

# CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

DATE: Wednesday, November 4, 2020  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse, Room 114

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Declaration of Quorum.
3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
4. Review Correspondence.
5. Consent Agenda.
  - a. Approve minutes of previous meeting
  - b. Approve bills
  - c. Receive staff activity reports
6. Review items, if any, pulled from Consent Agenda.
7. Risk and Injury Report
8. Land & Water Conservation Department
  - a. Open bids/approve low bid for closure of Enos and Alma Yoder's waste storage facility.
  - b. Set crop prices for the Wildlife Damage Claims Program.
  - c. Discuss Carlson GPS replacement.
    - i. Citizens Groundwater Group meeting.
    - ii. Health Committee report.
    - iii. Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGWCC) committee report.
    - iv. Golden Sands RC&D report.
9. Private Sewage
10. Land Records
11. County Surveyor
12. Planning
13. Economic Development
  - a. Consider resolution authorizing Wood County to participate in Wisconsin Public Service Commission broadband grant funding applications in partnership with Hilbert Communications, LLC.
  - b. Update from Roy Shwery Field, Marshfield and consider release of 2020 economic development grant funds.
  - c. Update on the Rural Economic Development Innovation Initiative.
  - d. General Economic Development update and discussion of 2020 and 2021 economic development project funding.
  - e. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission update.
14. Extension
  - a. General Office Update
  - b. UW Budget Update
  - c. Educator Presentation – Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator
15. CLOSED SESSION. Motion to go into closed session pursuant to the exemption contained in S.19.85 (1)(c) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of discussing performance reviews of the Land & Water Conservation Director and the Planning and Zoning Director.
16. Return to OPEN SESSION.
17. Requests for per diem for meeting attendants.
18. Schedule next regular committee meeting.
19. Agenda items for next meeting
20. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
21. Adjourn

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## **Join by phone**

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll  
Meeting number (access code): 146 204 5487

## **Join by WebEx App or Web**

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=mccfee91e1adcb1782548ff3745bbc83e>  
Meeting number (access code): 146 204 5487  
Meeting password: CEED1104

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Jake Hahn, Dave LaFontaine, Bill Leichtnam and Carmen Good.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn and Kim Keech.

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpfennig and Lori Ruess.

UW Extension Staff: Jason Hausler, Nancy Turyk and Rachel Whitehair.

Others Present (for part or all of the meeting): Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendening, Dist. #16 Supervisor Lance Pliml, Josh Miller (City of Marshfield), Angel Whitehead (Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce), and Jeremy Sickler (South Wood County Airport).

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.** Chairperson Curry shared that the Operations Committee met on October 6th. There is a hiring freeze effectively immediately. There is a resolution being drafted for Wood County Board to have a hiring freeze through December 2020. There is a \$6.3 million shortfall for the 2021 budget. The budget needs to be approved at the Wood County Board meeting in November.
5. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the September 2, 2020 and September 14, 2020 CEED meetings, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn, Paul Bernard, Jeff Brewbaker, Kim Keech, Victoria Wilson, Shane Wucherpfennig, Adam Groshek, Caleb Armstrong, Emily Salvinski, Rod Mayer, Lori Ruess, Matt Lippert, Nancy Turyk, Allison Jonjak, Jackie Carattini, Hannah Wendels, Kelly Hammond, Rachel Whitehair and Laura Huber.
  - A. Minutes of September 2, 2020. No additions or corrections needed.
  - B. Minutes of September 14, 2020. No additions or corrections needed
  - C. Department Bills. No additions or corrections needed.
  - D. Staff Activity Reports. No additions or corrections needed

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve and accept the September 2, 2020 and September 14, 2020 CEED minutes, bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension, and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.*

6. **Review items, if any, pulled from Consent Agenda.** None.
7. **Risk and Injury Report.** None.
8. **Department head reports – Wage Study effect**
  - Jason Grueneberg shared that the process has been fair and reasonable. Human Resources has asked to verify a few things.

