

MINUTES

Iowa County – Economic Development, Extension and Property Committee January 8, 2008

1. **The Economic Development, Extension and Property Committee met in the County Board Room of the Iowa County Courthouse in the City of Dodgeville on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 6:15 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Peter Berg.**
2. **Roll call was taken.**
Committee members present: Sups. Mark Masters, Brad Wells, Diane McGuire, Peter Berg, Dan Oleson, and Eric Anderson. Excused/absent: Sup. John Lind, Joe Thomas and Ron Berg.

Also present: SW Chapter Prairie Enthusiasts Brad and Barb Glass, Dave Ladd and Janet Huebner, Register of Deeds Dixie Edge, Jolene Millard, County Treasurer, Information Systems Director Amy Kaup, Planning & Development Director Scott Godfrey, UW Extension 4-H Agent Deb Ivey and Randy Terronez, County Administrator.
3. **Motion by Sup. Dan Oleson second by Sup. Diane McGuire to approve the certification of the meeting. Motion carried.**
4. **Motion by Sup. Dan Oleson second by Sup. Eric Anderson to approve the amended agenda for this January 8, 2009 meeting and to move Item #7 Waldwick Property to the start of the agenda. Motion carried.**
5. **Motion by Sup. Eric Anderson second by Sup. Diane McGuire to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.**
6. **Open session – Comments from audience /Committee members: None.**
7. **Old Business: None**
8. **New Business**

Prairie Enthusiasts Proposal for Purchase of Sylvan Road/Waldwick Town Property

Brad Glass, Barb Glass, Janet Huebner and Dave Ladd, representatives from the Prairie Enthusiasts were present and reviewed the proposal to apply for state Stewardship grant funds for the purchase of the 90 plus acre Waldwick property. A recap of recent work on this item including the fall 2008 tour of the property was reviewed.

Applying for the state Stewardship grant requires a 50% local match and the Prairie group is requesting the County to donate 50% of the property value to meet the grant match requirement. Additionally, the proposal calls for 20% of the property value be set aside as funds for a perpetual endowment. The effect of these proposals is that the County would receive 30% of the total property value.

Brad Glass noted that the appraisal would be paid by the Prairie Enthusiasts.

Sup. Brad Wells inquired if hunting would be allowed and Brad Glass indicated that the property would be required to have public access and would probably include hunting.

Discussion was given on the process of allowing others to indicate interest on the property. One suggestion was to have the County Board pass a policy-resolution that indicates its position on keeping the property as a “nature preserve”/conservation use. Scott Godfrey suggested the County requesting through the Planning and Zoning to have the property zoned Conservancy District which would provide a stronger legal land use.

Subject to processing a rezoning of the property, the Committee would proceed to work with the Prairie Enthusiasts on a state grant.

Motion by Sup. Eric Anderson second by Sup. Brad Wells to authorize the submission of the rezoning of the Waldwick property from Ag-1 to Conservancy District and forward to the full Board. Motion carried.

UW Extension

Department Report

Deb Ivey was present to give the Committee highlights of the department activities:

1. Distributed preliminary 4-H Calendar of Events. Iowa County has 17 4-H clubs involving 511 4-Hers. The most popular project is photography and reflects the changing face of 4-H. The theme this year is Going Green and reflects the emphasis towards a more environmentally friendly interest.
2. Gene Schriefer has been hired as the interim Ag Agent effective January 12 who is the spouse of Family Living Agent Ruth Schriefer. Participating in the interviews were Sup. Mark Masters and Randy Terronez.
3. Distributed the Extension Cord – the Department’s newsletter and reviewed highlights including free income tax services from VITA (Ruth Schriefer) nutrition education activities (Donna Peterson and Julie Stephenson) and Paul’s work with SW CAP and the Social Services Department strategic planning.

Randy Terronez reminded the Committee that as a result of Ken Palzkill’s retirement, the use of Courthouse conference rooms for organizations not having a County staff member responsible for securing the building, is being phased out. UW Extension groups will be impacted and Deb Ivey

noted that they are meeting with the various organizations on identifying alternative meeting space.

Land Conservation

Animal Damage Claims

Agenda enclosure reviewed showing that the Land Conservation Committee recommended payment of 2 of the 3 claims at \$1.00/lb. The 3rd claim from Mel Masters was denied as the application indicated that the dogs were owned by the claimant. Per state statute, the claim is ineligible if the animals were damaged by the claimants own dog (s). Subsequently, clarification was obtained from Tony Pillow (note – Jim McCaulley is off on vacation) who contacted the Township Chairman and Mr. Masters . Randy Terronez distributed updated information stating that the dogs were not Mel Masters and therefore the claim is valid.

