

RICHLAND COUNTY ZONING AND LAND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

**Frac Sand Mining Advisory Committee
Summary**

October 25, 2013 to February 10, 2014

FRAC SAND MINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- **Richard Rasmussen – Chair (County Board Supervisor and Chair of the Richland County Zoning and Land Information Committee)**
- **Bob Holets – Vice Chair (County Board Supervisor and member of the Richland County Zoning and Land Information Committee)**
- **Larry Sebranek – County Board Supervisor and member of the Richland County zoning and Land Information Committee**
- **Mike Bindl – Richland County Zoning Administrator**
- **Cathy Cooper – Richland County Conservationist**
- **Marianne Stanke – Richland County Public Health Officer**
- **Jim Chitwood – Richland County Highway Commissioner**
- **Connie Champnoise – Richland County, Citizen Representative**
- **Steve Kohlstedt – Richland County, Citizen Representative**

MEETING TOPICS AND PRESENTATIONS

- October – Location of Frac Sand in Richland County; Duane Simonson, Geologist
- November – Air quality and health issues related to silica sand dust; Rob Thiboldeaux, Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services
- December – Water use and water table issues associated with high capacity wells; Madeline Gotkowitz, Hydrogeologist, Wisconsin Geological and Natural Survey Associate Professor, UW Extension
- January – Economic impact of frac sand mining in Trempealeau county; Patricia Malone, Community Development Educator, UW – Extension, Trempealeau County

SUB COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP ZONING ORDINANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Richard Rasmussen – Chair (County Board Supervisor and Chair of the Richland County Zoning and Land Information Committee)
- Mike Bindl – Richland County Zoning Administrator
- Connie Champnoise – Richland County, Citizen Representative
- Steve Kohlstedt – Richland County, Citizen Representative

SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- First meeting – January 27, 2014
 - Developed additional language for Section IV Administration – specifically updating the basis of approval Section C
 - Added more definitions to reflect frac sand mining in Section IX
 - Frac sand mining will be considered an industrial use and located in Industrial (I) and Commercial (C) districts

SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- Second meeting – February 4, 2014
 - Separated construction aggregate mining from industrial frac sand mining (**Current RC quarries are grandfathered** and new quarries will follow the construction aggregate mining section)
 - **Industrial frac sand mining requirements**
 - Hours of operation - **Extraction** Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. during Standard Time. Saturday between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
 - **Processing**- Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time and between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. during Standard Time. Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - **No extraction or processing on Sunday or Holidays**

SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- **Vegetative Screening** –earth bank, berm or vegetative screen of 50 feet along the bordering property lines and public roadways
- **Undeveloped buffer zone** not less than 500 feet from a property line or up to 600 feet from an established residential building
- **Trucking safety** – limit trucking during school bus runs and during work commute times when traffic is highest
- **Air Quality** standards- standards of 3 micrograms per cubic meter of respirable crystalline silica at the boundary of the mine. At operators expense site must have a minimum of 4 automatic and continuous monitors installed.
 - Monitored and collected by an independent third party paid for by the operator

SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- **Light pollution** – shielded from illuminating off-site areas and night sky.
- **Ground water** – non-metallic mining must at all times remain at least (10) feet above the water table level
- **Groundwater monitoring** – at operators expense monitoring well network – 4 monitoring wells designed by a Professional Hydrologist or Professional engineer. To monitor both quantity of groundwater use and quality of groundwater
 - High capacity wells – the operator will monitor the pumping rates and volumes and provide data to County
 - Operator will prepare a Water Conservation Plan

SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- **Settling Ponds** – liners shall be designed by a Professional Engineer and constructed under their supervision
 - Operator will test the sediment accumulated in the mine site settling ponds for concentrations of residual materials such as flocculants, dispersants and other chemicals
- **Solid Waste and Spills** – if a spill occurs contact County Conservationist
 - Solid Waste with hazardous chemicals in toxic amounts will not be disposed of in Richland County

SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- **Noise pollution** – kept below 45 dB
- **Blasting safety** – 500 feet from the shared property line
blast charges may be reduced in size as blasting activity
nears the property line
- **Length of operation** – permit is for 3 years and may be
renewed
- **Termination of activities**- if no activity for a period of
2 years, the operator will not be entitled to a renewal.

ITEMS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- **Property value protection** to be included in the conditional use permit (See Town of Howard language)
- **Truck traffic** – number of frac sand trucks to be determined based on Road Use Agreement
- **Overlay district** to protect trout streams in Richland County