- Shane Wucherpennig commented that the process was straightforward. The wage study did impact two positions in his office. Both positions were lowered a grade. Salaries are expected to be reduced by \$1,300 if the Wage Study is approved.
- Jason Hausler expressed that the Wage Study has been similar to other counties. There is no impact to staff.

Lance Pliml shared that no one will get a pay cut. The Wage Study will be a decrease in the amount of the pay increase.

## 9. Land & Water Conservation Department.

- A. Discuss Joint Solicitation Grant. Shane Wucherpennig shared that the Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative Committee has been working on a Joint Solicitation Grant which has been going well. The deadline date for completion is October 30th. This is a revised plan to the grant that was submitted last fall. This grant request is in the amount of \$60,000. The grant request is to compile information and mileage. Phase 1 – GAP Analysis (outreach plan). Phase 2 – Implementation (“boots on the ground”). Nancy Turyk has been discussing with the DNR the needs and priorities on the grant. Nancy added in general the grant request is not a perfect fit.
- B. Update committee on process for Area and State Association resolutions.  
Shane Wucherpennig expressed that there has been considerable discussion at the state association regarding the resolution process. Resolutions are reviewed at the state annual conference in March. The state association would like the Board of Directors to review resolutions at meetings ahead of time. The goal is to have better results at the state annual conference. If the resolutions are reviewed ahead of time, there may be better results at the annual state conference.
- i. Citizens Groundwater Group  
Bill Leichtnam shared that Lance Pliml was very complimentary of the Citizens Groundwater Group.

Highlights of Wisconsin Counties Association presentation by Kyle Christianson, Director of Government Affairs:

- State legislators are not working together and that there is a bipartisan divide.
- 75%-80% of the water bills are bipartisan and are expected to pass the Wisconsin Senate.
- COVID-19 pandemic has created panic and uncertainty. Wisconsin legislators probably don't want to spend any money.
- There should be more clarity after the November election and when the Governor's budget is released after January 2021.

Groundwater Council was formed in 1984. Wisconsin Groundwater Coordinating Council's annual report to the legislature recommends establishing groundwater enforcement standards and continue to identify sources of the largely indestructible compounds, which have been linked to cancer and other illnesses. Private Wells and municipal wells are contaminated. 17% of private wells are contaminated with coliform bacteria.

The November speaker will be Rachel Whitehair of UW Extension.

Committee meetings are the third Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. and are currently held virtually through WebEx.

- ii. Health Committee report Nothing to report.
- iii. Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGWCC) committee report. Bill Leichtnam mentioned that there is \$90,000 available in state grants. The Joint Solicitation

Grant is for \$60,000. What happens if the outcome is less than what they are requesting? Do we still want to fund? How do we do it?

- iv. Golden Sands RC&D report. Bill Leichtnam shared that the 18 month Hernandez pending citation in Waushara County has been concluded. The judge ordered that the cattle be removed and sold. The case concluded about 10 years of manure runoff into Waushara County roads and waters of the state.
10. **Private Sewage.** Jason Grueneberg plans to proceed with filling the Code Technician position. This is a position that comes from a non-levied budget which is funded primarily by sanitary permit fees.
11. **Land Records.** Wood County Land Records Council meets annually every year. A virtual meeting is being planned for November
12. **County Surveyor.** Kevin Boyer who is the county Surveyor will be giving his annual report in December.
13. **Planning.** Jason Grueneberg is seeking assistance from the Regional Plan Commission and Nancy Turyk to secure a grant to pursue broadband funding. There are still quite a few people still working from home due to the pandemic. Some schools are learning virtually.

#### 14. Economic Development

- A. Update from the Alexander Field, Wisconsin Rapids and consider release of 2020 economic development grant funds. Jeremy Sickler gave an update on the new hangar. Construction of the new hangar started in February 2020 and has been completed. Bill Leichtnam mentioned that the new airport hangar would be a possible tour site for the CEED Tour.

