Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Committee Agenda "Working Together to Protect & Enhance the Environment"

Jefferson County Courthouse ~ 311 S Center Ave, Rm C1021 ~ Jefferson, WI 53549

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 @ 8:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting ~ https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81594414745 Meeting ID: 815 9441 4745# ~ Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799

Committee Members: Matt Foelker (Chair) (UW), Walt Christensen (Vice-Chair), Dan Herbst (UW), Cassie Richardson, Meg Turville-Heitz, Kirsten Jurcek (FSA), and Margaret Burlingham (PACE)

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call (Establish a Quorum)
- 3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law
- 4. Review of the March Agenda
- 5. Approval of the February 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- 6. Public Comment (members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)
- 7. Communications
 - Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) March 2024 Report
- 8. Discussion on Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report
- 9. Discussion on Departmental Updates
- 10. Discussion on Erosion Control and Post-Construction Stormwater Management Ordinances
- 11. Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance Prohibiting Trespass on County-Owned Farmland
- 12. Discussion on Ground Penetrating Radar Work at the Potter's Field
- 13. Discussion on Producer-Led Groups: Jefferson County Soil Builders & Rock River Regenerative Graziers
- 14. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)
- 15. Discussion and Possible Action on Cancellation of Notices of Noncompliance FPP
- 16. Discussion on Participation in the Fourth Grade Farm Tour
- 17. Discussion and Possible Action on Funding for Agricultural Conservation Easements
- 18. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Applications & Baseline Documentation
- 19. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (January)
- 20. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda
 - Next Scheduled Meeting To Be Determined
- 21. Adjournment

A quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Board, Commission, or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting.

Individuals requiring special accommodations for attendance at this meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at (920) 674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes February 21, 2024

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:30 am. Committee Members Matt Foelker (Chair) (UW), Walt Christensen (Vice-Chair), Dan Herbst (UW) (via Zoom), Cassie Richardson, Meg Turville-Heitz (via Zoom), and Margaret Burlingham (PACE) (via Phone), were present. Also in attendance were Patricia Cicero, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; Dave Hoffman, LWCD; Sam Peterson, LWCD; Joe Strupp, LWCD; Michael Luckey, Assistant to the County Administrator; and Danielle Thompson, County Corporation Counsel. Kirsten Jurcek (FSA) was absent.

- Others in Attendance: Matt Zangl, Planning and Zoning Department, Susan Bence, Chad Johnson, Katie Kutz, Anita Martin, and Andy Williams.
- Via Zoom: Dettman Dairy Farm, Sue Marx, and Kim Naber

2. Roll Call (Establish a Quorum):

A quorum was established.

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law:

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

4. Review of the February Agenda:

The February agenda was reviewed by the committee members. No changes were proposed.

5. Approval of the January 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

Christensen made a motion to approve the January 17, 2024 meeting minutes as written, Richardson seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

6. Public Comment:

There were no comments.

7. Communications:

• Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection February 2024 Report.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

NRCS did not attend the meeting therefore a report was unavailable.

9. Discussion on Departmental Updates:

Staff is reporting on DNR & DATCP grants. Several grants have been received: 2024-26 DNR Healthy Lakes Grant, 2024 DNR Clean Boats, Clean Waters Grant, and 2024 DNR Lake Monitoring & Protection Network grant. The Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) Program will receive \$21, 034.60 for the Upper Rock and \$31, 906.33 for Lower Rock. Peterson attended the Producer-Led grant annual workshop. Colton Hutchinson attended a Wellness Day with the Jefferson County Health Department at the Fort Atkinson Club 2/3/24. The nitrate screening tool was used for 30 samples. Based on the information collected, 9 additional lab tests were recommended to landowners. Peterson and Strupp held a nutrient management update class. 2024 farmland preservation program annual certifications are being collected.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Spray Irrigation of Manure and Agricultural Waste:

The Committee discussed spray irrigation. Committee members felt this item was redundant since the state already has strict, well-defined regulations in place. Christensen made a motion to postpone this agenda item to a date uncertain, Richardson seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

