ZONING COMMITTEE MINUTES
February 14, 2012

Chairman Willingham called the meeting of the Rusk County Zoning Committee to order at 3:00 P.M. in the Law Enforcement Center in the Rusk County Government Center. Members present were: David Willingham, Karl Fisher, and Kathy Mai. Excused: Tom Costello and Phil Schneider. Staff present: CeCe Tesky and Yvonne Johnson.

Willingham recessed the meeting to open a public hearing to take public comment on a proposal to reduce the sideyard setback from primary structures to 10 feet. Tesky read the notice of public hearing which was posted per the requirements of a Class II notice. Copies of the proposed language were previously sent to the committee members.

Willingham asked for anyone present to speak in favor of the change. Pat Kelly was present to speak in favor. Kelly said he supported the change and felt the current combined setback requirement of 35 feet is awkward. This would allow for a 65’ wide home, but that doesn’t include the overhangs. Kelly felt this change would make Rusk County more consistent with neighboring counties. It would allow for a larger structure with more rooms facing the water.

Willingham asked for anyone present to speak in opposition. No one present.

Karl Fisher comment that he is in favor. Fisher stated he has experience building homes and that in the City of Eau Claire, they require an 8’ setback to allow for emergency vehicles. Fisher said that the 10’ proposed setback allows for any interest that the government has.

Tesky explained what the neighboring counties had for setbacks. All of the neighboring counties have combined setbacks greater than the 10’ except Chippewa County which is at 10’. Tesky explained that stormwater runoff is the major concern the zoning office sees with neighboring properties. NR115 has impervious surface standards and performance standards which should be able to deal with stormwater issues.

Willingham closed the public hearing at 3:28 P.M. to reopen the zoning meeting.

Motion by Mai-Fisher to send the proposed language to the County Board for review and approval. Motion carried.

Motion by Mai-Fisher to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2012 meeting. Motion carried.

CSM review: 2 maps, both for Sweeney in the Town of Grow. The property is zoned Ag and both maps meet minimum standards and have been reviewed by the surveyor. Motion by Mai-Fisher to approve the maps. Motion carried.

2011 Budget: Tesky explained the final budget numbers and the request for contingency funds that went to the Finance committee.
NOT COMMITTEE APPROVED

LiDAR: John Fitzl and David Kaiser will be attending training on how to use the LiDAR during their conference this week. Once Kucera knows what format we need the data in, they can have it ready in two weeks.

Zoning report: Tesky received an email in January stating FEMA had received her response and that they hoped to respond soon. We are still waiting for the response. There were 6 WI FUND applications that totaled $28,000. There will likely be a 20-25% reduction in the amount awarded due to the number of applications the state received. Non-metallic mining reports were sent out in January. Tesky attended a Lake Holcombe management meeting. The sanitary audit is done for 2011-it was done through email since the state has not replaced the two wastewater consultants that retired.

Motion by Mai-Fisher to adjourn at 4:15 P.M.

Yvonne Johnson
Assistant Zoning Administrator