Other projects and developments:

- Taxiway A Completion
- Obstruction Removal
- Fuel System Replacement
- Airport Acquisition
- Fuel Sales/Revenues
- Airport activity – An estimated 400-500 large transient aircraft visited the airport.

*Motion by Kenneth Curry to release the \$10,000 in grant funds to the South Wood County Airport Commission. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.*

- B. Update from the Marshfield Economic Development Board and consider release of 2020 economic development grant funds. Josh Miller presented the City of Marshfield Central Avenue Redevelopment Plan. There are six areas that are identified in the Comprehensive Plan, Downtown Plan and Housing Master Plan. The areas identified detract from the surrounding neighborhoods and can tend to give a negative impression to those passing through the City of Marshfield. All of these areas are along Central Avenue or within two blocks of Central Avenue. Projects will be prioritized by the Economic Development Board.

Josh Miller shared that Marshfield is in short supply of larger industrial land for future development. Largest lot currently in the industrial park is about 15 acres. Staff is working on getting approval to start the Industrial TIF District creation process with the appraisal completion by the end of 2020 and acquired in early 2021. Funding for the project covers the cost of the appraisal.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to release the \$15,000 Central Avenue Redevelopment Plan and \$2,000 Appraisal for Industrial Land Development grant funds to the Marshfield Economic Development Board. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

- C. Update on the Rural Economic Development Innovation Initiative. Nancy Turyk shared that the draft goals and objectives have been completed. Initiatives should be completed within a month. Implementation of the REDI Plan is on track.
- D. General Economic Development update and discussion of 2020 and 2021 economic development project funding. Jason Grueneberg discussed the Economic Development budget and Wood County budget shortfall for 2021. How do we handle the 2020 unexpended grant funds? Do we return it to the general fund? Do we respect the Wood County budget shortfall? How do we handle the 2021 budget? Do we reduce the grant funds by \$20,000? How should we proceed?

Jason Grueneberg shared that the Wood County Health Department asked for clarification on their grant request and release of grant funds. Grant funds are to assist in the purchase of the bike share program.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to advance the release of \$3,000 to the Wood County Health Department for the bike share and reduce the 2021 grant request from \$9,000 to \$6,000. Second by Jake Hahn Motion carried 3-2. Robert Ashbeck asked why the grant request isn't going before the Operations Committee before disbursing the money.*

- E. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission update. Jason Grueneberg plans to have the Executive Director Dennis Lawrence give an update at an upcoming CEED Committee meeting. NCWRPC has been assisting in the Broadband strategy, Bicycle Pedestrian Plan, ATV Study, Wood County land use and VERSO closure. Dave LaFontaine will request a 2021 project list.

## 15. UW Extension.

### A. General Office Update

Jason Hausler shared the following office updates:

- Attended Finance Budget meeting – Finance Director has asked for budget cuts by Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Horticulture Educator Janell Wehr will be back on October 1st in a shared position with Marathon County.
- National 4-H Week is October 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>
- Karli Tomsyck started maternity leave on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Wendy Young has been assisting in her absence.
- Public Health – Extension programming policy for programming outlines no more than 10 people indoors with no more than 50 people outdoors. Staff are working hard to ensure we are aligning state policy with local policy.

- B. 2021 Draft Contract Jason Hausler explained that the draft contract has been reviewed by Peter Kastenholz. The contract is a net decrease. The 2021 Draft Contract action by Wood County Board will be after the budget has passed.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve the 2021 UW Extension Contract. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.*

- C. Educator Presentation – Rachael Whitehair Rachael Whitehair gave a presentation on ongoing work groups to support Producer-led groups. The goal for Wood County and Central Wisconsin is to improve water quality in Wisconsin.

