

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

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

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn, Jeff Brewbaker, Stevana Skinner and Kim Keech.

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpfennig.

UW Extension Staff: Jason Hausler and Nancy Turyk.

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Nancy Eggleston (Wood County Health Department), Amy Kaup (Systems Director), Michelle Boernke (UWSP Marshfield), Josh Benes (Golden Sands RC&D, Executive Director), Dale Christiansen (Central Wisconsin State Fair), Bruce Dimick (Saratoga Concerned Citizens), Robert Sorenson (Nekoosa), Dan Matthews (Nekoosa), Barb Matthews (Nekoosa), Gordon Gottbeheut (Nekoosa) and Myra Gottbeheut (Nekoosa).

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comment.** None
4. **Review Correspondence.**
  - A. Robert Ashbeck stated that the Mill Creek per diem is not on the agenda.
  - B. Jason Hausler introduced Michelle Boernke from UWSP Marshfield. Michelle Boernke mentioned that the University System hopes to utilize facilities and programs better with the campus mergers.
5. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the January 9, 2019 CEED meetings, 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, Nancy Turyk, Jackie Carattini, Chris Viau and Laura Huber.
  - A. Minutes of January 9, 2019. No additions or corrections needed.
  - B. Department Bills. Bill Leichtnam asked for an explanation of the Kolo Trucking & Excavating Inc bill in the amount of \$14,958.60. Shane Wucherpfennig commented that this was a cost share to close the Accola Pit to get it off of the books.
  - C. Staff Activity Reports. Nancy Eggleston updated the committee on the MOU phone conference on January 23rd with Armenia Growers Coalition, Wood County, Juneau County and the DNR. 1,283 letters were mailed to residents which included re-sends. 322 letters were returned. 309 wells were identified and include some without drinking water wells. There will be a second round of letters to be mailed in the spring. Bottled water is supplied weekly to the residents accessing a call hotline. 45 households were contacted in the spring with 28 reaching out to the Armenia Growers Coalition in response to the campaign. Many residents have not signed the access agreement. Some wells cannot be accessed due to weather. RO Systems are an option but over 30 ppm nitrates won't work as a treatment option. Well replacement is another option for those over 30 ppm nitrates but may not be feasible. Well data will be collected.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve and accept the January 9, 2019 CEED minutes, bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension, and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Mark Holbrook. Motion carried unanimously.*

**6. IT Printer Management Program.** Amy Kaup shared that the Planning & Zoning and Land Water Conservation Departments printer management contracts are up for renewal. The cost of the new contract quotes are for cost per page black ink and per page colored ink including hardware costs. Previous contracts only were for cost per page. The System Department will pay for the hardware cost with the departments paying the per page copy cost. New costs will be managed better.

**7. Risk and Injury Report.** None.

**8. Land & Water Conservation Department.**

A. Golden Sands RC&D Presentation Josh Benes gave a brief presentation on Golden Sands RC&D history of the program and conservation efforts. The Golden Sands RC&D is made up of 12 counties and voluntary dues are \$1,900 per year. Wood County pays \$800 in voluntary membership dues for 2019. Projects that would benefit Wood County include: Woods and Wildlife for Today & Tomorrow, Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership, and Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Program (concludes in summer 2019). Possible future Wood County projects could be Watershed Management Planning and Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Program. Bill Clendenning and Bill Leichtnam represent Wood County as active members of the council.

i. Discuss Prairie Chicken Festival, Booming Bob, advertising and updates to website Josh Benes shared that the Prairie Chicken Festival was ended by Golden Sands RC&D in 2015. The festival was no longer feasible and had a negative impact on net assets. Clean Green Action took over the Prairie Chicken Festival. Golden Sands RC&D removed the Prairie Chicken Festival from its website.

B. Approve resolution for purchase of no-till drill Shane Wucherpfennig shared that the department has received approximately \$10,000 in donations for a purchase of a no-till drill. A factor affecting the purchase of a no-till drill is timing as it is February, spring planting near and no-till drills are selling quickly. The resolution will help make the purchase for the remaining funds for a no-till drill easier. The rental fee will be \$60 per day plus \$6 per acre with a rental contract signed by the renter. Shane Wucherpfennig explained that there is a Farm Technology Grant available with a deadline of April 1st. The grant requirements are not known at this time and if a purchase can be reimbursed to contingency funds.

