



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting January 12, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:01pm, by Chairman John Westman on January 12, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Jean Cares, Tom Bloomer, P.J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, recording Secretary Cyndi Zuccaro.

Absent: Erica Perry

Approve Minutes

Motion Jean second John to approve the regular minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting December 8, 2008. All ayes and carried.

Motion Jean second Tom to approve the minutes of the WTFOSPB Special meeting December 17, 2008. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's remarks

John informed the WTFOSPB that the BOT approved up to \$2500.00 expenditure for an appraisal that may be necessary on a property in Webster Township.

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom second P.J. to approve the January 12, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

Township Board

There will be joint meetings of the BOT and the PC again this month.

Consultant

Smyth Project:

Barry is expecting the new appraisal shortly. As soon as he receives it, Barry and P.J. will visit with Marjorie and move as quickly as possible to complete the easement by March 31, 2009.

Merkel Project

The Greenbelt is waiting for the federal government to approve the new appraisal before moving forward.

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session

7:15pm, motion Tom second Jean to close the open session and open the closed session.
Roll call, all ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Year-End Report

The Year-End Report will be reviewed at next month's WTFOSPB meeting.
Barry will email his proposal to all members so they can be prepared with their questions.

New Business**Meeting dates for 2009**

It was decided to meet the second Monday of each month for 2009. Dates as follows:

January	12	July	13
February	9	August	10
March	9	September	14
April	13	October	12
May	11	November	9
June	8	December	14

Budget 2009

The 2009 WTFOSPB budget was discussed among the members.
John will compile a proposal to present to the BOT for their vote at the February meeting.

Correspondence

none

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion P.J. second Jean to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Zuccaro



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting February 9, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:01pm, by Chairman John Westman on February 9, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Jean Cares, Tom Bloomer, Erica Perry, P.J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording Secretary Cynthia Zuccaro.

Approve Minutes

Motion Tom second Jean to approve the amended regular minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting January 12, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Motion Tom second Jean to approve the amended closed minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting January 12, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's remarks

none

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom second P.J. to approve the February 9, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

Township Board

The last four board meetings covered the proposed Zoning Ordinance, with the exception of a brief discussion of the township budget.

Consultant

Smyth Project:

Barry and P.J. met with Marjorie January 22, 2009 to present an offer. The offer was accepted and a package is being expedited to meet the March 31, 2009 deadline.

Merkel Project

The new appraisal for the Merkel property has been approved by the Federal Government. The Greenbelt is working diligently to meet the March 31, 2009 deadline. They have been inquiring about Webster Township's financial commitment.

The WTFOSPB decided to stay with the original contribution of \$110,000 in spite of the reduced value of the second appraisal.

Federal Register

Barry received and did an initial review of the proposed revision to the Federal Register for the farmland protection program.

Greenbelt

Tom reported that the Greenbelt has been discussing developing signs, with a common logo, to mark preserved property. They are hopeful that all entities involved in land protection throughout the county will participate.

Old Business**Review Annual Report**

Barry presented the proposed Annual Report for review by the WTFOSPB. The WTFOSPB gave its approval. John will present it to the BOT, at the February regular board meeting, ~~for their vote of approval.~~

Approved Budget Request

John compiled and presented a WTFOSPB budget. Motion Tom second Erica to approve the budget for BOT approval. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried unanimously. John will get it to John Kingsley a.s.a.p.

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session

8:04pm, motion Tom second Jean to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Re-open Open Session

John Westman re-opened the open session at 8:25pm.

Authorization of Expenditure

Motion Erica second P.J. to request authorization to expend up to \$2500.00 for the appraisal of a property that has been submitted for participation in the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

Correspondence

none

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion Erica second P.J. to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Zuccaro



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting March 9, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:02pm, by Chairman John Westman on March 9, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Jean Cares, Tom Bloomer, Erica Perry, P.J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording Secretary Cynthia Zuccaro.

Approve Minutes

Motion Tom second Erica to approve the amended regular minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting February 9, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Motion P.J. second Tom to approve the closed minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting February 9, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's remarks

John noted that there were two articles on the front page of the day's Ann Arbor News regarding PDR programs.

Approve Agenda

Motion Erica second Tom to approve the March 9, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

Township Board

The BOT approved the \$2500.00 expenditure for a land appraisal.

Special budget meeting:

Revenue is not expected to decline in Webster Township this year.

