

January 7, 2016

## TOWN BOARD

### Chair

Anthony Varda, 798-9999

### Supervisors

Jeff Davis, 798-0080

Mike Statz, 798-4679

Joe Kruchten, 798-1735

Don Witmer Kean, 798-0883

## TOWN OFFICE

Brenda Kahl, Clerk/Treasurer

9046 State Road 19

Mazomanie, WI 53560

767-4152

Fax: 767-3015

Hours: 7:30 – 4:30, except

Wednesday 7:00 – 11:00

Email: [twberry@chorus.net](mailto:twberry@chorus.net)

Web: [www.townofberry.org](http://www.townofberry.org)

## TOWN GARAGE

Orlin Danz, Patrolman

(Cell) 444-0359

Hours: 7:00 – 3:30

## FIRE WARDENS

Brenda Kahl

767-4152, during office hours

WI DNR

1-888-947-2876

<http://dnr.wi.gov>

## BUILDING INSPECTOR

Dean Eppler

Independent Inspections, Ltd.

(800) 422-5220

## DANE COUNTY SHERIFF

255-2345, Non Emergency

## LEGAL NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

Town of Berry website, Town Hall,  
Festge Park and DH Repair

## FIRST INSTALLMENT TAX BILLS DUE 1/31

The first installment of your 2015 tax bill is due on or before January 31, 2016. If you prefer to pay in person, taxes are being collected at the Town Hall Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30- 4:30 and on Wednesday from 7:30 – 10:00.

There is a drop box at the hall for when the treasurer is unavailable. It is checked daily. Dog licenses may be submitted at this time, but are due April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Brenda Kahl

## BURNING PERMITS REQUIRED AS OF JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>



State law requires burning permits in the Extensive Fire Protection Area (EFPA) from January 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup> unless the ground is completely snow-covered where the burning will take place. Only fires used exclusively for the purposes of cooking food or warming the body do not require a burning permit.

Permits are free and may be obtained in several ways. DNR offices or volunteer Emergency Fire Wardens can prepare a permit for you. Prospective burners may call the toll free hotline (1-888-947-2876) or go online

<http://dnr.wi.gov/burnpermits/> to have a permit mailed or instantly emailed to you. Or, stop at the town office for a permit.

Brenda Kahl

## ELECTIONS – VOTER ID

In order to receive a ballot for all future elections, voters will be required to show a valid photo ID. A current Wisconsin driver's license is acceptable, which will work for most. For those that don't have that, there are other forms of acceptable photo ID, check out [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov) for the specifics. The first election is February 16, 2016, with the next on April 5, 2016. We encourage everyone to make sure they have a valid photo ID well in advance of Election Day! If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact the Town Office at 767-4152.

Brenda Kahl

## SEEKING A BERRY RESIDENT

Northwest Dane Senior Services in Cross Plains is looking for a Town of Berry resident to represent the Town on their Board of Directors beginning in April of 2016. A back ground in marketing, financial, medical or some other professional field is desirable but not mandatory. A sincere interest in all issues involving our area seniors is! If you are interested, call Mel Bankes at 798-2441 for more information. Or Paulette at 798-6937 ext.222.  
Mel Bankes

## DECEMBER 21 TOWN BOARD MINUTES SUMMARY

(A summary of the minutes not yet approved by the Town Board.) Members present: Anthony Varda, Mike Statz, Joe Kruchten and Don Witmer Kean. Jeff Davis was excused.

### Appointment of Election Inspectors

The board approved appointing the following election inspectors: Dorothy Seston, Bob Agee, Debra Belongea, Dixie Johnson, Ken Johnson, Marilyn Pauls, Claudia Daniel, Kathy Bladl, Josephine Grosch, Linda Flansburgh, Joan Paar and Deb Pienkowski. Vote 4-0

**Regarding Posting Locations for Public Notification Resolution 2015-2** was approved. Vote 4-0

### Review Black Earth Joint Fire District Contract, including withdrawal

Discussion only. Set over to January meeting.