*Motion by Mark Holbrook to approve the resolution to amend the 2019 budget for Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) function (56121) for the purpose of funding Great Plains 10' No-Till Drill. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Discuss and possible recommendations on Port Edwards resolution presented to County Board Shane Wucherpfennig presented the Town of Port Edwards Board resolution to ask the help of all governances in Wood County and other various state and federal agencies to immediately remediate well contamination issues in the Town and to better protect private, rural wells in the future.

*Motion by Bill Leichtnam to forward the resolution to Wood County Board to ask the help of all governances in Wood County and other various state & federal agencies to immediately remediate well contamination issues in our Town and to better protect private, rural wells in the future. This help shall include help to determine the extent of the water pollution and contamination, the dangers to residents, the source, measures needed for remediation, and protective steps (possibly not yet enacted) to prevent future pollution. If full voluntary compliance can be secured, then the Town would ask the County, on behalf of it's residents, to initiate both legal actions and the passage of ordinances designed to clean our drinking, cooking, and bathing water and keep it clean. Second by Mark Holbrook.*

Robert Ashbeck asked if the resolution was unlawful and if it can be enforced. Mark Holbrook commented that the county doesn't enforce anything but it creates groundwater awareness to the public. Robert Ashbeck would like Peter Kastenholz of the Wood County Corporation Counsel to review the resolution before sending to Wood County Board.

*Motion by Mark Holbrook to amend the motion to approve to have the resolution reviewed by Peter Kastenholz of the Wood County Corporation Counsel for his expertise and be placed as a future CEED Meeting agenda item. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.*

A break was taken at 10:20 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 10:29 a.m.

D. Committee Reports

- i. Update of Tri-County Groundwater Roundtable Bill Leichtnam updated the committee about the Tri-County Groundwater Roundtable Meeting that was on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Curry, Bill Leichtnam, Nancy Engelston and Shane Wucherpennig represented Wood County. The meeting consisted of county Health Departments, Land & Water Conservation Departments and County Board Supervisors from various counties. The consensus of the committee feel that it would be beneficial if UW Extension would participate in future meetings. The roundtable meeting was a discussion on groundwater on a regional approach. Other counties would like to be included in the roundtable discussions and Golden Sands RC&D would like to participate as well. The next meeting will be in April. Mark Holbrook commented that Wood County needs to take steps to get something done on the local level. Dave LaFontaine shared that Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers has declared this year the year of water.
- ii. Update on Citizen's Groundwater Committee meetings Bill Leichtnam commented the Citizen's Groundwater Committee meeting was held on January 21<sup>st</sup> with over 20 people in attendance. Two key items that came from the meeting was the "Steps needed to Protect Wisconsin Waters" will be shared with state legislators and a member of the Citizen's Groundwater Committee will attend all public Speaker Robin Vos Water Quality Task Force meetings. All committee meetings are the third Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at the Wood County Riverblock Building, Room #206.

- E. Annual WI Land & Water Conference registration Shane Wucherpennig invited all Wood County Board and CEED Committee members to participate in the Wisconsin Land & Water Conference on March 13-15 in Lake Geneva. Anyone interested should contact their department. Bill Leichtnam volunteered to attend the conference on behalf of the CEED Committee.

*Motion by Bill Leichtnam to approve a member of the CEED Committee to attend the Wisconsin Land & Water Conference on March 13-15 in Lake Geneva. Second by Mark Holbrook. Motion carried unanimously.*

- F. Windshed Partnership update Postponed at a later date at a future CEED Committee Meeting.
- G. Update on presentation given on 5-year LWRM plan review in front of LWCB on February 5<sup>th</sup> Shane Wucherpennig shared that the LWRM 10 year plan was updated in 2015. The 5 year LWRM plan review presentation to the LWCB oversight committee was on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Curry and Shane Wucherpennig represented Wood County. Shane Wucherpennig highlighted Wood County performance based on the new initiatives.
- H. Recommend and approve a resolution on a county-wide well sampling effort for 2019 Shane Wucherpennig shared the Proposed Private Well Water Sampling Program brochure. The intent of the program is to test for nitrates only on a predetermined grid of one well per section in all 22

townships in Wood County. The private Well Water Sampling Program would provide a baseline on nitrates and discover the hotspots. This program would be foundation for a Groundwater 3D Model.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to amend the 2019 budget for Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) function (56121) in the amount of \$8,280 for the purpose of funding a County-wide Nitrate sampling effort of private wells on a predetermined grid of one well per section in all 22 townships in the County. The Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) will generate a mail list to offer the sampling to predetermined well owners. Second by Mark Holbrook. Motion carried unanimously.*

