



ACME TOWNSHIP
FARMLAND & OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, November 04, 2009, 2:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690

Meeting called to Order at 2:10p.m.

Members present: B. Carstens, G. LaPointe, W. Kladder, Township Supervisor, S. Vreeland, Township Manager
Members excused: B. Garvey (Chairman)
Staff present: N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary
Also present: B. Bourdages, Farmland Preservation

1. **Limited Public Comment:** None

2. **Approval of Minutes from January 13, 2009 meeting:**

Motion by Kladder. Seconded by Vreeland to approve the meeting minutes from January 13, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Old Business:**

1) **Update on PDR purchases and status of Option Agreements**

Advisory members were given copies of the **Acme Township Landscape Protection Map dated August 2009**. Bourdages reviewed the map showing the completed PDR for 2009, approved PDR purchase for 2009 and additional Farmland offered for Preservation. Bourdages said that there had been a delay in completing the option agreements. There was a change in legal counsel from Mike Grant to Jeff Jocks. Jocks was involved in a trial downstate. We are back on tract and should be able to complete the option agreements.

2) **Federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program Update:**

- **Funding and Application Update**
- **Review of new FRPP Ranking System**

4. **New Business:**

1) **Consideration of Cherry Country Cove Offer**

Bourdages said that Cherry Country Cove volunteered to amend their letter of intent with the township so that instead of optioning both parcels for future development rights purchase as funds become available they would be willing to sell the rights immediately on the smaller parcel while optioning the rights on the larger parcel. He also said that an additional amendment offer is that they are willing to provide a 25% landowner match to the deal for both parcels, whereas before they were seeking full payment for the easement value on both.

MOTION BY CARSTENS TO AMEND OUR AGREEMENT WITH CHERRIES R US IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OCTOBER 14, 2009, LETTER. SECONDED BY LAPOINTE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 2) **Discussion regarding landowner contributions**
- 3) **Discuss White family offer to apply to PDR round 2 and potential timing for PDR program round 2**
Bourdages told the Advisory that the White family had a written request asking for consideration of the preservation of 325 acres of agricultural land in Acme Township.
- 4) **Discussion of a potential working group regarding potential changes to township Zoning ordinance.**
Vreeland said she would like to see a working group of farmers engaging with this Advisory on potential zoning ordinance changes. Planning Commissioner, Doug White, is currently the agricultural representative.

ADJOURNED AT 4:00 p.m.