



Efficient and Effective Government Rectan

WINONA COUNTY LAND RECORDS
MEETING MINUTES
October 1, 2021

Present: Ken Fritz, County Administrator; Steve Jacob, County Commissioner; Chris Meyer, County Commissioner; John Conway, County Assessor; Sandra Suchla, County Auditor-Treasurer; Chad Lang, I.T. Director; Stephanie Nuttall Asst. County Attorney III; Paul Ellison, Asst. County Attorney III; Brian Wodele, County Surveyor.

Others Present: Amanda Hedlund, Executive Director at Habitat for Humanity; John Corcoran, Director of Operations and Construction at Habitat for Humanity.

1. Open

Ken Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Introductions

Introductions were made.

3. Approval of Agenda

On motion of S. Jacob and seconded by S. Suchla, the Land Records Committee voted to approve the agenda. Vote: Yes – All.

4. Approval of the August 6, 2021 Minutes

On motion of S. Jacob and seconded by S. Suchla, the Land Records Committee voted to approve the minutes. Vote: Yes – All.

5. Old Business

a) Discuss Maintenance of Forfeited Properties – Habitat for Humanity, Auditor-Treasurer

- a. Amanda and John from Habitat for Humanity discussed the effects of abandoned properties sitting in a state of forfeiture for an extended period of time and how the building integrity continues to degrade and can become a drain on the neighborhood and a safety hazard. Amanda questioned how they could work with the County to assess which properties pose a risk for structural decline or have no significant resale value. To find a process where Habitat for Humanity could take responsibility of the property before it becomes a safety hazard and turn it into affordable housing. The goal would be to do this in partnership with the County to improve neighborhoods and tax rolls. This would only take place when the open market has no real interest in the parcel in question. Sandra stated the forfeiture process and timeline can potentially be a hurdle and delay being able to take action on a property. Sandra is researching how to start the program in which could expedite the forfeiture process.

Amanda discussed a decision-making rubric which would involve all parties in the process to go through a list of questions to determine if the property in question would be a good recovery project for Habitat for Humanity, or, be preserved for sale.



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The Committee will continue to explore this potential opportunity with Habitat for Humanity and work on logistics in implementing a potential partnership.

6. New Business

a) Elect a New Chair for 2022 Land Records Committee

a. It was decided to wait until the new year to see who will be on the Committee, to determine the new Chair.

b) Review and Discuss Pictometry Agreement – Assessor

a. John discussed the new Pictometry Agreement, which is around \$12,000 less than the previous Agreement. The new Agreement includes two flyovers, one in 2022 and 2025. The new Agreement also includes 21 additional square foot miles with high quality pictometry images.

Steve questioned the value of the program, if it is money well spent for the County. John and Brian both reiterated the value of the program and the usefulness of the images provided for a multitude of reasons.

Stephanie mentioned the Criminal Justice System uses the images provided for some exhibits for court, as opposed to going out and taking pictures.

On motion of S. Jacob and seconded by B. Wodele, to recommend the Pictometry Agreement to the County Board for approval. Vote: Yes – All.

7. Updates from the Committee Members

a) John Conway provided an update on the new computer system for the Assessor’s Department. More details to come after John meets with the company next week.

b) Chad Lang stated a member of the I.T. Department put in their resignation.

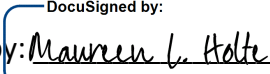
8. Recommended Agenda Items for Future Meeting – December 3, 2021

a) Whitewater Cemetery Land Issues – Recorder, Attorney

8. Adjourn

The Land Records Committee adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Dana Krings
Executive Assistant

Signed by:  _____
Maureen L. Holte, Interim County Administrator

April 7, 2022 | 2:50 PM CDT

Date