John Kingsley increased the budget for the PDR program higher than recommended by the WTFOSPB.

The budget needs to be approved by April 2009.

Consultant

Smyth Project:

The NRCS staff visited the property February 18, 2009.

Marjorie's daughter still needs to sign some of the federal forms.

Barry wrote a letter requesting an extension of the March 31, 2009 deadline.

Merkel Project

This property was also visited on February 18, 2009 by the NRCS staff. Greenbelt requested an extension of the March 31, 2009 deadline.

Greenbelt

Tom reported that the Greenbelt is considering the idea of soliciting developers to submit bids for Greenbelt funds. The city attorney has approved the concept.

Due to falling land values the Greenbelt commission has reevaluated its financial position. In some cases with highly motivated owners, the Greenbelt is able to meet its guidelines on spending and may consider properties without available matching funds

Agenda Change

Motion Erica second P.J. to change the agenda by moving the Closed Session up in the order in front of Old Business. All ayes and carried

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session

7:37pm, motion Erica second Tom to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Re-open Open Session

John Westman re-opened the open session at 8:21pm.

Old Business**Letter to Landowners**

Barry is preparing letters and applications to be sent to all Webster Township landowners of 35 acres or more. The letters are to be sent out this week. Barry will also send letters to current applicants with an update and suggestion of donating easements.

Correspondence

none

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion Erica second P.J. to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Zuccaro



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting April 13, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:06pm, by Chairman John Westman on April 13, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Jean Cares, Tom Bloomer, Erica Perry, P.J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Cynthia Zuccaro.

Approve Minutes

Motion Erica second P.J. to approve the regular minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting March 9, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Motion Erica second P.J. to approve the closed minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting March 9, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's remarks

none

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom second Jean to approve the April 13, 2009 agenda with the additions of *Publicity* under Old Business and *WTFOSPB Report to the Planning Commission* under New Business. All ayes and carried.

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

Township Board

John reported that 2009 budget will not include salary increases to staff or elected officials, contrary to the Compensation Committees recommendation of an increase in salary for the Supervisor and Treasurer.

Consultant

Smyth

The request for an extension of the March 31, 2009 deadline was granted.

All materials have been submitted to the NRCS and closing is expected to be scheduled any day now.

Merkel

The request for an extension of the March 31, 2009 deadline was granted.

All materials have been submitted to the NRCS and closing is expected to be scheduled any day now.

Federal Program

Taking into account the new federal rules, Barry thought we should consider taking a look at past applicants that may be suitable properties to submit for the next federal round of funding. Properties will be discussed in closed session.

Letters to Landowners

Letters and applications were sent to landowners of 35 acres or more on March 13, 2009. On April 10, 2009, letters were sent to current applicants with an update and suggestion of donating easements.

Greenbelt

Tom did not attend the last Greenbelt meeting, although he knows that Webster Township properties were on the agenda.

Old Business

Project Publicity

Once the Smyth and Merkel properties are complete, Erica would like to see a great deal of positive publicity concerning all of the WTFOSPB successes. Ideas included: newspaper articles, a written history of the PDR movement in the township, a special web site devoted to Webster Township PDR, and a public event.

John recommended that Erica start an outline of the history of mobilizing the community in support of land preservation. Also, John will address the BOT about the possibility of space on the township web site for Webster Township PDR accomplishments and updates.

New Business

WTFOSPB Report to the Planning Commission

Erica will give a WTFOSPB report at the Planning Commission meetings.

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session

8:11pm, motion Erica second Tom to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Re-open Open Session

John Westman re-opened the open session at 8:31pm.

Correspondence

none

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion Tom second P.J. to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Zuccaro



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting May 11, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:03pm, by Chairman John Westman on May 11, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Jean Cares, Tom Bloomer, P.J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Cynthia Zuccaro.

Absent: Erica Perry

Approve Minutes

Motion P.J. second Tom to approve the regular minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting April 13, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Motion P.J. second Tom to approve the closed minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting April 13, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's remarks

none

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom second P.J. to approve the May 11, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried.

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

Township Board

John reported that the BOT supported the WTFOSPB's request to have a portion of the township website devoted to PDR. Bill Sinkule is very willing to be of assistance in setting up the site.

Consultant

Smyth

This project has not closed. Barry has been in contact with NRCS staff for the last two weeks. He is confident it will happen by May 31, 2009, but is feeling concerned.