- 11. Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance Prohibiting Hunting on County-Owned Farmland:
 Richardson made a motion to forward the draft ordinance to County Board including changes discussed at the LWCC meeting with Corporation Counsel, Turville-Heights seconded. Motion passed 6/0.
- **12.** Discussion and Possible Action on Guidelines for University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Use of Ground Penetrating Radar on the Potter's Field: Richardson made a motion to approve the agreement on the scope of work for the use of ground penetrating radar on the Potter's Field, Turville-Heights seconded. Motion passed 6/0.
- 13. Discussion and Possible Action on Participation in the Fourth Grade Farm Tour:

Cicero outlined the Fourth Grade Farm Tour. Katie Kutz answered committee questions. Christensen, Richardson, and possibly Turville-Heights will attend. Christensen hopes to recruit additional volunteers for the "Apple as the Earth" demonstration.

- **14.** Discussion on Producer-Led Groups: Jefferson County Soil Builders (JCSB) & Rock River Regenerative Graziers (R3G): Peterson attended the State Producer-Led conference along with members of JCSB and R3G. JCSB had a board meeting last week.
- **15.** Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance Farmland Preservation Program (FPP): There were no notices.
- **16. Discussion and Possible Action on Cancellation of Notices of Noncompliance FPP:**Ronald Pelky

Christensen made a motion to accept the notice, Richardson seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

- 17. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Applications & Baseline Documentation: Reimbursement from NRCS for the Cummings easement is expected this week. Hoffman is working with Corporation Counsel to update deed language for the Rollefson easement to meet new requirements set forth by NRCS.
- 18. Discussion and Possible Action on Future Funding for the PACE Program:

Richardson made a motion to have LWCD draft a resolution to include PACE funding of \$500,000 from previous land sales, a \$50,000 annual amount from solar farm income or future farmland sales, and forward it on to the Finance Committee, Turville-Heights seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

19. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (December):

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.

20. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

Possible agenda items include: PACE Resolution, Potter's Field Update, Stormwater & Erosion Control Survey Results

Next Scheduled Meeting: March 20, 2024 @ 8:30 in Room C1021

21. Adjournment:

Christensen made a motion to adjourn at 10:25 am, Turville-Heights seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

Committee member Kirsten Jurcek has been appointed to serve on this committee due to her status as the designated Farm Service Agency committee member. All her opinions and votes are as a member of the public and as a producer/farmer, not as a representative of the Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, or Federal Government.

Kim Liakopoulos Administrative Specialist I ~ LWCD



March 2024

Soil and Water Resources Management (SWRM) Grants

- The 2025 SWRM application is available on the SWRM webpage and is due April 15, 2024.
- Until proposed ATCP 50 receives approval from the governor, legislature, and is published, the new practices are not available for cost-share.

Annual Reports for 2023

• Reminder: submit your county's responses to annual reporting questions for 2023 by **March 4, 2024**. An email with a link to the report questions was sent to all county conservationists on December 18, 2023. If you did not receive the message, please reach out to Coreen Fallat at <u>coreen.fallat@wisconsin.gov</u>.

ATCP 50 Update

- ATCP 50 has been referred to the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules. A link to the webpage with all related documents is available here.
- Look for opportunities to learn more about what will change in ATCP 50 when the rule is finalized. The Bureau will be providing information through our website and through upcoming events.

Nutrient Management News

- **UPCOMING:** One more online Nutrient Management Farmer Education Training will be hosted in March:
 - Wednesday, March 6, 2024
 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
 - The target audience of this training is farmers who want to become certified to write their own nutrient management plans, but anyone is able to attend! Registration is free. Register here:

 <u>Meeting Registration Zoom.</u>
- A recording of the 2025 NMFE Office Hour is now available on the NMFE webpage, found here: _ Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grants.
- Previous SnapPlus trainings can be found here: <u>Nutrient Management Trainings</u>.
- Annual NM reporting: If you have any last-minute adjustments to acres/numbers for 2023, please email Cody Calkins at cody.calkins@wisconsin.gov so that we have the most accurate numbers.

