

# Land Use Committee considers public comment on campground ordinances

**Cindy Mickelson** | Staff writer

**SIREN** – The Burnett County Land Use and Information Committee met on Tuesday, March 1, to hold public hearings on a rezone request and proposed changes to the county's campground density ordinances.

## Public hearing

During the public hearing, Jerry Krause was the first to speak. He calls a 10-square-mile area between Webster and Danbury the "RV subdivision corridor." Krause contends that 40% of Burnett County's campsites are within that corridor and that the campsites represent seven times the number of households in Danbury and double the number of households in Webster.

Steve Pearson spoke of unfairness relative to zoning and an individual's right to privacy. He said, "Imagine if you purchased a parcel of land to live out your dream on and all of a sudden you had 200 new neighbors living next door, or more, depending on the number of campsites and the number of friends they invited up for the weekend. The privacy you desired, your dream, gone." Speaking again to unfairness, "Your new neighbors pay no property taxes."

Patrick Hanson said "We have seen a big increase to our property taxes.

Seasonal campers should contribute."

## Rezone request

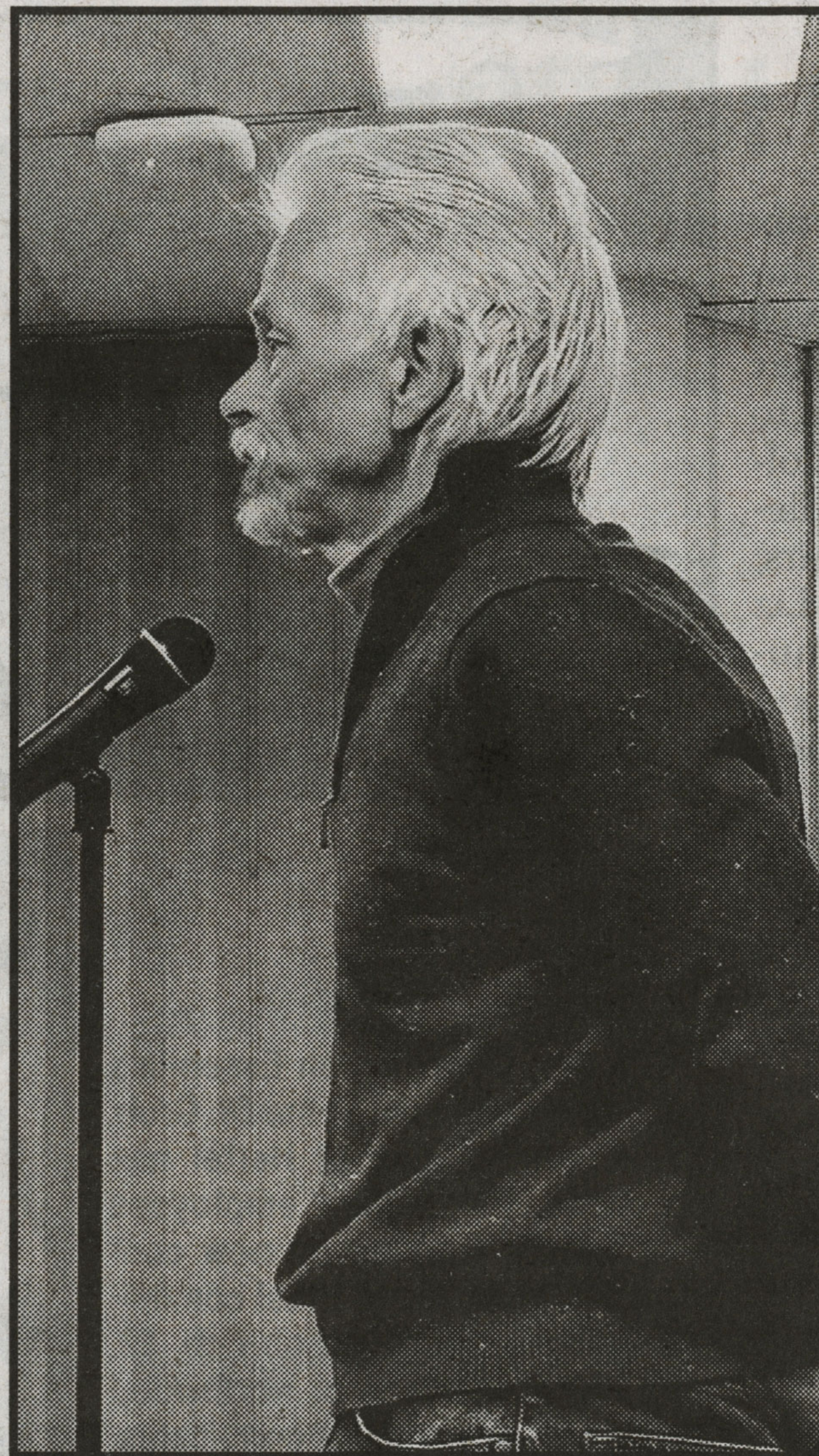
The board voted to move a request to rezone a 10-acre parcel, Map-22-02, from zone A- agricultural to zone A2-agricultural/residential, from Michael Hotchkiss, to the county board for consideration. Hotchkiss is purchasing 10 acres of land from a relative for hunting and fishing; however, his long-term plans may include a mini-storage facility which would require a conditional use permit, which was not part of the rezone request.