### Committee Reports

The park sign was installed

**Adjourn:** 7:35 pm

Brenda Kahl

## BERRY BREAKFAST

January 9, 2016 Berry Breakfast at Base Camp, 18 Brodhead St. in Mazomanie. We will be gathering for Breakfast for our regular informal fun on this second Saturday of the Month. This is our "no agenda, no expectations, no work" Dutch treat social event. You and your neighbors are invited. Friends and guests are always welcome. Please join us if you can.  
Karen Upper

## GARBAGE/RECYCLABLE PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Monday, Jan 11 - Garbage Only

Monday, Jan 18 - Garbage and Recyclables

Monday, Jan 25 - Garbage Only

Monday, Feb 1 - Garbage and Recyclables

## EAGLE WATCHING EVENTS GET UNDERWAY IN JANUARY

Bald eagle watching events kick off in Wisconsin in January and run into March as Wisconsin's growing number of bald eagles - [2015 nest surveys recently revealed a record high population](#) -- boost opportunities to see these majestic birds and spurs more communities to add or expand events.

"The increase in bald eagle populations are leading to more of these events and potentially better viewing, depending on conditions," says Rich Staffen, a Department of Natural Resources conservation biologist and raptor specialist.

### *Bald eagles the topic of Jan. 12 live online chat and Jan. 13 appearance on Wisconsin Public Radio*

From the comfort of their own home, people can get their bald eagle questions answered by eagle experts on two occasions in January.

At noon on Jan. 12, 2016, DNR eagle biologists will be ready to answer your online questions during an hour-long chat. To join the chat on Jan. 12, go to DNR's website [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and click on the box on the right-hand side to enter the chat or join via DNR's Facebook page. If you can't join the session, review the transcript at the same link at your leisure.

At 11 a.m. Jan. 13, 2016, tune in to Wisconsin Public Radio's Larry Meiller Show [www.wpr.org/programs/larry-meiller-show](http://www.wpr.org/programs/larry-meiller-show) (exit DNR) to hear DNR's Rich Staffen and John Keefe, president of the Ferry Bluff Eagle Council, talk about eagles and eagle watching events and field questions from callers.

WI DNR

## **COLD WEATHER PRECAUTIONS**

Check on loved ones and neighbors, especially those in fragile health, preferably by telephone. Pay particular attention to older neighbors who may be outdoors attempting to shovel snow or engaged in some other activity. Try to talk them into stopping and going back indoors.

If you have to go outside, wear appropriate clothing that will adequately insulate you from the cold and provide protection from the wind making sure to expose as little skin as possible to the air.

Monitor your food intake and physical output and maintain a regular diet to help your body better handle the severe weather conditions.

Hydrate - Water is usually the best choice. Drinks with caffeine, sugar and alcohol take longer for your body to absorb and do not hydrate as well. People should be aware of the amount and intensity of their physical activity, both indoors and out. Avoid overexertion. Cold weather puts additional strain on the body, especially the heart.

Older adults, those in fragile health and smaller children can be more readily affected by the cold than the average adult.

Never leave children or pets alone in vehicles. Temperatures in vehicles can drop rapidly. Pets can be greatly affected by the cold and should not be exposed longer than they have to be.

Large animals need to be kept out of the wind and have a dry place to lie down. Water supplies should be checked to avoid freezing and diets should be adjusted to increase energy (calorie) content by 5%.

Check heating units. Poorly operating or damaged heating units can release carbon monoxide gas. Test carbon monoxide detectors for proper operation and battery life. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that kills more than 500 Americans every year. Never use generators, grills, camp stoves, or other gasoline or charcoal-burning devices inside your home, basement, and garage or near a window. Also, make sure you have installed a carbon monoxide detector in your home to alert you and your family to this "silent killer."

Dane County Public Health and Emergency Management

## **PLAN COMMISSION APPLICATIONS**

Did you ever consider serving on the Town Plan Commission as a citizen representative? If yes, now is your opportunity! The Plan Commission reviews all rezone and driveway applications. Meetings are twice a month, the first Monday and the Saturday following Town Board meetings. Experience is not required. The town will be accepting applications for the next few months. You may submit your application by mail or email to [twnberry@chorus.net](mailto:twnberry@chorus.net).

