

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Bill Leichtnam, Mark Holbrook, Dave LaFontaine and Harvey Petersen.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg and Adam DeKleyn, Jeff Brewbaker
Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpfennig
UW Extension Staff: Katie Tomsyck

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Wood County Board Chairman Doug Machon, Dist. #5 Supervisor Adam Fischer, Marla Cummings (Wood County Finance Director), Roy Driver (NRCS), Scott Larsen (MACCI), Bruce Dimick

1. **Call meeting to order.** Chairperson Curry called the meeting to order at 9:00am
2. **Public Comments.**
 - a. Marla Cummings shared that Chairman Machon is planning on putting a freeze on purchasing vehicles and that committees and departments should keep that in mind for the 2019 budgets.
 - b. Bruce Dimick shared that a CAFO in Armenia in Juneau County has come to the attention of the EPA. The EPA will be drilling to test for contaminates.
3. **Review Correspondence**
 - a. UW-Extension staff are at a State Extension Conference today. The Communities Educator position has been posted. More quotes are being procured for the UW-Extension office update and will be brought back to the CEED committee in June.
 - b. Jason Grueneberg shared an invite to attend the Transitioning our Economy Summit held at the Hotel Mead on May 10th and encouraged committee members to attend.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the April 4, 2018 CEED meeting, and the April 17 special CEED meeting. 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn, Justin Conner, Jeff Brewbaker, Stevana Skinner, Kim Keech, Victoria Wilson, Shane Wucherpfennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Emily Salvinski, Lori Ruess, Matt Lippert, Jodi Friday, Chris Viau, Laura Huber, and Jackie Carattini.

Motion by Bill Leichtnam to approve and accept the minutes of the April 4th, 2018, and April 17th, 2018 meetings, the bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation, and UW-Extension, and the staff activity reports as presented. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Risk and Injury Report.** None
6. **Discussion/appointment of WCA – Steering Committee member.** Any supervisor can apply through the County Clerk's office, and then the County Board Chairperson will sign it. Bill Leichtnam shared that he applied.

7. **CEED History and future discussion.** Bill Leichtnam gave his perspective on the history of the CEED committee. Originally, he believed that the CEED committee would be move involved with all the public schools in the county. The CEED committee spends a lot of time on conservation. He believes the CEED committee should have a more active role in economic development. Bob Ashbeck believes that the only way the county can be involved in economic development is through tax incentives.

8. **Land & Water Conservation Department**

- a. **NRCS report – Roy Diver.** Roy Driver gave copies of his annual report to the committee and gave an overview of the staff in this office and the programs/services they provide. They have a National Civil Rights Review happening in May 2018. He also shared fact sheets that summarize their programs.
- b. **Discuss Water Committee:** Chairman Ken Curry discussed the background and history for the formation of the Central Sands Groundwater committee. Lengthy discussion followed.

Ken Curry expressed that the CEED committee needs to decide how they will approach groundwater issues. This could be done by either a) the Central Sands Groundwater Committee continuing as-is, b) forming a groundwater sub-committee, c) forming an ad-hoc groundwater committee, or d) adding groundwater as an agenda item at the regular monthly meeting. Goals and timelines also need to be determined.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine that we authorize representatives and staff to continue attending the Central Sands Groundwater Group meeting while the CEED committee discusses and decides what they will do regarding groundwater within the next three months. Motion seconded by Bill Leichtnam.

Ayes: Ken Curry, Bill Leichtnam, Mark Holbrook, Dave LaFontaine, Harvey Petersen

Nays: Bob Ashbeck- he doesn't think Bill Leichtnam should be paid per-diem for this meeting.

Motion carried 5-1.

