

GREEN COUNTY LAND INFORMATION COUNCIL
County Board Room
Monday, March 31, 2025, 8:30 AM

Those present were as follows: Richard Thoman, Rob Sommers, Nick Hartwig, Mark Gundlach, Tonya Gratz, Mason Jarosinski, Adam Wiegel, Melissa Even, Sam Wilke, Melissa Thompson, Cody Kanable, Chris Narveson, RoAnn Warden, Deanna Miller, Emily Sauer, and Jayne Butts. Hans Justeson attended via Google Meet. Austin Coppernoll (SWWRPC), presenter, attended in person.

Called to order by Chair Thoman at 8:30am.

Gundlach moved to appoint Jayne Butts as secretary, Wilke seconded. Motion passed.

Kanable moved to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2023 meeting, Gundlach seconded. Motion passed.

Sommers gave an update on land information projects including plans for the GIS Cloud Migration to be completed by June 15th, 2025.

Sommers presented a DRAFT policy for the county Land Records/Treasury Department for **ACT 235 Judicial Privacy Law**. This is the law enforcing a process for judges to shield their names from public viewing on websites and public documents. Sommers noted the Land Records software (Ascent) will mark a record as “private” and show the word “private” when viewed by the public. (“Private” will not be a searchable criteria). Interested judicial officers can be a current or former judge, Supreme Court Judge, Court of Appeals Judge, Circuit Court Judge, Municipal Judge, Tribal Judge, temporary or permanent reserve judge, a circuit, supplemental, or municipal court commissioner. Questions were asked if a judge resides in Illinois, however has a residence in Wisconsin, can it be shielded both places? Questions also were asked about the initial filing form, confidentiality agreements with third parties, existing historic tax roll books, and the sale of plat books. Still many pieces of this remain unresolved.

Survey Outlots on town roads—Discussion continues on survey outlots, with little resolution at this time. Outlots are continuing to present issues for municipalities--this may need to be addressed by various departments including Zoning, GIS, and Corporation Counsel. Follow up will continue.

Discussion was made regarding **funding for the County GIS/Land Records Department**. Grant funds and available money to support the department continues to decline. Research was considered to bill various county departments for the service, however, with budgets getting tighter, it may be time to review making Land Records a levy supported department. The need for the work done is extremely valuable to Zoning, the Treasurer’s office, Register of Deeds, Highway, and Sheriff’s office to name a few. Continued methods of funding will be explored.

Real Estate Transfer Fee Revenue is being discussed as a means to share with funding for the county office GIS Departments. Currently the revenue collected for this revenue requires 80% of the funds collected to be paid to the state. Allocating the funds to county offices would be very beneficial. Miller noted the Register of Deeds Association is in support of this re-distribution of the funds, however discussions regarding the fees charged may need to be negotiated. Follow up will continue, however details need to be approved by Legislators.

Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC), Austin Coppernoll, gave a brief presentation on projects they are working on for the counties they serve (Green, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, & Richland) including a new culvert/bridges/highway project that may become a more regional focused project. A question was asked about how SWWRPC is funded—Coppernoll noted their funding comes from grants at the Federal and State level.

Motion by Miller, second by Warden to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:51am.