

TOWN OF TRENTON
Official minutes

**A Public Hearing of the Town of Trenton Plan Commission was held
Monday, April 13, 2026, at 6:50 p.m. at the Town of Trenton
Town Hall, 1071 State Highway 33 East, West Bend, WI 53095**

Chairman Mike Lipscomb called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

Plan Commission Members Present: Doug Hein, Lee Kidney, Ray Werhand, Dennis Kay, Pat Groth

Other Town Officials Present: Chairman Mike Lipscomb, Supervisor Barb Davies, Supervisor Tony Thoma. Town Administrator/Zoning Administrator/Clerk Cindy Komro, Deputy Clerk Cass Walker, Attorney Jake Curtis.

Members of the public: 20

Lipscomb read the Notice of Public Hearing, which is being held to accept public comments on an application from Rob-n-Cin Farms.

Summary: In accordance with Town Zoning Ordinances, Section 380-14C, Subsection (13), Livestock facilities of 1,000 or more animal units, Rob-n-Cin Farms has petitioned the Town for a Conditional Use Permit to expand its existing livestock facility.

Public Comments:

John Jansen 5939 Wausaukee Road: Jansen states that Trenton has ongoing, well-documented groundwater contamination issues from manure spreading, including a case that caused serious illness in a child. Multiple contaminated areas exist, and the problem is recurring, not limited to a single incident or farmer. State geological mapping shows similar vulnerable conditions in nearby areas, raising broader concerns. A challenged WPDES permit for the applicant is currently under review by an administrative law judge, a process that could take months or longer. The permit is not yet finalized and may face stricter conditions due to possible public health and environmental concerns. Given this information, Jansen believes the Town should delay approving a conditional use permit until the WPDES permit is finalized. He urges the town to consider that this could appear rushed and be a premature decision, as he noted concerns about possible favoritism toward a former board member who has been out of compliance for two years without consequences.

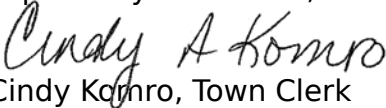
Alletia DeMartino 7192 N River Rd: DeMartino clarifies that their concerns aren't about opposing agriculture, but are focused on a shift from traditional farming to large-scale industrial expansion that affects quality of life. Some of the effects include odors, heavy traffic on local roads, and loss of the rural character they expected. The speaker also raised concerns about trust and accountability. She pointed to possible conflicts of interest, in her opinion, between the farm owner and board members. She mentioned the history of the farm operation expanding beyond permitted limits without transparency or compliance. She feels that this raises doubts about whether future rules would be followed. She explained the proposed permit would override current zoning limits, more than double livestock capacity, and permanently allow expansion, creating long-term consequences. DeMartino also spoke about environmental risks, especially groundwater vulnerability, noting the lack of required monitoring or safeguards in an area that is fully dependent on private wells.

Nancy Karsten 7184 N River Road: Karsten raises concerns about the potential health and environmental risks of mycotoxins from large-scale farming operations. She acknowledged that research is still limited but suggests possible harm to air and water. Drawing from her personal experience with mycotoxin exposure, she emphasized how serious the effects can be and warned that others in the community could become ill. The speaker also highlighted immediate concerns about heavy manure spraying, especially with possible flooding in our area. She mentions that this could worsen contamination risks, as well as increase noise and traffic in the area. Karsten further argued that many residents are unaware of these developments due to communication styles. She feels that the broader community does not support the project. Overall, she stresses that the issue is not well understood but could have significant and harmful consequences.

Komro reads a summary of the submitted written comments (attached to the record).

Lipscomb adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Komro, Town Clerk

Affidavit of Posting: These minutes were approved at the May 11, 2026 Plan Commission meeting and posted on the Town website on May 12, 2026.