



**ACME TOWNSHIP
FARMLAND & OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, December 19, 2006, 4:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to Order at 4:05 p.m.

Members present: B.Garvey (Chair) B. Carstens, K. Engle, W. Kladder, D. Morrison, R. Saylor, N. Veliquette
Members excused: None
Staff present: N.Edwardson, Recording Secretary
Also present: B. Bourdages, Farmland Preservation
Lew Coulter, County Conservation District

- 1. Limited Public Comment:** None
- 2. Approval of Minutes from May 25, 2006 Meeting.**

Motion by Kladder. Seconded by Garvey to approve the meeting minutes from May 25, 2006, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

1) Update on Grand Traverse County Farmland Preservation Board Progress

Bourdage discussed the status of interlocal agreement between Acme Township and Grand Traverse County. He said that the interlocal agreement is a short-term approach to get the job done, not something to base the County's long-term program on. There was further discussion about the parameters of responsibilities at the townships' and County level. The interlocal agreement can specify the responsibilities and the County Farmland Board can give its blessing to activities that are identified as County functions but which the township will carry out. Coulter asked how the Farmland Board would feel about having the County not hold the easement. Kladder said that the bulk of the activity will be coming from the townships, and that they will be paying for monitoring anyway, so it makes sense for the townships to hold the easements. Bourdage reported that at the December 27th County Board of Commissioners meeting there would be a recommendation for approval of interlocal agreement and preliminary application scoring.

Kladder made a motion to recommend that the Board approve the Interlocal Agreement between Acme Township and Grand Traverse County. Seconded by Garvey. Motion passed

2) Update on State Qualification

Bourdage updated the group on the Acme Township qualification process. Currently, The County cannot qualify due to insufficiencies in its master plan. There was discussion about the elements that the State requires and the incorporation into local process-real changes vs. semantics. Acme township is qualified.

Kladder asked that the property owners on the Board join the audience for the discussion on the application scores. Bourdage reported that the preliminary scoring was done. Bourdage went over each applicant. There was significant discussion about the scoring.

4. New Business

Bourdage said the next steps at the Acme level is to procure appraisal services and then conduct appraisals. He suggested that we send the “RFP” to half a dozen firms for bids. Kladder would like someone from the township in the selection process.

Kladder made a motion for a “RFP” committee to be formed to consist of Bourdage, Acme Township Manager, Sharon Corpe, and one other person to be selected from the township. Garvey seconded. Motion passed.

Adjourned at 6:00 p.m.