

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Bill Leichtnam and Adam Fischer.

Members Excused: Harvey Peterson.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg, Jeff Brewbaker and Kim Keech.
Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpfennig.
UW Extension Staff: None.
Co Surveyor: None.

Others Present: Dist. #6 Supervisor Al Breu, Dist. #8 Supervisor Brad Kremer, Dist. #9 Supervisor William Winch, Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Dist. #16 Supervisor Lance Pliml, Peter Kastenholz (Wood County Corporation Counsel), Doug Passineau (Highway Department), Caitlin Carmody (Highway Department), Vic Bertotto (ATV Club), Chuck Hanson (ATV Club), Tom Nelson (Central Wisconsin ATV Club), Jeff Masephol (Central Wisconsin ATV Club/Wisconsin ATV Association Club), Penny Wiesner (Petenwell ATV Club), Dave Kester (ATV/UTV Club) and Kathy Uteg (ATV/UTV Club).

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Henkel called the CEED Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** Jeff Masephol (Central Wisconsin ATV/Wisconsin ATV Association Club) discussed how the ATV Club has worked with the Wood County Parks & Forestry and Highway departments for the past 5 years opening parts of county roads for ATV/UTV use. He feels that Wood County should develop safe routes opening stretches of county roads to ATV/UTV's but not all county roads. Jeff Masephol shared that ATV/UTV routes are important for economic development.
3. **Review Correspondence.** None.
4. **Consider/take action on resolution to encourage the Highway, Parks & Forestry, and Planning & Zoning departments to work together to improve the ATV/UTV trail/route system in Wood County.**
Chairman Henkel commented that the draft resolution was cleaned up. Jason Grueneberg shared that the 2015 Jackson County ATV/UTV Study showed that Jackson County brings in over \$7-9 million in economic development. In Wood County, the impact of economic development would not be that high but there would be some depending on the extent of the trail/route network. Jason Grueneberg added that the Wood County board would have to review what comes out of those meetings with Highway, Parks & Forestry and the Planning & Zoning departments. Chairman Henkel asked what the extent of current routes in Wood County is. Jason Grueneberg shared that the ATV/UTV Park has 10 miles and 10-12 townships have trails but an accurate inventory needs to take place to establish what actually exists. Bill Leichtnam is concerned about the safety of routes and trails but favors expanding safe trails. Robert Ashbeck commented that he doesn't want the power taken away from the towns. Brad Kremer expressed that the intent of the resolution is for Wood County to be an enabler and that townships would still have the control if they want ATV/UTV routes/trails in their town.

Motion by Adam Fischer to approve the resolution to encourage the Highway, Parks & Forestry, and Planning & Zoning departments to work together to improve the ATV/UTV trail/route system in Wood County. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried 4-1. Bill Leichtnam has concerns about safety and liability reasons as well as the need to do an inventory of the ATV/UTV trail/route system in Wood County.

5. Adjourn.

Chairman Henkel declared the meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth Curry".

Kenneth Curry, Secretary
Minutes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office
Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (approved on March 22, 2018 @ 3:31 p.m.)