

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2016  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, Kenneth Curry, Adam Fischer, Bill Leichtnam and Harvey Petersen (excused at 10:45 a.m.)

Member Excused:

Staff Present: Land & Water Conservation Staff – Shane Wucherpennig, Lori Ruess  
 Planning & Zoning Staff – Jason, Grueneberg, Justin Conner, Adam Dekleyn  
 UW Extension Staff – Peter Manley, Chris Viau

Others Present: District #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, District #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, District #16 Supervisor Lance Pliml, Dan Mahoney, Village of Plover Administrator, Julie Kreutzer, Leroy Donahue, Eric Petersen, Duane Hofmeister, Pat Hofmeister, David Gorski, Doreen Dimick, Bruce Dimick, Cindy Weiler

1. **Call CEED Committee Meeting to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** David Gorski a resident of Grand Rapids stated he was at the meeting to express his concerns about water protection and the drinking water crisis and to plead with the CEED Committee to take a proactive approach to groundwater protection. He suggested that an ordinance for testing of home well water by the Wood County Health Department be enacted, along with installation of test wells.

Dennis Polach stated he enjoyed the September 30<sup>th</sup> CEED tour and would like to thank the staff who set up the tour.

3. **Review Correspondence.** Chairperson Henkel read a report submitted by Gerald Nelson from the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC).

Jason Grueneberg stated he had some sad news; Steve Anderson President of REGI passed away this past weekend. REGI Board called an emergency meeting and will be looking at re-staffing the position.

Peter Manley stated he is looking for direction from the CEED on correspondence and bills for the Clean Sweep Program. The program was covered is money from a DATCP grant, county money and a \$5,000 donation. The total clean sweep expenses came in under what was budgeted with the grant, county money, and the donation, so he is looking for direction from the CEED on how to divide the expenses. Chairperson Henkel stated that no action could be taken on this as it is not an agenda item. She asked that this be added to the December CEED Committee agenda for further discussion and possible action.

4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the September 30, 2016 and October 5, 2016 CEED meetings 2) bills from, Planning & Zoning/Surveyor/Economic Development, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Justin Conner, Jeff Brewbaker, Heather Marquardt, Julie Akey, Kim Keech, Shane Wucherpennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Lori Ruess, Peter Manley, Matt Lippert, Sarah Siegel, Jodi Friday, Chris Viau, Kyli Brown, and Jeremy Erickson.

Per Bill Leichtnam's request, the October 5, 2016 CEED minutes were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

- a. Minutes of September 30, 2016 CEED Meeting. No additions or corrections needed.
- b. Department Bills. No additions or corrections needed.
- c. Staff Activity Reports. No questions or comments.

Motion by Kenneth Curry to approve and accept the September 30, 2016 CEED minutes as presented, the bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension as presented and staff activity reports from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation, and UW Extension as presented. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Leichtnam stated he would like to discuss 6A in the October 5, 2016 minutes – Discussion/action for water protection policies for Wood County including possible action regarding the Ordinance referred to this committee. Bill expressed his concern that there was not an agenda item on the November CEED agenda to review Ordinance 801, as discussed at the October CEED meeting and stated in the minutes. He also would like an item “B” added under Water Issues on future agendas to allow for in-depth discussion. Chairperson Henkel stated there was no intent of delaying the review of Ordinance 801; everything that needs to be reviewed and discussed cannot be on one meeting agenda. She also stated that is not necessary to add an item “B” to allow for in-depth discussion as adequate time is allowed for discussion.

Adam Fischer stated that Bill Clendenning was omitted in error from “Others Present” in the October minutes.

Motion by Kenneth Curry to amend the October 5, 2016 minutes by adding Bill Clendenning under “Others Present” and to approve and accept the amended minutes. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Risk and Injury Report.** Nothing new to report this month.

**6. Water Issues.**

**A. Village of Plover Groundwater Efforts, Dan Mahoney, Village Administrator.**

Chairperson Henkel introduced Dan Mahoney, Plover Village Administrator. Dan explained his presentation is on water quantity issues affecting the Little Plover River; specifically high capacity wells. He explained that in 2006 the Little Plover River Work Group was formed; comprised of municipal officials, farmers, Ag industry, UWSP Groundwater Center, Wisconsin River Alliance, Trout Unlimited, Portage County Planning & Zoning Department representative, and the Wisconsin DNR. The group’s purpose was to work toward voluntary solutions that improve the Little Plover River stream flow.

Dan reviewed the objectives of the Groundwater Flow Model Project for the Little Plover River.

- A groundwater flow and optimization model that will be a science-based system for decision support of water management in the Little Plover River Basin as a pilot location to evaluate techniques that might be expanded to the entire central sands region.
- A platform to demonstrate fundamental scientific constraints inherent to the hydrologic system and contest for the costs and benefits for differing scenarios.
- An educational tool for fostering science based discussion for both the public and the technical community.

Maps included in the model indicating targeted areas for removal from irrigated Ag (300 acres), wetland restoration (300 acres) and a Little Plover River (LPR) Conservancy Acquisition Area (140) were included in the presentation. The Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association created a 501(C) (3) organization to assist in funding the LRP conservancy area project improvements and have raised approximately \$70,000.

Most members of the group agree with the model; the farmer/Ag industry may have some concerns, however, they are definitely working towards finding ways to help with good clean water.

Lengthy discussion followed the presentation. Chairperson Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, Bill Leichtnam and Lance Pliml all thanked Dan for the excellent presentation. Chairperson Henkel stated that it's encouraging to see the collaboration between the various groups that are part of the Little Plover River. She encouraged the Committee to review the information and think about ways to reach out to Wood County farmers and vegetable growers to see if there is interest in a scientific study.