Merkel

This project has not closed. Again, Barry has been in contact with NRCS staff for the last two weeks. As with the Smyth project, he is confident it will happen by May 31, 2009, but is feeling concerned.

Greenbelt

none

Old Business

Update WTFOSPB information on the website

A draft plan for the website, from Bill Sinkule, was provided to all board members for review. The application for PDR is currently on the website so it will expand from there. Erica sent a draft history of land preservation in the township to all members. The board should review this history and make comments for next month's meeting. There was consensus that the draft history should be reduced in size.

Tom said he would like to expand on Bill's website draft.

P.J. would like to see language included on open space and natural resources.

Barry suggested adding Rob Mitzel's flow chart, although Jean and others thought it was a bit too confusing.

Preserve Washtenaw Signs

P.J. saw PDR signs on farms while visiting Lexington. She stated that they were easy to read, a good size, and easily recognized. The signs were green and white metal with the number of acres protected.

Preserve Washtenaw is currently working on signs with a common theme for our area.

New Business

None

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session

7:30pm, motion Tom second P.J. to close the open session and open the closed session.

Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Re-open Open Session

John Westman re-opened the open session at 7:53pm.

Correspondence

none

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion Tom second P.J. to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Zuccaro

Webster Township Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board
Regular Meeting Minutes: Monday June 8, 2009 at 7pm

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:04pm by Chairman John Westman on June 8, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Tom Bloomer, Erica Perry, Jean Cares, PJ Martin, and consultant Barry Lonik

Absent: Cynthia Zuccaro

Approve Minutes

Tom moved to approve minutes of WTFOSPB meeting May 11, 2009, with PJ second. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's remarks

Township board had special meeting for approving exact dollar amounts for Smyth and Merkel expenditures.

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Approve Agenda

Tom moved to approve the agenda, Erica seconded. All ayes and carried.

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

- Last Greenbelt meeting, Tom learned that the notion of having a common sign has been scrapped. Due to the good offer with the city's sign shop, Tom recommends that we still take them up on it later this summer and join with the Greenbelt.

Township Board

none

Consultant

- Both Smyth and Merkel closed but federal funds have not yet arrived.

Old Business

- Discussed a joint press release with the AA Greenbelt on the closings.
- Barry talked about having a Tour to view the properties, having a public meeting, putting it on the website, and at Webster Fall Festival.

New Business

None

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session.

PJ moved and Tom seconded closing open and opening closed at 7:41pm.

Re-Open Session

John reopened the open session at 8: 17pm.

Correspondence

John shared the newsletter from Wash Land Trust

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion . All ayes, motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Perry



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting July 13, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:05pm, by Chairman John Westman on July 13, 2009 at the township hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Jean Cares, Tom Bloomer, Erica Perry, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Cynthia Zuccaro.

Absent: P.J. Martin

Approve Minutes

The June 8, 2009 minutes were not available for approval, Erica will email them to be approved at the August meeting.

Chairman's remarks

none

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom second Jean to approve the July 13, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried.

Announcements and Public Comment

none

Reports

Township Board

John reported that the BOT are busy interviewing candidates for a new township attorney.

Consultant

Smyth

Funds have been disbursed and Barry has provided Marjorie with a copy of the recorded easement for her baseline folder.

Greenbelt

Tom will report in Closed Session.

New Business

Barry presented a Revenue and Expenditure Report for Webster Township PDR that Bill Sinkule created. The bottom line of the report is that there will be about \$600,000 available for the remainder of the present millage.

Close Open Session – Open Closed Session

7:28pm, motion Erica second Jean to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Re-open Open Session

John Westman re-opened the open session at 9:06pm.

Motion Tom second Erica that the WTFOSPB recommend to the BOT that they authorize an expenditure of \$200,000 to the Greenbelt toward the purchase of development rights on the Nixon Farm.

Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence

none

Call to Public

none

Adjourn

Motion Tom second Erica to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Zuccaro



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting September 14, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairman John Westman on September 14, 2009 at the Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Tom Bloomer, Jean Cares, Erica Perry, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Kristen Uthus.
Member absent: P.J. Martin

Approve Minutes

Motion Tom, second Jean to approve the regular and closed sessions minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting August 10, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's Remarks

None

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom, second Erica to approve the September 14, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried.

