



DEXTER TOWNSHIP

FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

6880 DEXTER-PINCKNEY ROAD
DEXTER, MI 48130
TELEPHONE: 734-426-3767
FAX: 734-426-3833
WWW.DEXTERTOWNSHIP.ORG

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Present: Vice-Chairperson Scott Joling, Secretary Kathy Bradbury, Laura Sanders, Township Board Rep., Guerin Wilkinson, Gretchen Driskell, Marty Ruhlig.
Absent: Chairperson Mark Teicher.

Also present: Janis Miller, Recording Secretary.

Public/audience present: None.

1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chairperson Joling called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all.
3. **Approval of Agenda:**
Moved by Driskell, seconded by Bradbury, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried 6-0
4. **Approval of Minutes:**
Moved by Driskell, seconded by Joling, to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 6, 2023, as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Moved by Joling, seconded by Straub, to approve the closed session meeting minutes of April 6, 2023, as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
5. **Public Comment – 1st call:** Opened 7:05 pm. No public comments.
6. **By-Laws Review:**
Moved by Driskell, supported by Bradbury to approve the By-Laws document as written and remand it to the Dexter Township Board of Trustees for their approval.
Motion carried 6-0.
7. **Consultant's Report:**
There is a special Federal deadline [for grants] on May 26, 2023. Consultant Lonick said he could submit up to four nominations from Dexter Township. The submissions will carry over to the November Federal Grant review.

Discussion of the **Buy/Protect/Sell Policy** document handed out by Consultant Lonik. This is another consideration for agricultural land owners if they have a buyer for their property but want to conserve the land. The policy **could** be used if the property to be conserved is important. This policy must be approved by the FOSP Board and then a recommendation sent to the Dexter Township Board of Trustees for adoption. As there is no rush to get it approved there is no action tonight.

Discussion of the **Policy on Conservation Easement Monitoring and Enforcement** document handed out by Consultant Lonik. Trustee Sanders mentioned that the Board of Trustees had already approved this policy because it was needed for the complete documentation on the Monier property conservation easement. Upon investigation, the OSLP had approved the policy on November 2, 2021 and the Dexter Township Board of Trustees had approved the policy on December 21, 2021. The FOSP Board requested an edit to the policy covering notification to the township when the property transfers/sells.

8. Committee Member Q & A:

Who will do the monitoring? Answer: Barry will do it or it could be the township enforcement officer. How will the monitoring be paid? Answer: From the voter approved millage. How often will the conservation easements be monitored? Answer: Annual monitoring is most preferred to catch violations.

9. Closed Session:

Motion by Wilkinson, seconded by Bradbury, to adjourn into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing applications for potential conservation easements.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Ruhlig, Wilkinson, Bradbury, Driskell, Sanders, and Joling;

Nays – None; Absent – Teicher. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered Closed Session at 7:50 PM.

Motion by Driskell to return to Open Public Meeting. Motion seconded by Ruhlig. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:33 PM.

Motion by Driskell to allocate \$2,850 for the appraisal of application #2023-1. Motion seconded by Sanders. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Public Comment – 2nd call: Opened 8:34 pm. No public comments.

11. Adjournment:

Moved by Joling, supported by Bradbury, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Bradbury, Secretary

Janis Miller, Recording Secretary