

# ***FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN 2016***

*CHAPTER 91, WISCONSIN STATE STATUTES*

# **Portage County**

## **Farmland Preservation Plan 2016**

**Adopted by the Planning and Zoning, Land and Water Conservation, and  
Agriculture and Extension Education Committees: October 27, 2016**

**Adopted by the Portage County Board of Supervisors  
November 10, 2016**

### **Acknowledgements:**

#### **Portage County Board of Supervisors**

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Jeff Hartman, GIS/LIS Coordinator  
Rod Sutter, GIS/LIS Specialist

And special thanks to the rest of the Planning and Zoning Department Staff

**Also involved**

Sarah Wallace, former Assistant Director  
Steve Kunst, former Associate Planner

Developed by the Farmland Preservation Ad Hoc Steering Committee, with the assistance of  
Portage County Planning and Zoning Department.

**This project was made possible in part through Farmland Preservation Planning Grant  
Funding, obtained through the State of Wisconsin Department of  
Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection.**

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

RE: ADOPTION OF THE 2016 PORTAGE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Portage County Board of Supervisors adopted the initial Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan on April 16, 1985, and incorporated it into the County Development Guide as Section 6.6.8; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, as revised and adopted by the Wisconsin Legislature in 2009, requires all Wisconsin Counties to adopt a Farmland Preservation Plan, based on specific standards listed in Section 91.10, Wis. Stats., and incorporate this document into the County's Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 91 Wis. Stats. also provides for grant funding for Counties to complete this planning, and Portage County was the recipient of a grant award of \$13,000 to apply toward costs of completing the Farmland Preservation Plan update; and

WHEREAS, it is a function of the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee to oversee the farmland preservation planning process, and it is their responsibility to assemble a Farmland Preservation Plan document to recommend to the Portage County Board of Supervisors for review and action; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2013 the Portage County Board of Supervisors established and authorized a Portage County Farmland Preservation Ad-Hoc Steering Committee made up of representatives of various aspects of the agriculture industry, agriculture-related organizations, and local municipalities, with a charter to prepare, review, and update the Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan maps and documents that would ultimately be recommended to fulfill the requirements of Section 91.10 Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, the Portage County Farmland Preservation Ad-Hoc Steering Committee met eight times in 2015 and four times in 2016 to assemble a preliminary draft of the Farmland Preservation Plan maps and text, ultimately recommending the draft plan to the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee for further consideration on April 18, 2016; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2015 the Portage County Planning and Zoning Department and UW-Extension Department staff hosted a special meeting for all Town Board and Town Plan Commission members to explain the Farmland Preservation Program and planning process; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2016 the Portage County Farmland Preservation Ad-Hoc Steering Committee hosted a Community-wide Open House at Sentry Theater to review completed background information and conduct a panel discussion regarding the past, present and future of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee, working jointly with the Portage County Land and Water Conservation and Agriculture and Extension Education Committees, met in June, July, August, September, and October 2016 to discuss the Farmland Preservation Plan documents; and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2016 the Portage County Planning and Zoning, Land and Water Conservation, and Agriculture and Extension Education Committees jointly held a Public Hearing on the draft Farmland Preservation Plan documents, and subsequently directed the Farmland Preservation Plan be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) for certification of compliance with the requirements of Section 91.10, Wis. Stats. On October 26, 2016, DATCP communicated that the Farmland Preservation Plan draft was compliant with Section 91.10, Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, the Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan consists of: 1) plan text and figures describing agriculture statistics, significant trends, issues or challenges facing the agriculture industry, and the goals and policies the County will follow for preserving farmland and promoting agricultural development, and 2) a map indicating areas within Portage County that contain various characteristics that indicate high value for agriculture activity; and

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2016 the Portage County Planning and Zoning, Land and Water Conservation, and Agriculture and Extension Education Committees jointly met and recommended the full Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan to the Portage County Board of Supervisors for consideration and adoption, and incorporation into the Portage County Comprehensive Plan.

FISCAL NOTE: No appropriation is needed for this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Portage County Board of Supervisors that the 2016 Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan is hereby adopted, ratified and approved, and incorporated into the Portage County Comprehensive Plan as part of Chapter 5 Agriculture, Natural and Cultural Resources Element.

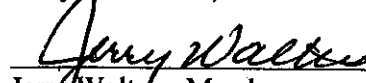
Dated this 10th day of November, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,

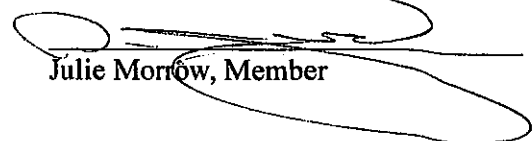
PORTAGE COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

  
Larry Raikowski, Member

  
Jerry Walters, Member

  
Marion "Bud" Flood, Member

  
Julie Morrow, Member

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Dale O'Brien  
Dale O'Brien, Chair

Aye  
Julie Morrow, Member

Bob Gifford  
Bob Gifford, Member

Barry Jacowski  
Barry Jacowski, Member

Gerry Zastrow  
Gerry Zastrow, Member

Roger Bacon  
Roger Bacon, Member

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Barry Jacowski  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