Land and Water Conservation Board - LWRM Plans

- Ashland, Barron, and Clark counties will be presenting five-year LWRM plan reviews to the LWCB at their April 2, 2024 meeting.
- The LWCB Advisory Committee on Research will meet March 5 at 9:00 a.m. Visit the <u>agenda</u> for instructions to join the meeting over Microsoft Teams.
- Reminder: the 2024 annual workplans are due back **April 15, 2024**.

Conservation Engineering

- Funding opportunity: One last reminder that DATCP is currently accepting applications for our Engineering Reserve Funds. These funds are intended for engineered conservation practices and prioritize projects that address farm discharge(s) that need additional funding to get completed. Deadline for project consideration is **Friday**, **March 29**, **2024**. Questions and applications should be directed to your DATCP area engineering contact.
- The Wisconsin Standards Oversight Council (SOC) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) are currently seeking public comment on a revised draft of the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 635 Vegetated Treatment Area (VTA). If you are interested in reviewing the draft standard, it can be found here: CPS 635 VTA. Comments should be submitted via email to soc@wisconsinlandwater.org by the end of day on Thursday, March 14, 2024. The full published notice and instructions can be found here: Available for Public Review VTA standard | Standards Oversight Council (socwisconsin.org).

DATCP Drainage Program

• As a reminder, annual reports for 2023 were due in December. If you haven't already, please submit those reports to Barton T. Chapman, Drainage Program Manager, at Barton.Chapman@wisconsin.gov.

Farmland Preservation (FP) Program and Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEA)

- Counties that update or issue new CoCs for Tax Year 2023 should submit updates for their DOR spreadsheet to DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov. Updates may be submitted as needed throughout the tax season.
- NEW: Agreement holders with effective agreements signed prior to July 1, 2009 that have not been modified to meet current standards will be required to provide their agreement number when filing a claim on tax schedule FC.
- If you have questions about the DOR spreadsheet or have questions with respect to any element of the FP Program, contact DATCPWorkingLands@wi.gov.
- The 2024 Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) petition cycle is in full swing. Petition materials for new designation and modification to existing AEAs are available on the <u>Petitioning for AEA Designation</u> webpage. Petitions will be accepted until <u>August 2, 2024</u>. If you are planning on petitioning for an AEA this year, please contact Wednesday Coye at <u>wednesday.coye@wisconsin.gov</u>.
- 2024 AEA Petition Process Office Hour: Tuesday, March 12 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Join us to discuss the petition drafting process, requirements, and tips and tricks to drafting a successful petition. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the program and to explore if an AEA is right for your community, especially with the 2023 tax credit increases for Farmland Preservation program participants. If you have specific questions, you may submit them in advance to Wednesday Coye at wednesday.coye@wisconsin.gov or ask them during the session. To join the meeting, click the link below.
- On December 6, 2023, Governor Evers signed Assembly Bill 133, now Wisconsin Act 42, which makes changes to farmland preservation agreements minimum term lengths and increasing farmland preservation tax credits for all current participants. These changes went into effect on December 8, 2023 and will affect

tax credit claims beginning tax year 2023. Check out the Legislative Updates to the Farmland Preservation Program handout for more information.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- Virtual CREP 101 Training is offered by DATCP to all CREP counties. The training is offered per LCD request and reviews program requirements, landowner engagement, agency partnership coordination, and county administrative processes. All local agency partners are invited to attend, and the training is valuable to both new and seasoned local CREP staff. Please contact Brian Loeffelholz at Brian.Loeffelholz@wisconsin.gov to set up a time for training in your county.
- A new Relinquishment of Lands Under CREP Conservation Easements Guide is available on the CREP For Counties webpage. As landowners work to keep the conservation practices in compliance on their CREP perpetual easement, we sometimes get the question of whether DATCP would relinquish the easement? This guide helps landowners and LCDs determine if they meet the relinquishment criteria and the process for making a relinquishment request.

Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant (PLWPG) Program

- The 2024 Annual Workshop was held on February 20, 2024 at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.
- We have funding for groups to host regional winter workshops or spring field days in the range of \$500-\$1,500 per event through the Producer-Led Regional Network effort. Contact your regional coordinator or Randy Zogbaum at mailto:randalll.zogbaum@wisconsin.gov for more information or if you have ideas for a shared, collaborative event to host with other groups in your region.

