



**Van Buren County Farmland Preservation Board  
Administration and Land Services Building  
219 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw**

**June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**

Call to order at 6:35 pm

**Present:** Bill Lawson, Dave Foerster, Tom Erdmann, Mike Pioch, Don Mackellar, Jeff Radtke, Amy Lockhart, Charles Lachman

**Absent:** Bill Mihelich, Mike Rainey, Scott Cedarquist, Ted Major, Laura Strehlow, Kurt Doroh, Wayne Hammond

**Public:**

**Agenda:** Additions to New Business: Schedule Annual Review of Lachman Farm, Bills paid. Motion was made by Jeff Radtke, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Pioch to approve the agenda with changes.

**Minutes** of April 10<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup> : Motion by Jeff Radtke, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Pioch to approve the minutes of the April 10 and May 8 LPB meetings.

**Public Comment:** None

**Reports:**

*Township Representatives* – Amy Lockhart reported that Arlington Township is working with Erin Fuller and Marcy Colclough through the Black River Watershed Project for zoning and planning assistance. Arlington plans to include the suggestions made through this process in their updates – allowing for PDR in the township.

Tom Erdmann reported that South Haven is finalizing their master plan and is having a workshop on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Dave Foerster mentioned that he would try to attend to talk about land preservation efforts.

Bill Lawson & Jeff Radtke reported that Hamilton and Decatur townships are having their next meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> and are still working on the master plan revisions. Their public hearing should be sometime in August.

*Other reports:* Dave Foerster shared a copy of the open meetings act and mentioned that meetings should be posted publically 48 hours in advance and the minutes should be available within 8 days (5 days for approved minutes). Also that corrections made to minutes should be done using strike-through and include the original language as well. The Land Preservation Board should make sure we are following the same rules.

Don Mackellar reported that he had a phone call from RES (Renewable Energy Systems) regarding a new wind farm in Cass and Van Buren Counties. Don asked that we recommend townships think about these possibilities in their zoning. RES would like to sponsor a wind farm tour for anyone interested. (Farm in northern Indiana).



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**Old Business:**

*Yearly Review of PDR easements* – The yearly review of the Lachman easement will need to be completed by the end of September. Jeff Radtke volunteered to do the inspection before September, Lockhart will prepare the report by the September LPB meeting.

*Fundraising* – Dave Foerster reported on the requirements for gaming qualifications and the LPB's partnership with the Van Buren County Economic Development Corporation to obtain a charitable gaming license. Foerster will continue working toward obtaining a license, potential dates for a Texas Hold-Em event could be late fall or early winter.

**New Business:**

*LPB Officer election* – Currently chair of the Land Preservation Board is Dave Foerster, Vice Chair is Ted Major. A third officer (Treasurer) will need to be added. Chairman Foerster opened the floor for nominations. Motion was made by Don MacKellar, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Lawson to nominate Dave Foerster for Chair, Ted Major for Vice Chair and Mike Pioch for Treasurer. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** **\*\*NOTE:** The July meeting has been **cancelled**. The next meeting will be August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Floor of the Administration and Land Services Building, 219 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 pm**

Submitted by Amy Lockhart  
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