

## **FARMLAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Thursday, December 2, 2010  
City Hall, Onalaska– Room 112  
6:00 PM – 7:17 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tina Wehrs; John Lautz; Keith Valiquette; Mike Weibel; Don Bina; Deena Murphy

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Mike Dummer; Marilyn Pedretti; Ilona Hansen

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF & GUESTS:** Charles Handy

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** 6:00 PM by Chair – Tina Wehrs

Approval of Minutes from August 17, 2010 and October 13, 2010 meetings.

**Motion Bina/Lautz to approve minutes**

**6 aye – 0 no – 3 excused (Dummer, Pedretti, Hansen)**

### **GOAL SETTING EXERCISE FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN**

Explanation by Charlie on the handout given out for this exercise

Purpose of goal setting exercise is to give the members an idea of what staff will be doing at the public informational meetings. Staff will work with the public and ask for their vision for their community or for the county. Discussion ensued on committee member's duties at the informational meetings.

### **APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FORMS FOR COUNTY PROGRAM**

Packet of applications for DATCP for PACE Grants for 2011 was presented, along with samples of successful 2010 State applications went out with emails to farmers who are applying this year. Staff requested that the committee approve using DATCP's applications for 2011.

**Motion Lautz/Weibel to use DATCP's application again and let people know that once it is submitted and we're going through it we may have some additional questions.**

**6 aye – 0 no – 3 excused (Dummer, Pedretti, Hansen)**

### **APPROVE RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A HALFWAY CREEK AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA**

Application for an Ag Enterprise area in La Crosse County handed out to committee.

Staff has been working with these landowners for about a year on this petition for Halfway Creek Agricultural Enterprise Area. This petition is landowner driven and will facilitate 15-year agreements. Discussion/Explanation ensued on application and location of property in application.

**Motion Weibel/Bina to approve the resolution and forward it on to the PR&D Committee.**

Discussion on motivation for this Enterprise Area:

- \$2.50 more in tax credits; Preserving farmland; Better score on PACE application; Most importantly cooperation between the landowners within the AEA

**6 aye – 0 no – 3 excused (Dummer, Pedretti, Hansen)**

### **SET UP NEXT MEETING**

Charlie made a recommendation to set up dates for the next couple of meetings.

General consensus is to try for 4:00 PM Meetings

January 20<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – meet at County Building Room 3220 at 4:00-5:30PM

February 17<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – meet at County Building Room 3220 at 4:00-5:30PM

**Motion Weibel/Lautz to adjourn at 7:17 PM.**

**6 aye – 0 no – 3 excused (Dummer, Pedretti, Hansen)**

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM

*The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next committee meeting  
Charles Handy, Recorder*