- c. **Discussion with staff regarding CEED Committee highlights of the Dr. Mark Borchardt and Devin Masarik presentation that are identified in the March 7, 2018 CEED Committee minutes, Item 6.c.** Shane will print the presentations for the CEED committee to review.
- d. **Review draft of proposed Wood County nonferrous metallic Mining and Reclamation Ordinance.** The proposed draft of the licensing ordinance was shared in the committee packet. Shane Wucherpfennig and Adam DeKleyn need direction from the CEED committee in the highlighted areas. The biggest things to consider are the fees to charge and who will administer the ordinance. Additionally, the Wisconsin Counties Association published a Nonferrous Metallic Mining Handbook earlier this week and it is somewhat contradictory to the draft. There was a consensus that the staff will need to reassess the draft ordinance with corporate counsel and will then present an itemized summary of where they need guidance at the next CEED committee meeting. There are currently no known companies wanting to do exploration.
- e. **Approve Cost-Share Funds Transfer Agreement from Jackson County to Wood County in the amount of \$8,000.** Shane Wucherpfennig explained that this is an opportunity for counties that were not able to use funds that were allocated from the state for conservation work. Wood County would use these funds for SEG work like nutrient management plans or

cover crops. Later, the Land & Water Conservation Department will be amending the budget because these are unanticipated revenues.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to accept the \$8,000 transfer from Jackson County. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.

Ken Curry signed the agreement.

- f. **North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) Spring Reorganization meeting.** At this meeting, Wood County has two votes; one is a supervisor and the County Conservationist is the other. Shane will send out the details of this meeting when he has the information.
- g. **Appoint NCLWCA representative.** This is per diem. Ken Curry appointed Bob Ashbeck to continue to as the representative.
- h. **Discuss Golden Sands RC&D representative from CEED Committee.** Bill Clendenning is the appointed representative by the County Board Chairman. Bill Leichtnam has been acting as the citizen non-voting member. Anybody can be a member at large. We pay dues of \$650 annually. Bill Clendenning suggested having an alternate if the CEED representative could not attend. There is a quarterly meeting this Friday.

Motion by Ken Curry for Bill Leichtnam to become the CEED representative to Golden Sands RC&D and for Bob Ashbeck to become the alternate. Second by Dave LaFontaine. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to pay both delegates per diem and mileage. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

- i. **Wisconsin Land & Water new supervisor training.** This training is coordinated through NCLWCA and is intended for the new Land and Water Conservation representation. It is typically in conjunction with the spring meeting. Shane will send out the details when they are available. New CEED members are encouraged to go.

9. UW Extension.

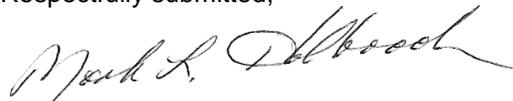
10. Economic Development

- a. **Activity update from Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Scott Larson)-** Scott Larson gave a report on what MACCI is doing to undertake economic development initiatives. He also mentioned that there has been more interaction between MACCI, the Heart of the Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce and REGI to work together on a regional level. He shared that the county can help by being open to new projects that come forward. The full report is available in the CEED packet. He also shared an Economic Profile publication that they put out. Bob Ashbeck commented that Marshfield seems so much further ahead in terms of reaching out to the people than Wisconsin Rapids does. Scott also shared that MACCI has been involved with focus groups regarding the consolidation of UW-Wood County into UW-Stevens Point. MACCI wants to make sure that that campus remains a very valuable asset to the community. Mark Holbrook questioned how workforce skillsets are being taught when there have been such large decreases in K-12 and university funding. Wisconsin used to be known as an educated workforce. Bill Leichtnam shared that he is impressed with what MACCI has been doing and he would like some of these programs to be implemented in the southern part of the county. Jason Grueneberg shared that the county provides \$19,500 annually to MACCI.

- 11. County Surveyor-** Ken Curry and Jason Grueneberg gave a background on this position to the new CEED members.
- 12. Private Sewage-** Jason Gruenberg requested to give an overview about the private onsite waste treatment at the next meeting.
- 13. Planning-** Jason Grueneberg asked that in the future, he would like to talk about the county's current approach to Economic Development and give an overview of what is happening.
- 14. Schedule next regular committee meeting –**
The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at 9:00am at the Wood County Courthouse, Room 115.
The July CEED committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 5th at 9:00am because of the holiday on Wednesday.
- 15. Agenda items for next meeting**
 - a. Discuss structure of a groundwater committee
 - b. Alexander Field and Marshfield Airport reports.
- 16. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** none

Chairperson Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Holbrook, Secretary

Minutes by Katie Tomsyck, UW-Extension

Review for submittal to County Board by Mark Holbrook (approved on May 14, 2018)