

-AMENDING TITLE 19 OF THE CODE: EAU CLAIRE COUNTY WISCONSIN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN-

The County Board of Eau Claire County does ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. That Title 19 be amended to read:

The Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan is hereby amended as follows: **I**) to add Section 4.4.4 to the plan discussing consistency between the Future Land Use Map (Map 9) and the Farmland Preservation Map (Map 12) on page 4-19, **II**) to add the Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Map (Map 12) to Appendix E, and **III**) to incorporate the attached “Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015” as Appendix G pursuant to Section 91.10.

- I.** Text amendment to create Section 4.4.4 on Page 4-19 of the Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan as follows:

4.4.4 Consistency between Future Land Use Map and Farmland Preservation Map

Differences may exist between the Farmland Preservation Map (Map 12) and the Future Land Use Map (Map 9). The Future Land Use Map contained within the Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan used a “Rural Lands” designation for much of the rural area of Eau Claire County, with little consideration of farmland preservation program. Areas included within this “Rural Lands” designation may include: small and large lot residential development; areas covered by a non-certified zoning district; large marsh or wetland areas; and other areas that are unrelated to agricultural uses. As a result, many of these areas are largely excluded from mapped preservation areas on the Farmland Preservation Map (Map 12) to comply with Ch. 91, Wis. Stats. Therefore, the Farmland Preservation Map (Map 12) contained within this comprehensive plan and incorporated by reference within the Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015 located in Appendix G shall supersede the Future Land Use Map (Map 9) as it relates to the implementation and administration of the Farmland Preservation Program in Eau Claire County. Petitions to amend the Future Land Use Map that are consistent with the Farmland Preservation Map may be considered in accord with the procedures to amend the Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan. Petitions to amend the Future Land Use Map that are inconsistent with the Farmland Preservation Map will necessitate an amendment and certification to the Farmland Preservation Map first. Any amendment to the Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015 must be submitted to DATCP for review and certification prior to final approval.

- II.** Map amendment to Appendix E of the Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan to create:

Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Map (Map 12)

- III.** Plan amendment to create Appendix G of the Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan as follows:

Appendix G:

Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015 (plan attached)

The 1983 Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan has expired as of December 31, 2014. Adoption of the “Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015” as Appendix G of the Eau Claire County Comprehensive Plan will allow eligible farmers and landowners to continue to qualify for farmland preservation tax credits and other farmland preservation programs, thereby supporting an agricultural industry that encompasses more than 1,200 farms and 250,000 acres under production or reserved for future production while generating roughly \$1.1 billion in total business sales each year for the Eau Claire County economy. The “Eau Claire County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015” was prepared under the direction of the Eau Claire County Planning and Development Committee in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) as the agency responsible for administering the farmland preservation program. Numerous opportunities have been provided for public involvement in preparation of this plan, including surveys of town boards, engagement of stakeholders as members of a steering committee, coordination of countywide community survey, attendance at numerous meetings with town boards, presentations at numerous public informational meetings and events, and a public hearing on April 28, 2015 in compliance with the requirements of s. 66.1001(4)(d), Wis. Stats. Upon formal adoption of this ordinance pursuant to s. 66.1001(4)(c) Wis. Stats., the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors does hereby recommend said plan for certification by DATCP under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall not be codified.

ENACTED: May 19, 2015

Janet K. Loomis
County Clerk