

Richland County

Natural Resources Standing Committee

November 3, 2025

The Richland County Natural Resources Standing Committee convened on Monday, November 3, 2025, in person and virtually at 9:30 AM in the County Boardroom of the Richland County Courthouse.

Call To Order: Committee Chair Carrow called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Roll Call: Deputy County Clerk Hege conducted roll call. Committee members present: Steve Carrow, Randy Schoonover, Richard McKee, Alayne Hendricks, and Rod Perry. Committee member(s) absent: Julie Fleming.

Supervisor Fleming arrived at 9:32 AM.

Verification of Open Meetings Law Compliance: Deputy County Clerk Hege confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

Approval Of Agenda: Motion by Perry, seconded by Schoonover to approve agenda. Motion carried and agenda declared approved.

Approval Of Minutes From October 6, 2025 Meeting: Chair Carrow asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the October 6, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Chair Carrow declared the minutes from the October 6, 2025, meeting approved as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Zoning Petitions:

- A. Petition To Rezone Parcel 030-3224-4000:** Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, provided a brief description of the petition and reported that there had only been one call regarding the petition and the neighbor had not been in opposition of the rezone. Motion by McKee, seconded by Fleming to approve the petition. No discussion. Motion carried and the petition was approved.
- B. Petition To Rezone Parcel 018-2532-2000 And A CUP To Permit A Mobile Home:** Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, provided a brief description of the petition and CUP and reported that there had been two calls regarding the petition and neither were in opposition of the rezone. Motion by McKee, seconded by Fleming to approve the petition and CUP. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the petition and CUP were approved.
- C. Petition To Rezone Petition To Rezone Parcel 030-2742-1000 And A CUP To Permit A Campground:** Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, provided a brief description of the petition and reported that the Town of Westford had approved the campground for a one year trial period. Motion by Hendricks, seconded by Perry to approve the petition and CUP. One neighbor spoke briefly in opposition to the petition and stated that he felt it was too close to his residence. Extensive back and forth discussion between both landowners and the members of the committee ensued. Motion carried and the petition and CUP were approved.
- D. Petition For A Conditional Use Permit On Parcel 020-4222-1010 For A 2nd Accessory**

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Building: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, provided a brief description of the petition and reported that there had only been one call regarding the petition. Motion by McKee, seconded by Schoonover to approve the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the CUP was approved.

- E. Petition To For A Conditional Use Permit For A Salvage Yard On Parcel 010-0243-1000 (And Others):** Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, provided a brief description of the petition. Motion by Schoonover, seconded by Fleming to approve the petition. Brief discussion ensued. The owner of the salvage yard briefly spoke. Motion carried and the CUP was approved.

Reports:

A. Zoning: Report & Departmental Activities: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, reported the office had had 75 sanitary permits year to date with 13 being in the month of October, 119 land use permits year to date with 17 being in the month of October. Ms. Fry also reported on a recent soil testing training at Goose Island, the WCCA conference, and that she had taken her soils certification test and was waiting for the results. Brief discussion ensued.

B. Violations Report: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician reported that there had been no updates to report as they were waiting for the county's attorney and there had been only one complaint, and it was regarding chickens roaming at large in Sextonville. Brief discussion ensued.

C. Land Conservation: Report and Departmental Activities: Cathy Cooper, Richland County Conservationist reported on the recent County Conservationist conference she attended in Stevens Point, that her staff was continuing to work with the Villages of Boaz and Cazenovia to reduce their phosphorous run off, and the recent training on the new mapping software. Brief discussion ensued.

D. UW-Extension: Report & Departmental Activities: Mr. Adam Hady, Area 13 Extension Director presented the Richland October 2025 Report, briefly reported on the various activities of the educators, and gave an update on the plan to move the Extension Office out of Melville Hall and into the Health and Human Services building. Brief discussion ensued.

E. Real Property Lister: Report & Departmental Activities: Julie Lins, Real Property Lister, reported on the working being done in preparation for the upcoming tax season and on the upcoming training event with the municipal clerk and treasurers. Brief discussion ensued.