Bill Leichtnam suggested that Shane Wucherpfennig or a representative from the Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department attend the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Town of Saratoga meeting. Shane stated that he had a conflict with the meeting and would not be able to attend.

Motion by Kenneth Curry to allow Supervisor Leichtnam to attend the November 2, 2016 Town of Saratoga meeting. Second by Adam Fischer. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Leichtnam suggested that the UWEX Department send a letter to the towns of Port Edwards and Saratoga to see if they would be interested in attending a groundwater meeting.

## **7. Land & Water Conservation Department**

### **A. Open Bids for a Waste Storage Facility on Craig Brandl's Farm and Approve Low Bid.**

Chairperson Henkel opened the bids received for the Waste Storage Facility project on Craig Brandl's farm. Two bids were received. A bid from Rich Weiler Construction in the amount of \$99,128.00 and a bid from Jeff Ertl Construction in the amount of \$142,392.44.

Motion by Bill Leichtnam to accept the low bid from Rich Weiler Construction in the amount of \$99,128.00 for the purpose of basing cost-share for the waste storage facility project on Craig Brandl's farm. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

### **B. Update on Badger Sandstone.**

Shane Wucherpfennig and Tracy Arnold met with Tom Halquest, owner of the former Badger Sandstone nonmetallic mine site. Paul Bugar, Jr., has been hired as the contractor to complete the reclamation at the mine site. Shane and Tracy had a pre-reclamation meeting with Mr. Bugar and have been out to the site several times since the reclamation started. Shane stated he is extremely happy with the progress at the site; however, the LWCD will not sign off on the reclamation until 70 percent of the vegetation is established. The financial assurance will be carried into 2017.

### **C. Update on Scott Grossman NOD.**

Shane Wucherpfennig and Drew Zelle, DATCP Engineer, met with Mr. Grossman regarding his Notice of Discharge (NOD) and gave Mr. Grossman some suggestions on the action needed for correction of the NOD. Shane has revisited the site and stated significant progress has been made. A concern is that Mr. Grossman rents the property where the NOD took place. If cost-share assistance is offered for manure storage, how long will Mr. Grossman be renting the property and will there be a need for storage in the future. Chairperson Henkel asked if there is an internal policy as to awarding cost-sharing for temporary situations. Shane stated there is no policy; the immediate concern is not cost-share, but that Mr. Grossman gets the manure at the site cleaned up.

### **D. Approve/Action on Crop Prices.**

Tracy Arnold provided a spreadsheet with 2016 statewide and local crop prices for the Committee to review. She collects crop prices throughout the year and calculates a yearly average to arrive at a price per bushel/ton to use for crop damage payments. The calculated averages are: field corn - \$ 3.36/bushel, soybeans - \$9.35/bushel, oats - \$1.69/bushel, other hay - \$58.00/ton and alfalfa - 90.54/ton.

Motion by Kenneth Curry to approve the 2016 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program crop prices as presented. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

## 8. Planning & Zoning

### A. Review and Discuss Fee Schedule and how it Compares to Adjacent Counties.

At a recent CEED meeting, the Committee asked Jason Grueneberg to review the fees within his department and do a fee comparison with other counties throughout the state. Jason reviewed the fee comparison with the Committee. He added that Julie Akey did a great job pulling the information together. Lengthy discussion followed. A proposal for fee changes will be presented at the December CEED meeting.

## 9. Surveyor

### A. Select Proposal to Complete Maintenance on 141 Public Land Survey System (PLSS) corners.

Justin Conner reported the following:

PLSS Perpetuation and Maintenance – 2016 Contract 3 – Seven bids were submitted, with costs ranging from \$147.16/corner to \$707.91/corner.

Two of the bidders were tied at 147.16/corner; one was a company from Wisconsin Rapids and the other was a company from Appleton. Justin noted that the Planning and Zoning Department worked with both of these companies and has had no problems or issues with either one. Discussion followed.

Motion by Robert Ashbeck to accept the low bid of \$147.16/corner from Quest Civil Engineers, LLC. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.

### B. County Surveyor Annual Update.

The Surveyor will present his annual report at the December CEED meeting.

## 10. UW Extension

### A. UW Extension Reorganization Update.

Peter Manley gave a brief update on the UW Extension Reorganization. A couple of surveys have been mailed out. In February, options will be presented for the county committees to consider.

### B. Budget Update (as needed).

No update needed.

### C. Skills Students Desperately Need and How 4-H Develops Them – Viau.

Chris Viau stated his presentation topic changed to Steps needed to be a UW-Extension Volunteer. Chris handed out a folder that included information on the new materials required to become a UW Extension volunteer. The required steps to become a volunteer include:

- Signed volunteer behavior expectation form and the assumption of risk statement.
- Completion of the online UW-Extension Mandated Reporter Training for Extension Volunteers.
- Successful background check.
- Completion of the UW Extension Volunteer in Preparation Training.

Chris and Kyli Brown presented the new materials to the Wood County 4-H leaders last week.

**Schedule Next Regular Committee Meeting.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. Agenda items to include:

- LWCD meeting format and frequency.
- Approve/action on LWCD resolution to amend DATCP budget.
- Discuss clean sweep donation.
- Planning & Zoning Department fee proposal.
- Junior Fair Finance Report – Larry Gilbertson
- Department Head evaluations – Hilde will forward the electronic evaluation forms to all CEED members. Please print out the basic form and bring your impression of what the evaluation should be. All evaluations are due to Human Resources by December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**11. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** No additional meetings were scheduled.

**12. Adjourn.**

Motion by Adam Fischer to adjourn at 11:55 a.m. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.
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Respectfully submitted,



Minutes by Lori Ruess, Land and Water Conservation Department  
Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (11-9-2016)