Producer-led State-Wide Evaluation – Short term goals: Development of ongoing work group within Extension to support Producer-led groups. Increase collaboration among Extension, DNR,

DATCP and other partners in support of Producer-led groups. Increase capacity building opportunities provided by Extension and partners. Medium term goals: Increase capacity of producer-led groups and success of programming. Increase adoption of Best Management Practices. Development of new Producer-led watershed groups. Long term goals: Improve farm economy. Improve water, soil and habitat quality. Improve community relations between farm and non-farm groups.

Farmer to farmer education model is working. Producer-led groups are here to stay. There are currently 33 Producer-led groups. The goal is to increase Producer-led groups.

Central WI Farm Profitability Expo (Increase Resiliency, Decrease Inputs) – The virtual meeting will be held in early 2021. Bringing statewide expertise to the local level. The meeting was rebranded to a Profitability workshop versus the Healthy Water Health Soils workshops that used to be held.

- 16. Requests for per diem for meeting attendants.** Any per diem meeting requests need to be approved by the Wood County Board Chair or CEED Committee.
- 17. Schedule Next Regular Committee Meeting.** The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at Wood County Courthouse in Conference Room #114.
- 18. Agenda items for next meeting.** Agenda items are due by Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 19. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** A special CEED meeting will be held immediately following Wood County Board on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 20. Adjourn.** Chairman Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Minutes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office

MINUTES  
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020  
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI

Members Present: Ken Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Jake Hahn, Dave LaFontaine, Bill Leichtnam

Members Excused: Carmen Good

Staff Present:

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpennig, Rodney Mayer, Lori Ruess

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg,

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning

1. **Call meeting to order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)**  
There was no public comments.
4. **Review Correspondence.** Chairperson Curry reminded the department heads in attendance that evaluations would take place at the November or December CEED meeting.

At this time with consensus from the Committee, agenda item 6a was moved up.

5. **2021 Department Budgets.** Chairperson Curry explained what was discussed at the Operations Committee regarding the 2021 budget deficit and stated department heads were asked to review their budgets and see if there were any budget lines where adjustments could be made to help the overall budget deficit.

Shane Wucherpennig shared Land & Water Conservation made a 5% cut to their tax levy budget. He explained the Department has seven budgets, but only one is a tax-levied budget.

Jason Grueneberg stated he would like direction from the CEED on what to do with the 2020 unspent Economic Development funds (approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000). He explained with the deficit the County is facing if reserves go too low it could affect the County's bond rating. Departments and committees should turn as much money back in 2020 as they can, to reduce pulling from cash reserves. He added, Economic Development assistance is needed now more than ever, but County Board is also asking Departments to watch spending. Lengthy discussion ensued.

The Committee requested the specific amount of unspent 2020 Economic Development money and a list of potential projects the money could be allocated to. Jason Grueneberg explained the 2020 project list is tricky given the time left in the year. Economic Development money is not an automatic carryover and it may not be worth the necessary steps to carry it over.

Dave LaFontaine asked if there were any projects for renewable and sustainable that would have payback to the County. Jason responded there could be.

Jake Hahn does not think the 2020 money should be spent just to spend it, but if there is a return on investment to Wood County, then it should be considered. He would like to see a potential project list at the November CEED meeting.

Dave LaFontaine asked if department heads could have a “ballpark estimate” for the November CEED meeting of what their department will be turning back to the County from their 2020 budgets.

**6. Land & Water Conservation Department**

- a. Open and approve low bids for permanent woven wire deer fences of Hemlock Trails Cranberry and 6-M Cranberries. Chairperson Curry opened the bids received for 6-M Cranberry Fence Project. Bids were as follows: Real Fence, LLC - \$16,600 and Straight Line Fence, LLC - \$15,700. Rodney Mayer stated he estimated \$12,500 for the fence, based on the \$5/foot DNR recommendation. Bids typically come in higher due to gates and other necessary extras. Brief discussion followed.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve and accept the bid for 6-M Cranberries fence project that is most advantageous to the County, which would be the low bid from Straight Line Fence, LLC in the amount of \$15,700. Second by Jake Hahn. Motion carried unanimously.*

Chairperson Curry opened the bids received for Hemlock Trails Cranberry Fence extension. Rodney Mayer stated he estimated \$9,800 for the fence based on the \$5/foot DNR recommendation. Bids were as follows: Real Fence, LLC - \$ 9,700 and Straight Line Fence, LLC - \$10,250. Brief discussion followed.