Soil Health Program

• The new online soil health curriculum is now live and available on our <u>soilhealthtraining.wi.gov</u> website. The purpose of this curriculum is to develop a common definition and understanding of soil health and develop some guideposts of how to implement soil health systems on Wisconsin farms. The curriculum consists of four modules. Modules 1-3 assist in developing a common language of soil health in Wisconsin agriculture while module 4 focuses on applying soil health in Wisconsin cropping systems. The curriculum incorporates both traditional and citizen science to demonstrate the mindset necessary to be successful as a soil health farmer.

The primary audiences are LCD staff, other agriculture professionals in Wisconsin, and Wisconsin farmers. Community members may also find it useful and informative. This training was developed by DATCP, with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resource Conservation Service.

The first objective is to discuss what soil health is (and isn't) by defining some basic vocabulary and concepts. The second objective is to demonstrate how soil health systems can be implemented on Wisconsin farms.

For questions regarding this training or the Soil Health program, contact Randy Zogbaum at randalll.zogbaum@wisconsin.gov.

Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program (NOPP)

• The 2024 grant cycle closed January 31, 2024. The program has \$1 million for 2024 awards. Awards will be announced in March.

Cover Crop Insurance Rebate Program

• The 2023 cover crop insurance rebate program closed January 31, 2024. Program applications exceeded 160,000 acres. The enrollment information has been shared with USDA/Risk Management Agency for verification.

Legislation Updates

- 2023 Act 42 Relating to: farmland preservation agreements and tax credits.
- <u>Senate Bill 468</u> and <u>Assembly Bill 480</u> Relating to: eligibility for farmland preservation tax credits and photovoltaic solar energy systems.
- <u>Senate Bill 220</u> and <u>Assembly Bill 220</u> Relating to: funding for the Fenwood Creek watershed pilot project.
- <u>Senate Bill 409</u> and <u>Assembly Bill 419</u> Relating to: creating an online interactive carbon calculator for farmers.
- Senate Bill 619 and Assembly Bill 655 Relating to: a transition to grass pilot program.



03/01/2024 Jefferson County PAGE 1 13:05:35 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT glflxrpt

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
12401 Land Conservation							
12401 411100 General Property Taxes 12401 421001 24407 State Aid 12401 421001 24408 State Aid 12401 421001 24410 State Aid 12401 432099 Other Permits 12401 451020 Other Fees 12401 458001 Tree Sales 12401 458005 Ag & Hortic Supply Revenue 12401 458009 Livestock Siting App Review F 12401 458013 Farmland Cert Fee 12401 472007 24410 Municipal Other Charges 12401 47237 24409 Municipal Grant Revenue 12401 511110 Salary-Permanent Regular 12401 511210 Wages-Regular 12401 511230 Wages-Longevity Pay 12401 511230 Wages-Longevity Pay 12401 51241 Social Security 12401 512142 Retirement (Employer) 12401 512151 HSA Contribution 12401 512153 HRA Contribution 12401 512153 HRA Contribution 12401 531100 Permits Purchased 12401 531100 Permits Purchased 12401 531301 Office Equipment 12401 531301 Office Equipment 12401 531311 Postage & Box Rent 12401 531311 Postage & Box Rent 12401 531312 24409 Office Supplies 12401 531313 Printing & Duplicating 12401 531313 Printing & Duplicating 12401 531313 Printing & Duplicating 12401 531314 Membership Dues 12401 531324 Membership Dues 12401 531324 Membership Dues 12401 531324 Agricultural & Hortic Suppli	-394,139 -183,527 -13,003 -5,550 -1500 -250 -280 -8,500 -1,500 -1,700 -12,000 -12,000 -12,000 -13338,291 -7,170 -375 -31,998 -30,861 -65,832 -45 -2,907 -5,448 -40 -52 -100 -100 -1,250 -60 -400 -25 -400 -50 -250 -2,055 -200 -6,150	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	-394,139 -183,527 -13,003 -5,500 -1500 -250 -280 -8,500 -1,500 -15,500 -1,700 -12,000 -12,000 -12,000 -12,700 -13338,291 -7,170 -375 -31,998 -30,861 -65,832 -45 -2,907 -5,448 -40 -52 -100 -100 -1,250 -60 -400 -250 -2,055 -200 -6,150	.00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00	.00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00	-394,139.07 -183,527.00 -13,003.36 -5,550.00 -150.00 -280.00 -7,894.00 -1,500.00 -1,500.00 -1,700.00 -1,700.00 -12,000.00 -12,000.00 -13,471.48 310,119.84 7,170.00 375.00 29,360.27 28,367.20 59,001.59 40.51 2,907.22 -250.89 4,896.72 40.00 52.00 100.00 1,197.70 60.00 375.51 25.00 400.00 50.00 250.00 103.71 200.00 6,150.00	.0% .0% .0% .0% .0% .0% 16.0% 7.1% .0% 6.3% .0% .0% 8.4% 8.3% .0% .0% 8.2% 8.1% 10.4% 10.0% .0% .0% .0% .0% .0% .0% .0% .0% .0%



