on January 15 on the theme of "Cooperative Education – The Educational Tool Serving Wisconsin Counties," and had break-out sessions. Volunteers will be needed for the WACEC conference, which will be June 15-16, 2009, at the Radisson-La Crosse Hotel, with anticipated attendance of 150-200 people. Preliminary event plans include an auction and two to three tours. The next planning meeting will be a teleconference on February 5.

WESTERN DISTRICT WISCONSIN ASSOCIATED COUNTY EXTENSION COMMITTEES MEETING

Mary Meehan-Strub presented information about the district meeting, set for April 6, 2009, at Club 95 in Hixton, WI, along with the agenda for that meeting. If anyone would like to go, the deadline to respond is by the March PRD Committee meeting, so registrations and travel authorizations can be completed by March 24. Rides will be coordinated.

DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION 2008 ANNUAL REPORT.

Gregg Stangl provided copies of the 2008 Land Conservation Report. Gregg drew particular attention to efforts of the Land Conservation department on water quality improvements, showing what can be accomplished when resources are put toward a goal like Adams Creek.

MOTION by Manthei/Hanson to approve the Department of Land Conservation 2008 Annual Report. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meyer and Keil excused.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ANNUAL REPORTING, 2008

Charlie Handy presented. One of the goals in the Comprehensive Plan was to give some reporting to the County Board and PRD Committee on consistency and plan activities. There were 33 zoning petitions made to the County Board, with a number of approvals and conditional approvals, one withdrawal and one denial. Handy further stated that they work with landowners to move forward proposals that are approvable, and that with the ability to amend the comprehensive plan, the number of denials will stay low. Handy reported 16 of the 18 municipalities are very close to completing and adopting their plans.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION OF CANCELLATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HAMILTON, VILLAGE OF WEST SALEM, CITY OF ONALASKA AND LA CROSSE COUNTY

Supervisor Ebert was called upon, and Ebert said he had been asked by the Village of West Salem President and

Town of Hamilton Chairman to obtain a 30-day referral, but Resolution was passed by County Board. Since then, the Village has not passed, and at a special meeting the Town of Hamilton rescinded their Motion. It thus makes no sense to have the Resolution on record.

MOTION by Bina/Manthei to Adopt Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hamilton, Village of West Salem, City of Onalaska and La Crosse County.

Discussion ensued. Manthei noted that the Village of West Salem's Motion to Approve failed for lack of a second. Bina stated that the County should not have approved a four-way agreement unless all parties agreed, or it should be a two-way or three-way agreement. Rauk stated that the Resolution 92-2/08 was to approve a Memorandum of Understanding, and the understanding was not to divide up land, not to declare zoning or development commitments, but to work toward preparation of cooperative boundary agreements, participate in the public process, and draft standards for development. He further stated that to remove the commitment to have discussions would be a contradiction to the comprehensive plan, and should not be retracted. Board Chairman Doyle stated that it was not the County's business why West Salem/Hamilton want to back out, but the County is not pushing anything. The Memorandum of Understanding says that everyone agrees that they're going to cooperate and work together, which may not always happen. County has approved the Memorandum, but it doesn't force anyone to do anything. Doyle further stated that both the Finance Director and Corporation Counsel indicated on the Resolution that they did not recommend, and Doyle expected the Resolution to Cancel would fail. His concern is that it some will interpret a vote one way or the other on the Resolution as taking the side of one or another community. The Resolution neither forces nor prevents people from coming to the table. The best thing that could happen would be for Ebert to withdraw his resolution. Ebert stated he would not withdraw because constituents and both political leaderships had asked for it. Doyle reiterated that the Resolution is not binding, and reviewed all points of the Resolution. He further stated that the County's strategy should be to get people to try to work together. Ebert stated that the County picked sides before the Resolution, and withdrawal would be a return to neutral.

Upon review of the Motion made to Cancel the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Town of Hamilton, Village of West Salem, City of Onalaska and La Crosse County, a vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Bina, Manthei. No: Rauk, Pedretti, Mach. Meyer, Keil excused. **Motion failed**

RICHARD SARAZIN, OBO CAPITOL AIR SYSTEMS, INC. - REQUEST FOR 2ND ACCESS OFF EXISTING EASEMENT – TOWN OF ONALASKA.

Jeff Bluske reported that his staff was approached by Richard Sarazin to request granting of a second access off an existing easement, located off County Road Z in the Town of Onalaska, to allow a proposed property split to be sold to a local business. Questions were raised regarding the Town of Onalaska's approval, to which Sarazin replied that the Town was awaiting the County's approval. Rauk stated that it is up to the Town whether they maintain the road. There was further discussion regarding Highway Department approval. Mike Weibel stated that if the Committee approved, staff would issue a permit, the Highway Department would review, and remedies could be addressed. If the Committee approves, it should be contingent upon the fact that there is a maintenance agreement recorded.

MOTION by Bina/Pedretti to Approve the Request for 2nd Access Off Existing Easement – Town of Onalaska. Upon further discussion, Doyle suggested having the approval be contingent upon a recorded maintenance agreement and approval of the Highway Department with whatever requirements they impose as a condition of their approval. **Friendly Amendment to the Motion** approved by Bina/Pedretti. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meyer and Keil excused.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ebert asked if his Resolution would come up again, and Doyle responded that it would if there was a Minority Report offered and one of the two people who voted in the minority brought it up.

RECESS (5:26)

MOTION by Pedretti/Bina. to recess until the 6:00 p.m. public hearing. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meyer and Keil excused.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Margaret Norden, Recorder