*Motion by Bill Leichtnam to approve and accept the bid for Hemlock Trails Cranberry fence extension project that is most advantageous to the County, which would be the low bid from Real Fence, LLC in the amount of \$9,700. Second by Dave LaFontaine. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

- 7. Adjourn.** Chairperson Curry declared the meeting adjourned 1:00 p.m.

Minutes by Lori Ruess – Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department



## Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Extension

For the period of: October

For the range of vouchers: 30200106 - 30200114

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30200106	POSTMASTER - WISCONSIN RAPIDS	AG MAILING - EXT CENTRAL NEWS	10/06/2020	\$99.03	P
30200107	EO JOHNSON COMPANY INC	COLOR COPIES - OCTOBER 2020	10/06/2020	\$127.56	P
30200108	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	4-H NEWSLETTER - SEPT/OCT 2020	10/06/2020	\$224.18	P
30200109	UW MADISON ACCOUNTING SERVICES	AREA 7 CTY CONTRACT-JULY-DEC20	10/06/2020	\$112,985.59	P
30200110	COUNTRY TODAY THE	THE COUNTRY TODAY SUBSCRIPTION	10/06/2020	\$35.00	P
30200111	WHITEHAIR RACHAEL	WHITEHAIR OCTOBER EXPENSE	10/27/2020	\$403.00	
30200112	UW SOIL TESTING LAB	UW SOIL TESTING CHARGES	10/27/2020	\$180.00	
30200113	VEOLIA ES TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS	CLEAN SWEEP DISPOSAL FEES	10/27/2020	\$5,236.62	
30200114	VEOLIA ES TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS	CLEAN SWEEP LABOR/DISPOSAL FEE	10/27/2020	\$16,979.01	
<b>Grand Total:</b>				<b>\$136,269.99</b>	

### Signatures

Committee Chair:

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Committee Member:

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## Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPT

For the period of: OCTOBER 2020

For the range of vouchers: 18200267 - 18200274

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18200267	PHEASANTS FOREVER	LWC - PRAIRIE SEEDS	09/21/2020	\$315.00	P
18200268	KOLO TRUCKING AND EXCAVATING INC	SWRM - CS - LK STREAMBANK PROT	06/24/2020	\$574.00	P
18200269	REAL FENCE LLC	SWRM - CS - LK STREAMBANK CROS	05/01/2020	\$1,368.36	P
18200270	REBER SUZANNE	SWRM-CS MANURE STORAGE CLOSURE	09/28/2020	\$5,000.00	P
18200271	KEUFFER LUKE	SWRM - CS STREABANK PROTECTION	10/06/2020	\$4,409.91	P
18200272	US BANK	MC - WATER SAMPLING	10/18/2020	\$26.34	
18200273	COPY CONNECTION THE	LWC/MC - CONSERVATION SIGNS	09/29/2020	\$765.00	P
18200274	SEILER INSTRUMENT & MFG CO INC	LWC/WLD/NMM - MGIS TRAINING	10/14/2020	\$300.00	P
<b>Grand Total:</b>				<b>\$12,758.61</b>	

### Signatures

Committee Chair:

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Committee Member:

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## Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning Department

