



**ACME TOWNSHIP  
FARMLAND & OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Friday, May 6, 2011 1:00 p.m.  
Acme Township Hall  
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

**Meeting called to Order at 1:05 p.m.**

**Members present:** B. Garvey, B. Carstens  
**Members excused:** None  
**Staff present:** W. Kladder, Township Supervisor  
B. Bourdages, Farmland Preservation  
J. Jocks, Township Legal Counsel  
N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary  
**Also present:** R. Challender, K. Engle, R. Saylor, G. Veliquette, C. Walter

1. **Limited Public Comment:** None
2. **Approval of Minutes from April 8, 2011 meeting:**  
**Motion by Carstens. Seconded by Garvey to approve the meeting minutes from April 8, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.**
3. **Correspondence: None**

Garvey encouraged those present to join the Farmland Advisory. He said there was an online application on the township website.

Kladder said the charge of the Farmland and Open Space Committee is advisory to the Township Board on matters pertaining to protecting farmlands by using purchase of development rights (PDR). Kladder said recently that this charge has grown to include other issues. The Farmland and Open Space Board is responsible to work with Grand Traverse County Farmland Preservation Committee to protect farmland in Acme Township by using PDR.

Garvey said he had a DVD from Michigan Land Institute promoting local food and nutrition. He is unable to play it today as no one has a laptop to use. He will play it next time. Garvey said there was funding available. He said the DVD was dedicated to Acme Township farmers. Bourdages commented that this DVD would provide to citizens an outreach on what is going on in the farming community.

4. **Old Business:**  
**Open forum discussion: how Acme Township's Zoning Ordinance can be revised to be more agricultural and agribusiness-friendly**

Garvey said four issues have come up recently in terms of uses and expansive uses of Ag land. He was glad Jocks and Bourdages were here today. Garvey asked if it would be more productive to talk about the four specific issues/ uses or talk more in general terms to see how townships have handled the global issue and how we might do it here in Acme Township. One of the big issues is to allow discretionary conditional uses that reward economic creativity with the farm community.

Bourdages said he had missed the last meeting but thought we were getting some good headway in the discussions in the shift of the language for more general terms. Engle commented that there were certain legal issues coming up which is why we have Jocks here today. Jocks is uncomfortable with undefined terms of conditional uses. There is law there that says that you can not have this broad catch all.

Discussion followed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2011, at 1:00 pm.

**Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.**