## Campgrounds

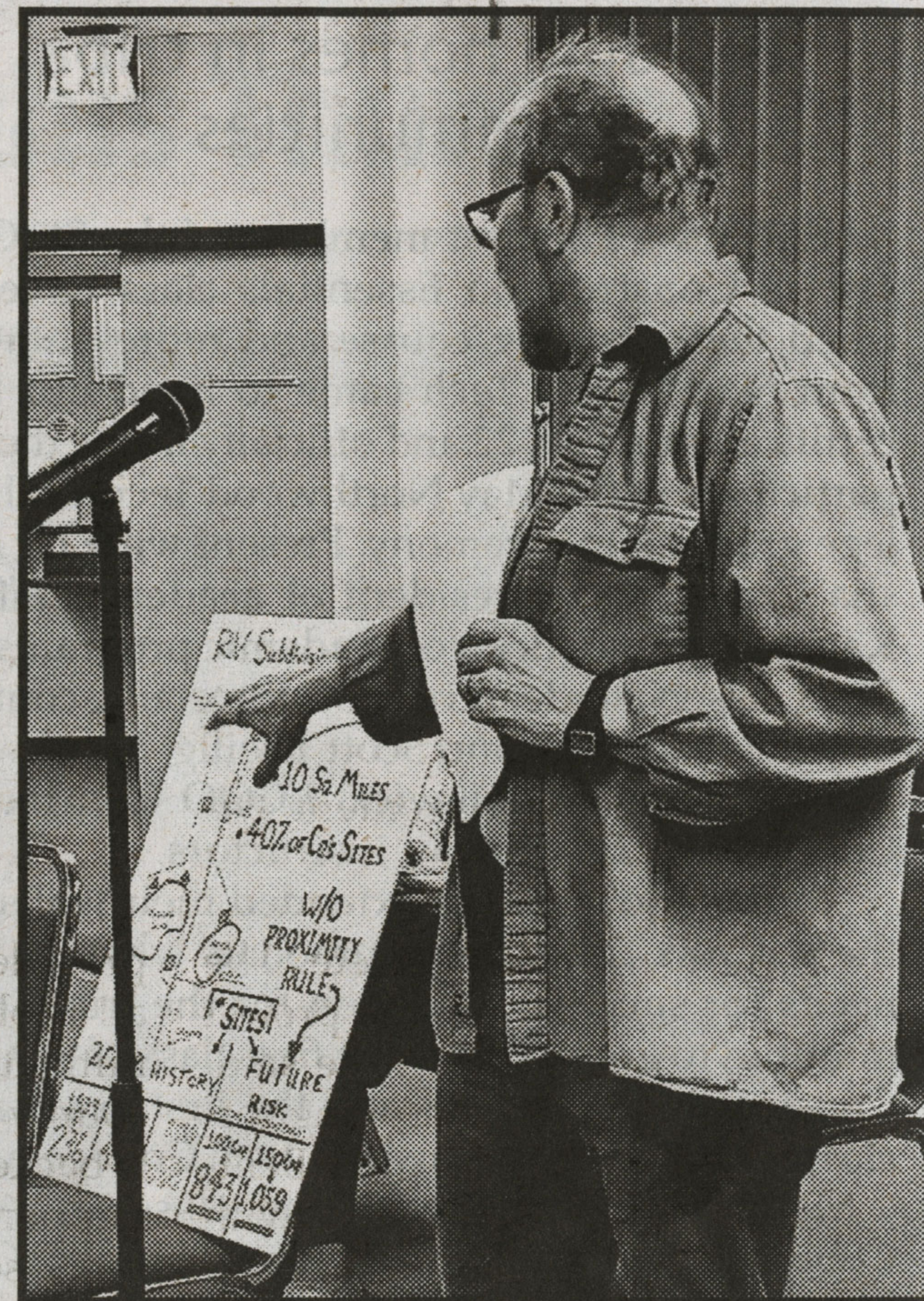
The proposed recommendations to Burnett County's campground ordinances were approved and a public hearing will be scheduled. Proximity to another campground is not part of the recommendation.

The committee's recommendations are:

- Amend the current density standard to five campsites per developable acre.
- Add a cap of 150 campsites per campground in the RRRC district.
- Remove the provision for campgrounds from the RRR3 district.



Steve Pearson thanked the land use committee for the work done on the campground ordinances to date. – Photos by Cindy Mickelson



Jerry Krause informed the board that in 2019 there were 688 campsites in a 10-square-mile area between Webster and Danbury. Krause had a presentation board that laid out the future risk of additional campsites in the same area; at a cap of 100 campsites per campground the number of sites would be 843, and at a cap of 150 campsites that number grows to 1,059 campsites.