Motion by Sup. Eric Anderson second by Sup. Diane McGuire to concur with the Land Conservation Committee's recommendation of establishing the value at \$1.00/lb:

1. \$225 for Caygill claim;
 2. \$212.50 for Palzkill claim; and
 3. \$400.00 for Mel Masters claim (as a result of clarification received after the Land Conservation Committee meeting).
- and forward to the full Board.

Motion carried.

State Funding Correspondence

Agenda enclosure reviewed. The Committee will be kept posted.

Staffing Update/Clerk of the Court

Randy Terronez provided background on utilizing department clerical part-time staff to be the back up to the Register of Deeds employee being assigned to the Clerk of Court. It was noted that while Jim McCaulley was aware of the possible use and department staff were aware of the possibility, the issue came up while the department head is on vacation. (Note – Jim returns from vacation on January 26.) Several members of the Land Conservation Committee are aware of the issue.

Planning and Development

Permit Fees Resolution

Scott Godfrey reviewed agenda enclosure and noted it has been many years since the fees were reviewed. The Floodplain and Shore land sue fees are proposed to increase from \$50 to \$150 and

the Shore land Special Exception Permit Fee would propose to increase from \$150 to \$450. The increased fees generally reflect the costs in administering the activity

Motion by Sup. Eric Anderson second by Sup. Brad Wells to approve the Resolution setting 2009 fees for Floodplain Land Use Permit at \$150, Shoreland Land Use Permit at \$150 and Shoreland Special Exception Permit at \$450, effective February 1, 2009. Motion carried.

Ortho Photo Update – 2010 Retained Fees Funding Request

Scott Godfrey reviewed agenda enclosure. He noted that this project was discussed at the May 2008 EDEP meeting. Discussion given on the Retained Fees Policy. The fund has \$120,000 and generates \$32,000 annually which has been directed towards annula software maintenance, etc. The data when complete is added to the County's GIS website. Some revenue is generated from maps sold to interested parties.

Motion by Sup. Eric Anderson second by Sup. Diane McGuire to authorize the Planning and Development Director to sign a Letter of Intent to participate in the 2010 orthophotography project with funds estimated at \$27,540 to come out of the 2010 retained fees budget. Motion carried.

Director's Report

Scott Godfrey gave a brief update including:

1. the Department's annual report is being developed;
2. the Planning and Zoning Committee is working on various zoning language changes;
3. the Sanitary Code Ordinance is being updated;
4. Revisions are being developed to the County's Comprehensive Plan in make it more legally defensible .

Facilities/Property

County Farm – Prairie Restoration Lease

Agenda enclosure reviewed. Sup. Peter Berg and Randy Terronez will meet with representatives of the organization to review the lease and obligations of each party.

Economic Development

EDC Update

Next week's regular Board meeting will be starting at 6:00 p.m. in order to receive an update on a variety of Economic Development activities including the Iowa County Area Economic Development Corporation and introduction of the new executive director, Thrive – a regional effort surrounding the Dane County area, Wired – a southern Wisconsin based effort using a federal workforce training – Department of Labor grant, etc.

Register of Deeds

Staffing Update/Clerk of the Court

Dixie Edge was present. Randy Terronez as part of the LCC section of the agenda reviewed the background and additional discussion given.

Document Conversion Request

Dixie Edge distributed proposal that was inadvertently dropped during the 2009 budget process for retained fees funding. She had previously outlined the need for converting past years microfiche to digital image. The original cost estimate was \$6,000 but inquired if a \$12,000 allocation could allow for more years of data to be archived. She distributed samples of the condition of the microfiche records. Funds would come from the Retained Fees budget.

Motion by Sup. Eric Anderson second by Sup. Brad Wells to approve the Register of Deeds request for use of Retained Fees in the amount of \$12,000 which will allow the office to convert microfiche records to digital image. Motion carried.

Real Estate Software Update

Dixie Edge and Amy Kaup presented information on the Real Estate software - Trimin. The office was unaware that the software vendor is requiring a costly, unbudgeted update. The normal price is \$14,500 but would be discounted to \$10,000 if ordered by the end of the month. No monies have been budgeted for this unanticipated expense. Item to be forwarded to next month's Committee meeting.

Department 2008 Revenue

Dixie reported that her preliminary results showed she was able to meet the budget projections for the department's revenue.

Other

Jolene Millard presented information on the Treasurer's archiving software search. She has been searching for a means to off-load the tax data for readable archival purposes for many years. Outagamie County uses the same tax software and is using an archival system. Additional information will be forwarded to a future Committee meeting.

Randy Terronez distributed invitation to Leo Klosterman retirement event.

Jolene Millard raised a concern on the Waldwick property railroad easement and staff will follow up with the County Treasurer.

9. **Next regular meeting: 6:15 p.m., Thursday, February 5, 2009.**
10. **Motion by Sup. Diane McGuire, second by Sup. Brad Wells to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Minutes by Randy Terronez, County Administrator