Brenda Kahl

## **VOLUNTEERS HELP TURTLES SAFELY CROSS TO OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD**

Thanks to volunteers' work in 2015, Wisconsin's endangered turtles and other wildlife were a little safer next season as they cross roads to reach nesting areas and other important habitat.

Information submitted by volunteers involved in the Wisconsin Turtle Conservation Program in 2015 has provided updates to [Wisconsin maps showing the road crossings most deadly to turtles](#). Such reports help conservation and transportation officials better target where to pursue turtle conservation efforts. The map has been updated with 63 townships added in 2015.

For more information, visit the Wisconsin Turtle Conservation Program website [wiatri.net/Inventory/WiTurtles/](http://wiatri.net/Inventory/WiTurtles/). Volunteers can also submit turtle sightings and road crossing reports through this website.

WI DNR

## **KEEP TURNAROUNDS OPEN**

In order to help our plowing team, please keep turnarounds and the road right-of-way free from debris, vehicles, and anything that may impede the snowplows. If there is not enough space for the plowing equipment to turn around, the road may not be plowed.

## **APRIL 5, 2016 ELECTION**

The following candidates have timely filed nomination papers for the Spring Election and will appear on the ballot:

Town Supervisor Seat 3: Joe Kruchten

Town Supervisor Seat 4: Duane Haag

Brenda Kahl

## TOWN OF BERRY BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 9046 Hwy. 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560

### AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approve minutes of December 21, 2015
3. Public Comments: You may address the Board on any item not on the agenda. A discussion item may be placed on a future agenda. Public comment may be heard on any agenda item either now, or at the time the agenda item is to be discussed, or at the discretion of the Town Chair at any other time the agenda item is discussed. Comments are generally limited to three minutes.
4. Discuss/approve/disapprove
  - A. (2015-10) Robert & Rosemary Statz, 4975 Braemar Road, rezone 2.71 acres from A-1Ex to A-2(2) to separate existing residence from farmland. PC Vote 3-0
  - B. (2015-11) Louie & Shelly Vandenberg, 4975 Braemar Road, driveway permit application. PC Vote 3-0
  - C. (2015-12) Paul & Deborah Pienkowski, 9332 Turkey Road, rezone 11.6 acres from RH-1 to RH-2 and 4 acres from CO-1 to RH-2 to shift property lines on the existing 4 parcels to create 3 parcels. PC Vote 3-0
5. Discussion/action re: Review Black Earth Joint Fire District Contract, including withdrawal
6. Budgetary Matters
  - A. Payment of bills
  - B. Resolution to designate funds within the 2015 budget, if needed
  - C. Discussion/action re: loan for Freightliner vehicle and Burke Truck package
7. Committee reports/Correspondence/Communications
  - A. Fire Districts
  - B. EMS Districts
  - C. Other
8. Discussion of future agenda items
9. Adjourn

As of January 14, 2016 the final agenda will be posted on the website and the town's three posting locations. The board attempts to finalize the agenda prior to the distribution of the newsletter

### CALENDAR

**All meetings are at the Town Hall, 9046 Hwy 19, Mazomanie, unless otherwise noted.**

<b>January 2016</b>	
Thursday, Jan 7, 7:00 pm	Black Earth Fire District, Black Earth Fire Station
Thursday, Jan 14, 6:30 pm	District 1 EMS, District 1 EMS Building
Tuesday, Jan 19, 7:00 pm	Town Board
Saturday, Jan 23, 7:30 am	Plan Commission Site Visits, on site
<b>February 2016</b>	
Monday, Feb 1, 7:00 pm	Plan Commission
Monday, Feb 15, 7:00 pm	Town Board
Tuesday, Feb 16, 7 am – 8 pm	Spring Primary
Saturday, Feb 20, 7:30 am	Plan Commission Site Visits, on site
Tuesday, Feb 22, 7:00 pm	Cross Plains EMS, Cross Plains Fire Station
Tuesday, Feb 22, 8:00 pm	Cross Plains Fire District, Cross Plains Fire Station

This calendar is advisory only. Consult the 3 legal posting locations for legal notice