

RESOLUTION 2014 - 60

Re: Plan of Public Participation for the Farmland Preservation Plan

WHEREAS, Vilas County is required to prepare and adopt a Farmland Preservation Plan as outlined in Wis. Stat. §91.10; and

WHEREAS, Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department staff, in cooperation with staff from the North Central Regional Planning Commission, are currently developing the County's Farmland Preservation plan; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the need to encourage and engage the general public to participate in the development of a sound plan; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the County Board of Supervisors to approve a "Public Participation Plan" (attached) to formally involve the public in the Farmland Preservation planning process by providing open discussion, communication programs, information services, public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, and at least one public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Vilas County Board of Supervisors in session this 23rd day of September, 2014 that, we approve and authorize the attached Public Participation Plan as attached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Land and Water Conservation Committee / Department will meet any obligations set forth in the Public Participation Plan.

SUBMITTED BY: Land & Water Conservation Committee

s/ Wally Beversdorf, Chair

Art Kunde

s/ Mary Kim Black

s/ Kim Simac

s/ Paul Hennes

VILAS COUNTY
Public Participation Plan
for Farmland Preservation Planning

I. Background

The County recognizes the need to engage the public in the planning process. Therefore, this Public Participation Plan sets forth the techniques Vilas County will use to provide an interactive dialogue opportunity between citizens, local decision makers, staff, and the NCWRPC.

The creation of the Public Participation Plan is a task required under Wisconsin's Farmland Preservation Plan development legislation (§91.10(3) Wis. Stats.).

The Farmland Preservation Plan must be adopted under the same procedures required for adopting Comprehensive Plans (§66.1001(4) Wis. Stats.).

II. Objectives

The following is a list of objectives for the Public Participation Plan:

- Inform residents and landowners of the importance of creating the Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan.
- Request input from residents and land owners to represent the agricultural and forestry interests in Vilas County.
- Provide the public with a variety of opportunities to share their input with the Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Committee, so that it may be carefully considered and incorporated into the farmland preservation planning process.
- Provide public access to all Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan chapters and maps created throughout the planning process.

III. Techniques

The public participation plan for the Vilas County Farmland Preservation planning process will incorporate the following techniques:

1. All meetings for the farmland preservation planning process will be posted, open to the public, and will include time for public comment.
2. NCWRPC will create and maintain a web page on the Internet for the Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan. The chapters and maps created will be posted to this web page throughout the planning process.
3. Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan meeting handouts will be maintained by Land and Water Conservation Department staff, and available for review by the public in the Land and Water Conservation Department offices in the Courthouse.
4. Vilas County will distribute digital copies of the draft Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan to all Vilas County towns, and provide a notice of where to find the draft plan to all governments adjacent to Vilas County.
5. The adopted Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan will be available in the Land and Water Conservation Department, the Olson Memorial Library, and on the Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan web page.
6. The Land and Water Conservation Department will provide regular reports to the Land and Water Conservation Committee.
7. The Land and Water Conservation Committee will hold a public hearing on the Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan after the Land and Water Conservation Committee adopts a resolution recommending adoption of the Vilas County Farmland Preservation Plan by the Vilas County Board.