Call to Public

None present

Reports

Township Board

The millage renewal will go on the ballot in November with the following changes in Proposal B to avoid confusion: (1) deletion of the phrase "and provide new parks, recreation opportunities and trails," and (2) changing "in the City of Ann Arbor" to "from the City of Ann Arbor." Proposals A and C went to the county clerk, and no problems were reported. It was noted that millage renewals must come to a vote before expiration of current millage, and that there should be discussion before the next renewal as to whether the millage should be extended for more than five years.

Consultant

Barry reported that the Nixon appraisal was submitted for NRCS review, and comments will be addressed. Nixon will not be closed by the election, but it is proceeding well. The remainder of Barry's report was given in closed session.

Greenbelt

Tom reported that the Nixons have been very cooperative; however, the environmental assessment still needs to be conducted. John proposed a formal resolution to release funds for the Nixon property be submitted from WTFOSPB to the Township BOT.

Old Business

None

New Business: Millage renewal

Tom reported that Ross Martin and Steve Bemis are taking responsibility for the millage campaign which will be similar to the last campaign. The Webster Neighbors have money from the last campaign with which to start, but volunteers and additional money are needed. The campaigners would like to have a public forum in October that includes members of the WTFOSPB to emphasize the positive results of the millage.

Close Open Session, Open Closed Session

7:55 p.m., motion Erica, second Tom to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Re-open Open Session

8:31 p.m. motion Erica, second Tom to close the closed session and re-open the open session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Tom, second Erica that:

The property nominated to the City, known as the Webster United Church of Christ Property (tax parcel numbers to be provided by Barry, totaling 94.5 acres, more or less) meets the Webster Township Preservation Board's selection criteria and scores on the Preservation Board's evaluation system as a priority property for preservation;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board recommends to the Webster Township Board of Trustees that a pledge of \$77,000 be made from the Township's dedicated revenues for land preservation to assist the City of Ann Arbor Greenbelt Program's purchase of a conservation easement on the aforementioned property.

Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence

None

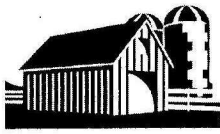
Call to Public

None present

Adjournment.

8:50 p.m. Motion Erica, second Tom to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried, and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Uthus



WEBSTER TOWNSHIP

Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting October 12, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chairman John Westman on October 12, 2009 at the Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Tom Bloomer, Jean Cares, Erica Perry, P. J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Kristen Uthus.

Approve Minutes

Motion Tom, second Erica to approve the regular and closed sessions minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting September 14, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's Remarks

Next month the committee will be electing new officers.

Approve Agenda

Motion Tom, second P.J. to approve the October 12, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried.

Call to Public

Ross Martin present; he will talk about the millage renewal efforts during Old Business.

Reports

Township Board

- (1) John reported that the change in phrasing of the millage wording "in the City of Ann Arbor" to "from the City of Ann Arbor" did not get submitted and will not be changed on the ballot. He does not foresee a problem given that the same wording was used on the last ballot.
- (2) The Township Board passed a resolution appropriating \$77,000 for the Webster Church property.
- (3) The Township Hall will be reserved October 17 for a public forum to discuss the upcoming millage.

Consultant

The **Nixon** survey is complete and the environmental assessment is underway.

Barry has received drafts of the participation agreement for **Webster Church** property, and they have been sent to the attorney. The board of trustees approved the preservation board recommendation to expend \$77,000 of millage proceeds to assist in the city's purchase of an easement on 94+ acres. Although the BOT has agreed to put up the money, an official needs to sign the participation agreement. Motion Tom, second Erica that a township official sign the participation agreement. All ayes and carried.

Barry noted that the Governor is planning to disband the **Agricultural Preservation Board**. Tom had called Liz Brater's office earlier and lodged a complaint regarding the plan. He was told that the

functions of the board would be transferred to another board. Tom suggested that others call the governor's office if they want to voice their concerns.

The remainder of Barry's report was given in closed session.

Greenbelt

There is an effort to get signs out to mark the properties that have received Greenbelt funding. A number of families have agreed to post signs.

Old Business: Millage Renewal

Ross Martin provided a synopsis of the efforts that have been put forth to promote passage of the upcoming millage.

(1) Fundraising letters have been sent out.