Larry Raikowski  
Larry Raikowski, Member

Dale O'Brien  
Dale O'Brien, Member

Charles Gussel  
Charles Gussel, Member

Matt Jacowski  
Matt Jacowski, Member

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

RE: ESTABLISHING A PORTAGE COUNTY AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PORTAGE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Portage County Board adopted the initial Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan on April 16, 1985, and incorporated it into the County Development Guide as Section 6.6.8; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, as revised and adopted by the Wisconsin Legislature in 2009, requires all Wisconsin Counties to adopt a Farmland Preservation Plan, based on specific standards listed in Sec. 91.10, Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes also established a deadline for Counties to achieve adoption of their Farmland Preservation Plans, with the Portage County deadline being December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, it is a function of the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee to oversee the farmland preservation planning process, and their responsibility for drafting a Farmland Preservation Plan document to recommend to the Portage County Board for review and action; and

WHEREAS, Portage County is a leader in the State of Wisconsin in agricultural production, and the agriculture industry serves as one of the primary foundations of our County economy; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Portage County to draw from a wide variety of resources and sources of information to comprehensively approach the topic of farmland preservation; and

WHEREAS, an ad-hoc committee with membership comprised of individuals and representatives of constituencies that have an interest and/or expertise in agriculture and local municipal issues is deemed desirable and necessary to undertake this planning project; and

WHEREAS, ad-hoc committee membership will include representation from (but not limited to): agriculture producers (from different size operations)/processors/transporters/suppliers/implement dealers, citizens, local municipalities, agriculture organizations, finance, real estate; and

WHEREAS, two (2) Portage County Supervisors currently members of the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee shall be appointed by the Planning and Zoning Committee Chair to be included in the ad-hoc committee membership; and

WHEREAS, the citizen members of the ad-hoc committee shall be appointed by the Planning and Zoning Department Director in a process described in ad-hoc committee bylaws adopted by the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee on February 26, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the ad-hoc committee shall make their recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Committee for review and consideration.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE: An ad-hoc committee is not, by definition, a permanent standing committee of the Portage County Board of Supervisors and, therefore, is not to be listed in Section 3.1 of the Portage County Code of Ordinances.

FISCAL NOTE: This resolution approves and endorses the establishment of the listed ad-hoc committee, authorizing membership as stated and per diem and mileage payments for meeting attendance for the appointed members of the County Board of Supervisors. There is a fiscal impact to Portage County in payment of non-exempt Planning and Zoning Department staff through compensatory time off for acting as recording secretary. The ad-hoc committee citizen members will not be entitled to per diem and mileage payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Portage County Board of Supervisors that an ad-hoc committee is hereby established and authorized, to be known as the PORTAGE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION AD-HOC STEERING COMMITTEE, with a charter to prepare, review and update the Portage

County Farmland Preservation Plan maps and documents that will ultimately be recommended to fulfill the requirements of Section 91.10 Wis. Stats., through the Planning and Zoning Committee and the Portage County Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the general charter, duties, and responsibilities of this ad-hoc committee shall be as follows (but not limited thereto):

1. Working with Portage County staff to complete the following:
  - Identify agricultural resources, infrastructure, trends, land use issues, and future needs.
  - Identify goals and objectives for agricultural development in Portage County.
  - Identify key issues and opportunities for farmland preservation in Portage County, including a set of objective criteria for mapping potential farmland preservation areas.
  - Draft recommendations for the preservation of farmland and the promotion of agriculture-related economic development.
  - Create an initial complete draft of text and maps to comply with Section 91.10(1) Wis. Stats.
  - Recommend an initial complete Portage County Farmland Preservation Plan draft to the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee.
2. The projected length of the planning project is February 2013 through December 2014. A minimum of twelve (12) meetings will be held to complete the work.
3. This Ad-Hoc Committee will operate under bylaws established by the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee.
4. The work of the PORTAGE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION AD-HOC STEERING COMMITTEE is undertaken in an advisory capacity for the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee, which is solely responsible for review and recommendation of the project planning results to the Portage County Board of Supervisors for final review and action.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

          AYE          

Jerry Piesik, Chair

          AYE          

Barry Jacowski, Member

          AYE          

Stan Potocki, Vice Chair

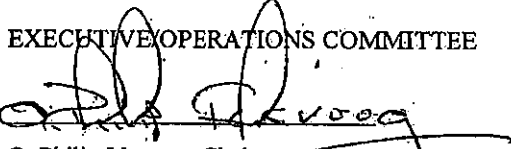
          AYE          

Marion 'Bud' Flood, Member

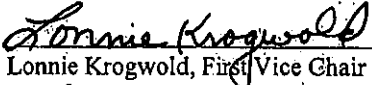
          AYE          

Leif Erickson, Member

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

  
O. Philip Idsvoog, Chair

  
James Zdroik, Member

  
Lonnie Krogwold, First Vice Chair

  
Perry Pazdernik, Member

  
Don Butkowski, Member



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