



Kent County Agriculture Preservation Board
Wednesday, April 3, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
775 Ball Ave NE – Michigan State University Extension

Minutes prepared by
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Approved Minutes

Members Present: Dennis Heffron (Agricultural Representative), Vice Chair Suzie Reinbold (Real Estate Interest), Carolyn Johnson (Conservation Interest), Rob Steffens (Township Representative), Lisa Oliver-King (County Commissioner)

Absent: Secretary Jessica Marks (Agricultural Interest)

Staff: Mark Rambo, Matt Channing

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** – Vice Chair Suzie Reinbold welcomed everyone to the meeting at 11:07 am. District 7 Director Scott Korpak and Elizabeth Brost attended. Elizabeth Brost mentioned that she applied for the vacant Agricultural Interest position and that she was excited to be part of the Agricultural Preservation Board.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda** – Rob Steffens made a motion to approve the April 3, 2024 Agenda. Carolyn Johnson supported the motion. UNANIMOUS.
- 3. Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner Oliver-King made a motion to approve the March 6, 2024 minutes. Rob Steffens supported the motion. UNANIMOUS.
- 4. Public Comment on Agenda Items** – None
- 5. PDR 2025 Selection Criteria** - Staff recommended to the Agricultural Preservation Board to maintain the same Selection Criteria for the PDR 2025 cycle as was used in the 2024 and 2023 cycles. These scores were successful in receiving grants from federal and state sources.

Commissioner Oliver-King motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to accept the PDR 2025 Selection Criteria. Rob Steffens supported the motion. UNANIMOUS.

- 6. Fundraiser Donation** – Chair Denny Heffron provided the history of how the fundraiser started and where the progress is now. He noticed on the receipt the fundraising opportunity and called local Culver's who were interested in the possibility. Now there are as many as eight restaurants in Kent and Ottawa Counties who want to participate. June is National Dairy month and the

event is tentatively set for June 25th in the evening. Each location will need at least three volunteers.

- 7. Staff Update** – Staff provided the following updates: the appraisal for the Hope application was completed and the Norman appraisal was still pending. There was a strategic planning meeting with Becky from Ottawa County for stewardship of the Navigator grant. Staff also explained the information Linda Howell, Corporate Counsel, shared about Agricultural Preservation Board participating in PDR. In sum, the enacting ordinance details who may not sell and so it would require a change to the ordinance. The Administrator’s Office was not certain it would be feasible.
- 8. General Public Comment** – None.
- 9. Board Updates** – Chair Denny Heffron believed the Administrator’s Office did have the support among the Board of Commissioners for updates to the PDR Ordinance. Commissioner Oliver-King request staff to share with her information regarding the requested changes so that she could share it among commissioners to understand their interest and support. Chair Denny Heffron also requested a list of current projects and their funding status. Rob Steffens met with Alpine Township Supervisor Greg Madura to allow the Agricultural Preservation Board to present to the Township Officials.
- 10. Adjournment** – Vice Chair Suzie Reinbold made a motion to adjourn until next meeting. Rob Steffens supported. UNANIMOUS

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

300 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503