(2) A committee has been pulled together from the 2005 group to draw up a campaign plan which includes:

- Email blasts to ~300 Webster neighbors and friends
- Yard signs placed on street corners; looking for people willing to post them in their yard (contact 734-255-7069 with names)
- Public forum October 17 with presentations from the PDR Board, township officials, and Webster Neighbors followed by a Q&A session. The press has been notified and flyers made.
- Informational flyers will be mailed ~1 week prior to election.

(3) Webster Neighbors contributed the money they had from the previous election. ~\$1K has been collected, and another \$1K is still needed.

(4) Election eve, 100 "Vote Today" stickers will be placed on the most visible campaign signs and some kind of promotional display will be constructed near the voting area.

(5) The millage website with FAQs, statistics, and PDR successes will be revived

(6) A newspaper article is being written to increase awareness.

New Business: Conservation Buyer Letter

Rob Ewing has clients interested in buying some farm property with the intent to have a conservation easement placed on it. The interested parties, Russell and Rachel Strach, sent a letter to the WTFOSPB stating their intent. Because the landowner information this board discusses is confidential, it was suggested that Barry notify landowners and have them contact Rob Ewing directly if they are interested in selling. John will write a letter to the Strachs explaining the board's position and the plan to notify landowners.

Close Open Session, Open Closed Session

7:22 p.m., motion Erica, second P.J. to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Re-open Open Session

8:31 p.m. motion Erica, second Tom to close the closed session and re-open the open session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Additional Correspondence

None

Call to Public

None present

Adjournment

7:54 p.m. Motion Erica, second John to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried, and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Uthus



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting November 9, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman John Westman on November 9, 2009 at the Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Tom Bloomer, Jean Cares, Erica Perry, P. J. Martin, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Kristen Uthus.

Approve Minutes

Motion P.J., second Jean to approve the regular session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting October 12, 2009. All ayes and carried. Motion Erica, second P.J. to approve the closed session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting October 12, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's Remarks

None.

Approve Agenda

Tom noted that he would like to add a discussion of bylaws revision to New Business. Motion Erica, second Tom to approve the amended October 12, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried.

Call to Public

None present.

Reports

Township Board:

Because he has been out of town, John has not talked to the Board about the economic impact of part of the township operating millage not passing. He is looking for recommendations for how to reduce costs and spending in the Township. There was discussion about the township employees being reduced to a 4-day work week, staggered so that the office would remain open five days a week. P.J. noted that not all positions can stand to be reduced by 20%, and it may make more sense to cut some positions. Tom suggested that the next ballot be reworded to improve understanding so that more people would approve. He was concerned that people did not vote for the millage because they did not know what it was funding.

Consultant:

Barry submitted the following report:

(1) **Nixon.** The appraisal was approved by FRPP. First comments on the easement have been received, which the landowners and their attorney are reviewing. The hope is to be able to send all final documents to FRPP before the end of the year.

(2) **Webster Church.** I reviewed drafts of the easement and participation agreement and sent them on to Jim Govert, who was then in communication with the city attorney. The project is scheduled to close Thursday morning!

Barry attended the FRPP policy meeting 20 October, 2009. They discussed revisions to the scoring system for 2010, and some criteria will be changed or eliminated. Barry predicts that Washtenaw County will continue to score well, despite the changes. All unfunded properties from the last funding cycle will need to be re-scored and re-submitted by May, 2010. One of the criteria used to evaluate applications is "closing efficiency," or the state's ability to spend the allocated money in a timely manner. Barry noted that Michigan is improving their closing efficiency, and the current data will further improve our score.

The remainder of Barry's report was given in closed session.

Greenbelt:

Will be discussed in closed session.

Old Business: Millage Renewal

The millage renewal was discussed above, but it was further noted that the next millage renewal should be for more than 5 years, similar to the Ann Arbor millage.

New Business

Motion Tom, second Erica to change the order of business so that New Business topics are (A) Revise Bylaws, (B) Election of Officers, and (C) Meeting Dates for 2010. All ayes and carried.

A. Revise Bylaws:

Tom proposed that the committee officers consist of a Chairman and Vice Chairman with no Secretary position which would better reflect the reality of how the committee operates. The Vice Chairman would perform the duties of the Chair in his/her absence. Barry was asked to prepare language to change the bylaws as described but still perform all the necessary tasks outlined in the present bylaws. The new language will be distributed via email and voted on at the next meeting.

B. Election of Officers:

Motion Erica, second Tom that John will be elected Chair for the coming year, 2010. All ayes and carried.

