

**AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT
AND
FARMLAND PROTECTION COMMISSION
July 18, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT

Harry Alten, Jr.
Barb Wheeler
Leonore Beyer-Clow
Virginia Peschke
Ken Bauman
Dan Ziller, MCFB
Brian Jenkner

ABSENT

Ken Koehler
Rob LaPorta

OTHERS PRESENT

Dave LaGue, MCCD
Maryanne Wanaski
SuzAnne Ehardt
Members of the Public

OTHERS ABSENT

Dave Brandt, USDA-NRCS

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alten called to meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Virginia Peschke seconded by Brian Jenkner moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2007 meeting as submitted. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two interested members of the public were in attendance to learn more about the Commission and its function.

OLD BUSINESS

A. HB 3086

Copies of the proposed bill were made available to the members of the Commission for informational purposes. A brief discussion ensued regarding the status of the bill and the involvement of Senator Althoff in attempting to include McHenry County in the bill.

B. Ag Areas Map

Members of the Commission were provided with colored copies of the Ag Areas Map as they had requested.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Kane County Presentation

Staff indicated that several attempts were made to contact Kane County through Mike Kenyon. Mr. Kenyon was made aware of the meeting date and time and was going to respond back to staff, however no response had been received. Staff will attempt to contact other individuals in Kane County, if the Commission wishes. It was determined that Staff will attempt to have representatives at the next meeting.

A general discussion then ensued regarding the use of the transfer tax for farmland preservation. It was noted that these funds go into the General Fund of the County's budget, however it was believed that the County Board could designate a specific percentage towards a farmland preservation fund.

It was the consensus of the Commission that future meetings should include:

- Kane County presentation
- Legal perspectives of PDR/TDR and the use of the transfer tax
- American Farmland Trust presentation
- Invitation to Water Resources Manager to participate

Barb Wheeler seconded by Virginia Peschke moved to adjourn the meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.