9. **Private Sewage.** None

10. **Land Records.** None

11. **County Surveyor.** None

12. **Planning.**

- A. Discussion/Action on Zoning Amendment Request-Town of Marshfield Adam DeKleyn explained the request for the Zoning Amendment approval for the Town of Marshfield. The Planning & Zoning Department received a request to approve a proposed town zoning amendment to rezone a 22.18 acre parcel of land in the Town of Marshfield from the Agricultural District to the Commercial District. The Town of Marshfield adopted and administers their own town zoning ordinance. Wood County adopted the Wood County Zoning Ordinance #700 many years ago. In counties having a county zoning ordinance, no town zoning ordinance or amendment or a zoning ordinance may be adopted unless approved by the County Board of Supervisors which also include town zoning map amendments also known as a rezone. Planning & Zoning staff has reviewed the request and recommends forwarding the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors approving the zoning amendment to the Town of Marshfield zoning map.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve the resolution approving a zoning amendment to the Town of Marshfield Zoning Map. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

- B. Review and discuss proposed amendments to Wood County Shoreland Ordinance #704 Jeff Brewbaker reviewed the three necessary updates to the Wood County Shoreland Ordinance #704. The updates are:
1. Code section 704.12.1. 2017 WI Act 68 statutory revision and text amendment is required by the State of Wisconsin.
  2. Code section 704.06(1)A.1. is a correction necessary due to an error in the State Shoreland Model.
  3. Code section 704.14(3)B. Special Exceptions or Conditional Uses were omitted in previous Shoreland Zoning Ordinance updates.

The next step is to have a public hearing.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve the Wood County Shoreland Ordinance #704 proposed changes. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried 4-1. Mark Holbrook opposes the Special Exceptions or Conditional Uses in code section 704.14(3)B.*

13. **UW Extension.**

- A. Staffing Updates and Transitions Jason Hausler informed the committee that Janell Wehr is the new Wood County Horticulture Assistant. Katie Tomsyck is currently part-time and working on special projects. Jason Hausler shared that Chris Viau has resigned as the 4-H & Youth Development Educator and has received a promotion as Area Director 10. The 4-H & Youth

Development Educator position is split 50/50 with the state. The position can be refilled based on the need of the county and desire of the state. Jason Hausler shared that in 2018 Extension embarked on a statewide Developmental Situational Analysis to gain an updated understanding on existing and emerging issues and opportunities in the state that Extension programming could address a county. Issues as key themes are Workforce & Workplace Development, Population Health, Infrastructure, Environment & Stewardship and Social Infrastructure & Systems. Discussion followed. The consensus of the committee is to refill the 4-H & Youth Development Educator position or as a split type position.

- B. Clean Sweep Grants Jason Hausler mentioned that the Wisconsin Clean Sweep Grants for Unwanted Prescription Drug Collections and Household & Ag Collections were in the packet to share with the committee before signing the contracts.
- C. Community Development Programming Update Postponed at a later date at a future CEED Committee Meeting.
- D. Central Wisconsin State Fair Update Dale Christiansen shared that the fair experienced a rollercoaster ride of highs and lows during the fair in regards to weather. There was a 5% increase in gate attendance and an increase in gross revenue of approximately \$75,000. Fair goers were happy with the move in fair dates from the Labor Day weekend. The new carnival doubled revenue from previous years. Entertainment isn't booked for 2019. Junior Fair Day was on Tuesday of the fair with the carnival opening on Wednesday at noon. There were 624 junior fair exhibitors, 413 open class exhibitors and 15 senior exhibitors. Dale Christiansen explained that the business sponsorship program is tough. The fair is working closer with the Wisconsin Rapids Chamber of Commerce and southern Wood County promoting the fair.

*Motion by Robert Ashbeck to appropriate \$32,000 to the Central Wisconsin State Junior Fair funds for 2019. Second by Dave LaFontaine. Motion carried unanimously.*

**14. Schedule Next Regular Committee Meeting.**

The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at Wood County Courthouse in Conference Room #114.

**15. Agenda items for next meeting.**

- A. Mill Creek per diem
- B. Golden Sands RC&D voluntary membership fee and participation in the Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Program
- C. Mill Creek Watershed 9 Key Plan
- D. Port Edwards Resolution regarding groundwater

**16. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** A special CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, 2019 @ 1:00 p.m. on Economic Development.

**17. Adjourn.** Chairman Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark L. Holbrook, Secretary  
Minutes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office  
Review for submittal to County Board by Mark L. Holbrook (approved on February 12, 2019 @ 1:50 p.m.)