For the period of: October 2020

For the range of vouchers: 22200085 - 22200096 38200007 -  
38200009R

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22200085	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	PS-2nd Septic Mtcs 412 pc	09/29/2020	\$154.38	P
22200086	INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION	PS-State Sanitary Permit(Sept)	09/30/2020	\$1,900.00	P
22200087	CARMODY SOFTWARE INC	PS-Upgrades/Services (Oct)	10/01/2020	\$299.00	P
22200088	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Services Per Contract(Oct)	10/05/2020	\$833.00	P
22200089	POSTMASTER - WISCONSIN RAPIDS	PS-Postage (1st Program Fee)	10/13/2020	\$1,195.10	P
22200090	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	PS-Office Supplies	10/16/2020	\$15.28	P
22200091	US BANK	Credit Card Charges	10/18/2020	\$44.45	
22200092	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	PS-Office Supplies	10/21/2020	\$31.67	
22200093	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	PS-Office Supplies	10/21/2020	\$2.74	
22200094	[REDACTED]	PS-Wis Fund Grant Award	10/23/2020	\$3,335.00	
22200095	[REDACTED]	PS-Wis Fund Grant Award	10/23/2020	\$2,657.00	
22200096	[REDACTED]	PS-Wis Fund Grant Award	10/23/2020	\$3,335.00	
38200007	CITY OF MARSHFIELD	ED-2020 Grant Request-Red Plan	10/07/2020	\$15,000.00	P
38200008	CITY OF MARSHFIELD	ED-2020 Grant Request	10/07/2020	\$2,000.00	P
38200009	CITY OF MARSHFIELD	ED-2020 Grant Request(Airport)	10/09/2020	(Voided)	P
38200009R	SOUTH WOOD CO AIRPORT COMM	ED-2020 Grant Req (Airport)	10/09/2020	\$10,000.00	P
Grand Total:				\$40,802.62	

### Signatures

Committee Chair:

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## **CEED Committee Report**

### ***October 2020***

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#### **LAURA HUBER**

*Extension Wood County, 4-H Program Coordinator*

- Facilitated LEGO Club meeting (4, 11, 18, 25 October)
- Facilitated Art Club meeting (4 and 18 October)
- Helped plan and facilitate WI 4-H Trivia Night (5 and 8 October)
- Continued to work on revising and developing state 4-H policy as part of the WI 4-H Policy Advisory Standing Committee (12 and 26 October)
- Appeared on WDLB AM 1450 with colleagues from Clark and Marathon Counties to talk about National 4-H Week and local programming (6 October)
- Planned and co-led Youth on the Rise (a two-track, bread-baking virtual program for youth) (7, 14, 21, 28 October)
- Participated in the WI 4-H statewide meeting (8 October)
- Planned and facilitated a "Colleague Care & Connect" program our professional organization (Wisconsin Association for Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals) (9 October)
- Assisted in planning WI 4-H Virtual Fall Forum (11, 22, 25, 26, 27 October)
- Attended the Youth Success Coalition meeting (12 October)
- Met with our Associate Dean and other colleagues (12 October)
- Learned about and signed up for an upcoming research program on New 4-H Club Kit program (14 October)
- Contributed to state efforts to offer virtual programs to 4-H and other youth virtually through the WI 4-H Virtual Educational Programming Team (12 and 26 October)
- Appeared on WFHR radio to discuss 4-H programs (15 October)
- Staffed the Wood County Extension office (8, 15, 22, 29 October)
- Assisted in 4-H Club and Group charter review (many dates throughout month)
- Attended the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals Virtual Conference (20-22 October)
- Met with colleagues to brainstorm possibilities for a Winter Camp or Virtual Winter Camp program (28 October)

#### **Special COVID-19 Educational Programs:**

- Worked with clubs to plan, write, submit, and modify in-person meeting proposals for state approval
- Lego Club, a teen-led virtual club. I attend to ensure safety of participants and to support the teen leader
- Art Club, a teen-led virtual club. I attend to ensure safety of participants and to support the teen leader

