

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Land Management Committee

Date of the Meeting: Friday, June 16th, 2023

Chair Max Weiss called the Public Hearing portion of the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Land Management Committee Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. Dwight Ruff, Mr. Chris Lindstrom, Mr. Gary Stanton, Absent-Mr. John Sendelbach was excused.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Ms. Pat Malone, Mr. Lee Engfer, Mr. Cale Severson, Mr. Brock Lederman, Mr. Briar Golden, Ms. Margo Traun, Mr. Nathan Machula, Ms. Mary Wood, Mr. Ron Jasperson

Reading of the Notice for Public Hearing and Hovey Rezone Application: Mr. Lederman read the information that was published in the Buffalo County News on June 1 and 8.

Public Testimony Regarding the Rezone Application: none

Correspondence Regarding the Rezone Application: A town's acknowledgement form had been submitted in favor of the rezone.

Adjournment of the Public Hearing: Mr. Ruff made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 8:05 a.m. Mr. Stanton second, adjourned.

Chair Max Weiss called the Land Management Committee meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

Land Use Committee Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. Dwight Ruff, Mr. Chris Lindstrom, Mr. Gary Stanton. Absent-Mr. John Sendelbach., excused.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Ms. Pat Malone, Mr. Lee Engfer, Mr. Cale Severson, Mr. Brock Lederman, Mr. Briar Golden, Ms. Margo Traun, Mr. Nathan Machula, Ms. Mary Wood, Mr. Ron Jasperson

Public Comments regarding Posted Agenda Items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Previous Meeting Minutes: Mr. Ruff motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding An Ordinance to Amend the Official Buffalo County Zoning District Map – Town of Naples (Wulff Rezone): Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the ordinance given the Town's support, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action 2022 Division of Extension annual Report:

Malone provided a brief review of the 2022 annual department report. She highlighted major programming each educator conducted in 2022. She shared the budget summary. She finished the presentation highlighting the return on investment the county receives for Extension. In 2022, the county receives \$1.15 for every dollar the county puts in the Extension levy. At the end of the presentation, Mr. Ruff shared the changes that have occurred in Extension, particularly agriculture. The committee also briefly discussed the draft of the Extension strategic plan that the Dean mailed to county partners.

Review/Discussion/Action Educator Reports:

Mary Campbell Wood highlighted the work she has been doing this past month. Annie Lisowski, April Duval, and Carl Duley shared written reports.

Review/Discussion regarding the Surveyor's Report: Mr. Jasperson wanted a correction on last month's minutes to say the **Field Work** will be done, not **Project** will be done by June. He has 5 corners left.

Review/Discussion regarding the GIS/LIO Report: Mr. Machula was at the Land Information Council and stated that Buffalo County will only receive about \$10,000 for the Strategic Initiative Grant due to decreased volume of land transfers. There are talks of re-evaluating Register of Deeds and transfer fees.

Review/Discussion regarding the Land Management Director/ County

Conservationist Report: Mr. Severson spoke on nearing the end of the restructure of the Land Management Department and still looking for an administrative assistant. The office has been very busy with contacts after sending out pumping notices. Soil moisture is so low that construction projects cannot happen as there needs to be moisture for compaction of dams. Mr. Golden is taking a grazing course and a soil health course. The office is trying to get a showing set up for the CCC structure and working with NRCS and the Buffalo-Trempealeau Farmers network on soil sampling.

Review/Discussion regarding the Chairperson Report: The Schultz house is down and the Birkeneder house is changing hands.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Next Meeting Date and Time: The next meeting date and time will be August 4th, 2023.

Public Comments Not Related to Agenda Items: none.

Adjournment: Mr. Stanton made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 a.m., Mr. Ruff seconded. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cale Severson
Land Management Director/County Conservationist