

# INTRODUCTION

## LOCATION AND HISTORY

Stinnett was part of Veazie from 1883 through 1904; it was the size of three townships but Stone Lake split off in 1905 and Bass Lake split off in 1913. Located at latitude 460137N & longitude 0913641W. The previous villages of Stanberry and Stinnett were located in Stinnett Township. The village of Stinnett grew from a section house built by the railroad crew. It was probably named for an early settler or lumberman who lived there. The unincorporated town of Stanberry remains in the Town of Stinnett at the juncture of STH 63 and County Road M.

The Town of Stinnett is located in the northeast area of Washburn County, bordering Sawyer County to the east and is surrounded by the towns of Frog Creek, Gull Lake, Springbrook, Bass Lake, Lenroot, and Hayward.

Development of the comprehensive plan is intended to guide future land use decisions made by the Town of Stinnett and Washburn County. It is important to point out this plan is representative of both year-round and seasonal residents. Participation by these residents has contributed to a broad-based plan where all persons had an opportunity to provide direct input. Nowhere during the process were seasonal residents ignored as being “non-voting” landowners or non-residents of the community. Throughout the process, the planning committee/commission encouraged and utilized comments from the public. As a result of this integrated planning process, the comprehensive plan examines the entire community, pertaining to both year-round and seasonal residents.

## PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

The *Town of Stinnett Comprehensive Plan* is intended to assist local officials make future land use decisions. The plan will also assist in development and management issues by addressing short-range and long-range concerns regarding growth, development, and preservation of the community. There are numerous reasons for developing a comprehensive plan, including:

- Identifying areas appropriate for development and preservation over the next 20 years;
- Recommending types of land use for specific areas of the town;
- Preserving forestry practices and retain forestry as a viable industry;
- Protecting surface water resources and their surrounding environments;
- Identifying needed transportation and community facilities to serve future residents;
- Directing housing and other investments in the town; and
- Providing detailed objectives and actions to implement the plan goals.

This *comprehensive plan* has been prepared under the Wisconsin’s Comprehensive Planning legislation contained in Wisconsin Statute 66.1001. The plan is organized into nine chapters or elements, (issues and opportunities; housing; transportation; utilities and community facilities;

natural, agricultural, and cultural resources; economic development; intergovernmental cooperation; land use, and implementation) each addressing one element specified under the law.

## **THE PLANNING PROCESS**

Efforts by the Town of Stinnett to begin reviewing and discussing land use changes began in 2002 when a five-member community planning committee representing town residents was appointed by the town board. This broad-based committee prepared goals, objectives, and action statements to aid the Town of Stinnett in planning for its future. These broad goals and objectives are intended to provide guidelines for future decisions about land use and are intended to provide an orderly basis for immediate and long-range planning. These guidelines will be used by the plan commission in its recommendations to the town board on future land use changes. The goals and objectives recommended in this comprehensive plan are the framework for the various specific action-plans and programs taken on by both the public and private sectors. These implementation statements will provide the foundation for town and county future ordinances, especially those relating to zoning, land division, erosion control, parks, and town and county services.

To guide the planning process, the Town of Stinnett Comprehensive Planning Committee/Commission directed a number of efforts to ensure that this comprehensive plan is based on a vision shared by Stinnett residents. The plan is a compilation of those efforts and attempts to set the guidelines for town planning efforts for the next twenty years.