#### **Ongoing Responsibilities:**

- Working cooperatively with state programs and club leaders and volunteers to address insurance and other logistical questions
- Updated and maintained the Wood County 4-H, WI Facebook page which currently has 884 followers
  - Assisted with maintenance of the Central WI 4-H Shooting Sports Facebook page which has 352 followers

- Updated and maintained the Wood County 4-H Instagram page with currently has 37 followers
- Responded to communications to the office including general questions, 4-H enrollment, planning meetings, etc.
- Ongoing assistance for new leaders and the volunteer background checks

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## **MATT LIPPERT**

*Extension Wood & Clark Counties, Agriculture Agent*

- I interviewed on the Extension hour on WDLB and WFHR radio.
- I assisted with preparing Zoom programs for the dairy program nutrition and genetic presentations to begin in November.
- I answered phone calls about land rent, household pests, weed and plant identification.
- The Extension Central Ag Newsletter went to over 300 area farms in the county.
- I wrote an article for the Wisconsin Farmer on how milk is valued for its protein, instead of fat recently and can farmers feed their cows differently to respond to this.
- I met with the Market Animal Sale Committee, planning for a new year, hopefully with a fair and market sale. There was a market animal sale not sponsored directly by this committee in August. There are many ideas that it might be good to incorporate from that into the fair sale.
- I had one day of furlough.
- I met with the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce Agri-Business Committee and viewed the new training cow that is being utilized to teach delivering calves at Mid State Technical College.
- A new pilot crop insurance program that covers lack of moisture, called Pasture, Rangeland and Forage is available; I have been working on materials about this program. It is a government financed program and potentially a good risk-management tool, paying out \$1.80 for every \$1.00 of farmer premiums over the last twenty years.
- There is a discussion group sponsored by our AED, Jason Hausler on the book by Stephen Covey, "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People." I have been participating in this group.

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## **NANCY TURYK**

*Extension Wood County, Community Development Educator*

### **Economic Development**

- Met bi-weekly with the Wood County economic development recovery group to collaboratively address current topics associated with the economic development recovery, pandemic-related needs and opportunities, and Verso closure. Participated in PPE calls with a sub team of the ED group.
- Shared information about economic recovery business support opportunities by emails, Facebook posts, telephone, and web conferencing conversations primarily with Wood County towns/villages/cities, chambers of commerce, visitor and convention bureaus, Mid-State Technical College, UW-Stevens Point@Marshfield, Ho-Chunk Nation, agricultural staff, Wood County health and planning and zoning departments.
- Met with the USDA Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) facilitating team. Scheduled and facilitated the Wood County REDI economic development and quality of place work groups to continue the development County's REDI plan. The ED work group is currently focusing on developing their goals, timelines, and external partners for the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem initiative. I am helping to coordinate between this sub-team and UW-Madison and Purdue Extension Specialists for guidance on the needed steps and processes to achieve this initiative.



A broadband subgroup has been working on the preparation of grant requests to the PSC for broadband expansion. Reached out to additional partners who may be interested in supporting the effort.

**Energy and Resiliency**

- Provided an educational perspective on solar in the County, noting some of the County's initiatives during a public hearing for the Wood County Solar Project.
- Reviewed materials and programs related to energy efficiency and renewable energy and shared relevant information with Wood County staff.
- Discussed PSC grant opportunities that would provide a detailed assessment of energy use in the courthouse with a UW-Madison Extension Energy Specialist.

**Local Community Initiatives**

- Routinely routed Wood County Health Dept. and other relevant COVID-19 and economic development outreach to town/village/city clerks and REDI team listservs.
- Kept informed about the County by reading county email updates, county committee packets, local newspapers, listening to the County Board and CEED committee meetings, and in discussions with Wood County employees and supervisors.
- Continued to assist a sub-team of CSGCC with the development of a proposal to fund an assessment of existing groundwater quality data and summarize studies that have been conducted in the Central Sands region of the state in the past decades. If funded, the assessment would be conducted by a Post Doc with the WGNHS.