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ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
12401 531348 Educational Supplies 12401 531351 Gas/Diesel 12401 531351 24409 Gas/Diesel 12401 532325 Registration 12401 532332 Mileage 12401 532335 Meals 12401 532336 Odier Travel & Tolls 12401 532336 Other Travel & Tolls 12401 532336 Wireless Internet 12401 533236 Wireless Internet 12401 535242 Maintain Machinery & Equip 12401 535259 Tree Planter Service 12401 535349 Other Supplies 12401 535349 24410 Other Supplies 12401 571004 IP Telephony Allocation 12401 571005 Duplicating Allocation 12401 571009 MIS PC Group Allocation 12401 571000 MIS Systems Grp Alloc(ISIS) 12401 571020 Fleet Allocation 12401 571020 Fleet Allocation	50 1,450 310 1,800 20 150 825 20 325 1,025 450 50 80 723 152 19,227 5,549 2,600 5,238	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	50 1,450 310 1,800 20 150 825 20 325 1,025 450 50 55 80 723 152 19,227 5,549 2,600 5,238	.00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .12.48 .84.32 .00 .00 .32.53 .00 .00 .00 .00	.00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00 .00	50.00 1,450.00 310.00 825.00 20.00 150.00 825.00 20.00 312.52 940.68 450.00 50.00 22.47 80.00 723.00 152.00 19,227.00 5,549.00 2,600.00 5,237.97	. 0% . 0% . 0% . 0% . 0% . 0% . 0% . 0%
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03/01/2024 Jefferson County PAGE 3 13:05:38 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT glflxrpt

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
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03/01/2024 Jefferson County PAGE 4 13:05:38 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT glflxrpt

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
12409 514151 Per Diem 12409 521212 Legal 12409 531312 Office Supplies 12409 531313 Printing & Duplicating	4,450 1,300 200 100	0 0 0 0	4,450 1,300 200 100	.00 .00 .00	.00 .00 .00	4,450.00 1,300.00 200.00 100.00	. 0% . 0% . 0% . 0%
12409 531324 Membership Dues 12409 531349 Other Operating Expenses 12409 532325 Registration 12409 532332 Mileage 12409 591513 Drainage Board Insurance	100 100 100 2,150 1,500	0 0 0 0	100 100 100 2,150 1,500	.00 .00 .00 .00	.00 .00 .00 .00 .00	100.00 100.00 100.00 2,150.00 1,500.00	. 0% . 0% . 0% . 0% . 0%



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03/01/2024 Jefferson County PAGE 6 13:05:38 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT glflxrpt

REPORT OPTIONS

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Sequence 1
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Sequence 2
                                   Ν
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Sequence 3
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Sequence 4
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                                                            Double space: N
                                                            Suppress zero bal accts: Y
Report title:
                                                            Amounts/totals exceed 999 million dollars: N
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Print journal detail: N
 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT
Includes accounts exceeding 0% of budget.
Print Full or Short description: F
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To Yr/Per: 2019/ 1
                                                            Include budget entries: Y
Incl encumb/liq entries: Y
Sort by JE # or PO #: J
Detail format option: 1
Print full GL account: N
Sort by full GL account: N
Print Revenues-Version headings: N
Print revenue as credit: Y
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Print revenue budgets as zero: N
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ORDINANCE NO. 2024-____