Motion Tom, second Jean that Erica will be elected as secretary for the coming year, 2010. All ayes and carried.

C. Meeting Dates for 2010:

Motion Tom, second Erica that the Board will meet on the second Monday of each month for 2010. All ayes and carried. The dates are: Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10, Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9, Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, and Dec 13.

Motion Tom, second P.J. that the established meeting time for the committee will be 6:30 p.m. for 2010. All ayes and carried.

Close Open Session, Open Closed Session

8:27 p.m., motion P.J., second Tom to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Re-open Open Session

8:50 p.m. motion Erica, second P.J. to close the closed session and re-open the open session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence

The committee thanked Barry for the article in the newspaper regarding the millage that passed.

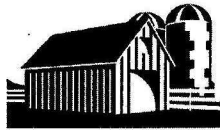
Call to Public

None present

Adjournment

8:53 p.m. Motion Erica, second Tom to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried, and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Uthus



WEBSTER TOWNSHIP

Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board Regular Meeting December 14, 2009

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman John Westman on December 14, 2009 at the Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, Tom Bloomer, Jean Cares, Erica Perry, consultant Barry Lonik, and recording secretary Kristen Uthus. Members absent: P. J. Martin

Approve Minutes

Motion Erica second Jean to approve the regular session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting with amendment for November 9, 2009. All ayes and carried. Motion Tom, second Erica to approve the closed session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting with amendment for November 9, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Chairman's Remarks

John is still looking into the questions of term limits for WTFOSPB members and will have an answer at the next meeting. He will make an announcement at the BOT meeting to note that the Preservation Board is interested in finding new people to serve.

Approve Agenda

Motion Erica, second Tom to approve the December 14, 2009 agenda. All ayes and carried.

Call to Public

None present.

Reports

Township Board:

- (1) The BOT has discussed changes to the township budget but has reached no consensus. John will suggest that the township form a committee to solicit applications for people interested in serving on a township board.
- (2) Zoning ordinance conflicts: the northern portion of the township is zoned R-1 (1-acre minimum parcels) which is in conflict with potential growth outlined in the Planning Commission's Master Plan. Growth is facilitated in the southern part of the township where there are more services available; however, the Preservation Board has been most successful protecting properties in that area.

Consultant:

Barry submitted the following report:

1. Nixon. FRPP is currently reviewing the documents provided and there are still a few items being finalized. Since the grant funds are from 2009, FRPP OGC is not involved

in the review so there is a chance (albeit slight) that closing could happen before the end of the year. Participation agreement needs authorization to be signed.

2. Webster Church. The project closed on 12 November.

Barry further noted that the Federal funding program deadline has moved to February 2010 which is only 60 days from this date. If the Board is interested in commissioning appraisals of any properties to improve their scores, that should be determined immediately.

The remainder of Barry's report was given in closed session.

Greenbelt:

Greenbelt has signs to post on their protected properties. Similar signs may be purchased for Webster Preservation Board-protected properties (with appropriately changed wording). The Board will appropriate funds to purchase signs for the Webster Twp properties.

Old Business

A. Discuss Bylaws Amendment: Barry submitted new wording of the bylaws to reflect a change in the officers as discussed at the last meeting. Motion Tom, second Erica to adopt the changes to the Preservation Board bylaws. All ayes and carried. See attached for changes.

B. Appoint Recording Secretary: No replacement has been found yet, but John and Erica both intend to look for someone.

New Business: Review contract with consultant

Because of concerns John Kingsley has with how Barry charges mileage to the Township, John Westman suggested that Barry change his hourly rate to compensate for lost mileage. Tom noted that by the current billing system, the Township knows exactly what they are being billed for. After discussion it was settled that Barry should continue to bill as he has been doing, but that his contract should be updated to reflect the current mileage billing rate. There will be more discussion in closed session regarding other potential changes.

Close Open Session, Open Closed Session

8:07 p.m., motion Tom, second Erica to close the open session and open the closed session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Re-open Open Session

9:07 p.m. motion Erica, second Jean to close the closed session and re-open the open session. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Tom, second Jean that the WTBOT be asked to allocate money for the appraisal of two Webster Township properties or \$4500. All ayes and carried.

Motion Erica, second Tom to postpone until January further discussion of the consultant's contract. All ayes and carried.

Correspondence

None.

Call to Public

None present

Adjournment

9:10 p.m. Motion Erica, second Tom to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried, and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Uthus