Discussion & Possible Action: Zoning Ordinance Updates: County Conservationist Cooper reported that the specifications on chickens in residential units had been added to the zoning ordinance and was currently being reviewed by county corporation counsel. Brief discussion ensued. Chair Carrow requested that the Land Information page be updated with a link to the new code of ordinances.

Discussion & Possible Action: Approving 2026 Wildlife Damage Budget And 5 Year Contract: County Conservationist Cooper introduced Mr. Greg Cerven with the WI DNR, gave a brief background on the Wildlife Damage program, and presented the proposed budget. Motion by McKee, seconded by Perry to approve the 2026 Wildlife Damage budget and 5-year contract. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the 2026 Wildlife Damage budget and 5-year contract was approved.

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Discussion & Possible Action: Updating The Acreage Requirements For Certified Survey Map: Julie Lins, Real Property Lister provided a brief description of the proposed amendment to the land division ordinance. Motion by Fleming, seconded by Schoonover to approve the proposed amendment. Extensive discussion ensued. Consensus was gained from the committee to table this item to the next meeting of the Natural Resources Standing Committee.

Discussion & Possible Action: Issuing Notices Of Non-Compliance For Farmland Preservation Program: County Conservationist Cooper provided a brief background on the process for the farmland preservation program and presented several appeals to the non-compliance notice. Motion by Fleming, seconded by Schoonover to honor the appeal from the Daniel and Helen Berns Life Estate and to not issue a notice of non-compliance. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the appeal from the Daniel and Helen Berns Life Estate was honored, and a notice of non-compliance was not issued. Conservationist Cooper presented several more appeals to the non-compliance notice. Motion by McKee, seconded by Schoonover to honor the various appeals to the non-compliance notice. Motion carried and the appeals were honored. Conservationist Cooper presented a list of 12 properties that were out of compliance. Motion by Perry, seconded by Schoonover to approve issuing notices of non-compliance to the 12 properties. Motion carried and issuing notices of non-compliance to the 12 properties was approved.

Discussion & Possible Action: Approving The Resolution For The Lake Monitoring And Protection Grant: Conservationist Cooper presented the need to apply for a 2026 Lake Monitoring and Protection Network grant. Motion by Hendricks, seconded by McKee. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the resolution applying for and accepting a 2026 Lake Monitoring and Protection Network grant was approved and moved to county board for final approval.

Discussion & Possible Action: Approving The Fee Schedule For The Zoning And Sanitation Fees: Conservationist Cooper presented the recommended changes to the fee schedule as being: change the Short-term Rental License fee to \$25.00, add Sanitary Reconnect fee at \$300.00, add Sanitary Plan Revision Within Soil Test Location fee to \$300.00, and add Sanitary Change of Plumber fee at \$300.00. Motion by Fleming, seconded by Perry to approve the changes to the fee schedule for the Zoning and Sanitation fees. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the changes to the fee schedule for the Zoning and Sanitation fees were approved.

Discussion & Possible Action: Set The 2026 Natural Resources Committee Meeting Dates: Conservationist Cooper provided a brief explanation of the need to move various meeting dates in 2026. Brief discussion ensued. Consensus was gained from the committee to keep the regular meeting date as the first Monday of the month with several exceptions.

Discussion & Possible Action: Set Wildlife Damage Commodity Prices And Set 80% Harvest Date: Conservationist Cooper briefly provided background on the need to set the commodity prices and harvest date. Mr. Greg Cerven with the WI DNR also briefly spoke to the item. Motion by McKee, seconded by Schoonover to set the commodity price at \$180 per ton and the 80% harvest date at November 1st. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the commodity price was set to \$180 per ton and the 80% harvest date was set to November 1st.

Correspondence: None.

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Future Agenda Items:

Discussion & Possible Action: Unified Dwelling Code Inspector

Discussion & Possible Action: County Surveyor

Discussion & Possible Action: Updating The Acreage Requirements For Certified Survey Map

Discussion & Possible Action: Richland County Comprehensive Plan: Land Use

Report/Update On Farmland Preservation Non-compliance Notices

Adjourn: Chair Carrow entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Fleming, second by McKee to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,



Myranda H. Hege
Deputy County Clerk