Prohibiting Trespass on County-owned farmland

Executive Summary

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WHEREAS, Jefferson County is committed to ensuring the safety, security, and well-being of all residents and visitors, as well as the protection of County-owned farmland; and

WHEREAS, unauthorized access to County-owned farmland poses potential risks to public safety, property integrity, and environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to establish regulations that prohibit unauthorized access to County-owned farmland to prevent potential harm and damage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisions as follows:

Section 1.

1.02 DEFINITIONS.

- (1) In this section, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
 - (a) "County-owned farmland" includes the open land owned by Jefferson County located south of County Highway J and Collins Road, east of State Highway 89, west of Business 26, and north of Business 26 in Jefferson, Wisconsin. A map of the subject property is available at the Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Department.
 - (b) "Trespass" refers to entering or remaining on County-owned farmland without the express written permission of Jefferson County.

1.03 PROHIBITION OF TRESPASS ON COUNTY-OWNED FARMLAND.

(1) No person shall enter or remain on any County-owned farmland without the express written permission of Jefferson County.

(2) The Director of the Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Department, with input from the County Administrator, is authorized to grant permission to access County-owned farmland to any person upon request.

1.04 PENALTIES.

- (1) Any person found to be in violation of this ordinance shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500, plus any applicable penalty assessments and costs of prosecution.
- (2) Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.
- (3) This ordinance may be enforced by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department or any other law enforcement with jurisdiction within the county.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective after passage and publication.

Fiscal Note:

Referred By:

Land & Water Conservation Committee

04-16-24

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-

Establishing a Funding Source for Agricultural Conservation Easements

Executive Summary

The Land and Water Conservation Department implements an agricultural conservation easement program to permanently protect working farms from non-agricultural development through purchase or donation of development rights. The agricultural conservation easement program is used to leverage federal funds for the program such that for every dollar Jefferson County has spent, the federal government has provided \$2.64.

All the current restricted funds for the agricultural conservation easement program are planned to be used by the end of 2024. The Jefferson County Administrator has proposed \$500,000 from three past sales of county-owned land to be put into the agricultural conservation easement program. Additional funding will be needed each year to ensure the future of the program.

The Land and Water Conservation Committee, Finance Committee, and Executive Committee considered this resolution at their meeting on February 21, 2024, March 6, 2024, and March 27, 2024, and recommended forwarding to the County Board for approval.

WHEREAS, the Executive Summary is incorporated into this resolution, and

WHEREAS, farms, food processors, and agricultural businesses generate more than 7,000 jobs, \$2 billion in economic activity, and almost \$40 million in sales tax, property tax and income tax in Jefferson County, and

WHEREAS, available agricultural statistics documented the loss of 14.3% of Jefferson County farm acres from 1997 to 2017, and

WHEREAS, the preservation of farmland accomplishes several goals in Jefferson County's Comprehensive Plan and Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Finance Committee to allocate \$500,000 from the proceeds received from the sale of the County-owned land formerly known as the "County Farm" to the agricultural conservation easement program,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this allocation be a part of the 2025 County budget,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Finance Committee to allocate at least \$50,000 per year from either future land sales or solar farm payments in lieu of taxes to the agricultural conservation easement program.

Fiscal Note: This must explain the fiscal impact of the County Board passing this resolution. Sometimes there will be no fiscal impact. In that case, state, "this resolution has no fiscal impact." If there is a fiscal impact, make sure it is stated, such as "passing this resolution will cost \$50,000 which is included in the Corporation Counsel budget for 2016." If your resolution requires a budget amendment, you must indicate this in the fiscal note by stating, "This is a budget amendment. County Board approval requires a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the County Board (20 members of the 30 member County Board must vote in favor of the budget amendment)."

A	yes:	Noes:	Abstain:	Absent:	Vacant:
Referred By	_Committee				04-??-24
	REVIEWEI	D: County Adm	inistrator:	Corporation Counsel:	; Finance Director: