

**Lincoln County Planning and Zoning Committee**  
**Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.**  
**Lincoln County Service Center, Meeting Room 156**

1. Call Meeting to Order - Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Bailey at 2:30 p.m. in meeting room 156 in the Lincoln County Service Center. Members present: Nelson, Bailey, Pike & Rusch, along with Dan Bowers; Zoning Program Manager; June Winters; Program Assistant, Nancy Bergstrom; Corporation Counsel, Randy Scholz; Administrative Coordinator and 2 others. Saal was absent.
2. Approval of the September 12, 2013, October 15, 2013 & November 1, 2013 meeting minutes – Motion by Nelson, seconded by Rusch to approve the September 12, 2013, October 15, 2013 & November 1, 2013 minutes as written. Motion carried all ayes.
3. Public Comment – John Corder, who has property at N8759 County Rd E, came to the podium and stated that there has been an ongoing problem since 2005 with a neighbor who is exceeding the number of horses than the 4 that is legally allowed on her property. He has called the Sheriff's Department several times and he has also contacted Zoning and nothing has been done yet. He wants to know how the issue is being resolved. The horses are often loose from her land and either on the roads or his parcel. He just wished to voice his opinion and see what can be done. Bailey stated it cannot be discussed further at this meeting because it is not an agenda item but it can be put a future agenda.
4. 2:30 p.m. Public Hearing – At 2:40 p.m. the Public Hearing was called to order. Hearing was held on the item listed in the notice. Vice-Chairman Bailey explained the rules of conduct for public hearings and introduced the Committee members.

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS – CHAPTER 21 SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCE**

1. Various sections of Chapter 21, the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, are being amended to reflect changes in Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 115 and 2011 Wisconsin Act 170. These amendments were presented at two informational meetings in the City of Merrill on July 31, 2013 and in the Town of Bradley on August 7, 2013. A copy of the ordinance amendment may be viewed on the Lincoln County Website at [www.co.lincoln.wi.us](http://www.co.lincoln.wi.us) or at the Lincoln County Zoning office.

Motion Nelson, seconded by Rusch to move to public hearing. Motion carried all ayes. Bailey called for proponents of the proposed amendments.

Dan Bowers shared that two letters of support have been received. One letter is from WVIC stating they are in support of the buffer requirements, as they own the first 30' around the Rice Reservoir. The other letter submitted by the Wisconsin DNR states the amendments are in compliance with NR115 with one comment regarding impervious surface jurisdiction.

Bowers explained that the amendment reflects proposed, but not yet approved, language regarding impervious surface jurisdiction. This was done anticipating that the proposed language will be adopted, so that the ordinance may not need to be amended again in the near future.

Bowers stated that no other written comments have been received from the public since the open houses. He said that he is preparing an ordinance to go to county Board in December if that is the Committee's wishes, suggesting that if it passes County Board it have an effective date of January 1, 2014.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Pike to close the public hearing. Motion carried all ayes. Bailey closed the public hearing for the Ordinance Amendment request.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Rusch to APPROVE the Ordinance Amendments for Chapter 21 Shoreland Zoning Ordinance as proposed forward to County Board for the December 10, 2013 meeting. Motion carried all ayes.

5. NCWRPC (North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) proposal for review & update of county Zoning Ordinance – Bowers reviewed the proposal from NCWRPC for the Committee. Overall he believes it would be a good idea to work with NCWRPC to do the updates that are necessary. He believes that the 18 month timeline could be accomplished in a much shorter time frame. He believes that they could work with staff more initially then bring changes to the Committee. Bergstrom agreed that the timeline may be shorter as we already have requirements in place they would just need to be updated.

Nelson asked that Bowers come up with a revised timeline. There was discussion. Nelson wondered about the budget impact issue. There was discussion on the budget impact being in 2013 & 2014. Staff explained that before Diane Hanson had left she informed Finance of the need to include the cost in the 2014 budget. Nelson just wanted to be sure that the expense was covered.

Bowers explained that the changes in cell tower provisions are probably the most critical and he would like to get started on those.

Motion by Nelson to, seconded by Bailey to move forward with the NCWRPC proposal for reviewing & updating the county zoning ordinances with Bowers, Bergstrom & Scholz to work with NCWRPC on the details minding the timeline & budget considerations.

Motion carried all ayes. Bowers will contact NCWRPC.

6. Forming Land Services Committee by combining Committees – Scholz explained that this was recommended to bring this to both the ZC & LICD & UW Ext. Committee to discuss. There was discussion on the options for restructuring the Committees. If this happens it would be taken to County Board and be effective with the next election & reorganization.

Bailey asked if the Committees being combined would remain intact and Scholz said that there has been some discussion about UW Ext. being combined with Administrative & Legislative. Bailey asked about Register of Deeds and Bergstrom commented that Register of Deeds is considered a “Land” department so it would make sense that it stays with ZC & LICD.

Nelson said that it would make sense to have the cost savings with the departments being combined that the Committees be combined also. He believes that it would streamline the process. Bergstrom agreed that it would streamline things to not have to deal with different committees for the same issues as they are all related.

Bowers commented that it would make sense to combine the Committees but there may still have a need to have a separate meeting for the public hearing process. There was lengthy discussion. Bailey said that make-up of the Committee would be important and Nelson said that would be dealt with at the re-organization meeting. The consensus was that combining the committees may streamline things for the County by avoiding duplication.

Nelson said that it may make sense that Forestry, Lands & Parks Committee be included in this type of restructuring. Bergstrom & Scholz said that it had been discussed previously with a lot of opposition. There was further discussion on options for restructuring that have or should be considered.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Pike to recommend combining the ZC & LICD into a Land Services Committee and recommend that UW Ext. be combined with Administrative & Legislative. Motion carried all ayes.

7. Department Report - The Committee reviewed & discussed some of the items on the Compliance report with Bowers clarifying some of the issues in the towns of Bradley, Harrison & Merrill.

One of the issues in the Town of Bradley was the issue that was brought up under today's "Public Comment" and Bowers also referenced a letter from John & Nancy Corder under "Correspondence" asking the Committee to revoke the 2005 Conditional Use Permit that was granted to Heidi Gronna. Bowers reviewed the process for revoking a Conditional Use Permit and the other options that may be available including citations. Bowers stated that they have removed all but 4 horses and that they are in compliance with the conditions of the Conditional Use Permit.

There was discussion on another violation in the Town of Bradley regarding an "adult novelty" store. Bowers explained the issue remains open and he is waiting for more information from the landowner.

The Committee reviewed the financial report and put it on file. Bowers wanted to note that one of the accounts that the Department would be exceeding the budget on is Travel & Training. He said that maybe some of the expenses this year should have not come out of the Zoning budget but more appropriately out of County Board's budget instead. He noted that this item on the budget should be increased.

Bowers discussed Senate Bill 349 and how that may impact our county. Scholz said that the issue has already been discussed at County Board and will be going back there for action. No action really needs to be taken by the Committee as it will probably be dealt with at County Board before the next ZC meeting.

8. Confirm next meeting/public hearing date – December 12, 2013 – There are no public hearing items currently requested. The Committee may convene on this date depending on other agenda items to be determined.
9. Adjourn - Motion by Nelson, seconded by Pike to adjourn at 3:21 p.m. Motion carried all ayes.