**UW-Madison Division of Extension**

- Participated in virtual meetings with UW-Madison Extension Dean, Community Development Institute, and Wood County staff.
- Facilitated a meeting with the core team working on the development of a community resilience menu through the UW-Madison Extension Climate Change Leadership Team.
- Participated in a regional conversation with UW-Madison Extension Specialist Mark Loudon to learn more about the Plain Clothes community.
- Listened to portions of the Midwest Climate Summit.
- Met with Extension Lakes Water Week Team to provide insight on speakers related to climate change and the water cycle.
- Invited to provide input to the next version of the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts report.
- Took 4.5 days of vacation and one furlough day.

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**ALLISON JONJAK**

*Extension Wood County, Cranberry Outreach Specialist*

- Published final Cranberry Crop Management Journal of 2020, including writing 3 articles
- Handled all harvest-related communications and questions from growers
- Planned, found speakers for, and scheduled November Virtual Brown Bag cranberry meeting to feature a Grower Panel and topics of post-harvest, flood, and winter strategies
- Recorded and released a video interview covering how to address a mid-October cold snap, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwtZtFjma5w>, getting 245 views in 2 days, and generating many phonecalls and emails
- Scheduled and arranged Research Round Table, in cooperation with WSCGA, to give growers and researchers a virtual forum to discuss research priorities for 2021

UW-Madison Division of Extension Wood County CEED Report





- Began planning December Virtual Brown Bag cranberry meeting
- Took one week of vacation to help with family cranberry harvest

## **JACKIE CARATTINI**

*Extension Wood County, Human Development and Family Relationships Educator*

- Attended a mentor/mentee support meeting (this is a monthly check-in)
- Attended HDRI (Human Development and relationships Institute) monthly colleague connect (presented)
- Assisted the United Way of South Wood and Adams County with 2/2, 6/6, 10/10 Check your Credit campaign promotion. Did 3 radio spots on both WDLB and WFHR. Also did social media posts and videos
- Attended a UW-Madison Faculty Senate meeting virtually
- Coordinated and hosted daily "Extension Wellness Moments" and taught 2 sessions in the month of October
- Attended a 4 day "Adult Mental Health First Aid Train the Trainer" training October 13th-16th
- Attended a conversation with Professor Mark Loudon about "Working with Plain People"
- Attended the "Racism is a Public Health Crisis Capacity Building" bi-monthly meeting
- Attended 2 Department of Extension Administrative committee meetings
- Attended a meeting with the Family Development section, as acting secretary
- Taught 2 sessions of the October Virtual Rent Smart program (this is a monthly 6 session series and I teach/co-pilot 2 sessions per month)
- Launched and taught a 8-week series of "Taking Care of You-Highlights" in partnership with Childcaring for childcare providers. The series runs October 14- November 25th on Wednesdays at 7pm
- Attended virtual coalition meetings with United Way of South Wood and Adams County (Financial Stability Coalition and Early Years Coalition)
- Attended a planning meeting for the upcoming "Heart of the Farm" series
- Attended weekly meetings to present recently authored module on Advanced Directives for a new pre-planning for the loss of a loved one curriculum. (met with publishing about graphic editing) The launch of the curriculum has now been pushed to the Spring of 2021 due to need for edits and production of materials
- Attended the "Trends in Housing Affordability Training". This is a monthly series that focuses on affordable housing
- Attended a NEAFCS Public Affairs committee meeting
- Attended the state Youth Mental Health team meeting
- Attended weekly meetings of the "Stress and Coping Team" about new curriculum
- Attended the virtual Health Aging Wood County Meeting

### **Attended multiple zooms on:**

- Department of Extension Administrative Committee
- Extension Wellness moments (M-W-F at 8:15am and T-Th at 12:15pm)
- Financial Education in the time of COVID
- Racism as a Public Health Crisis weekly series
- Taking Care of You- Highlights
- Rent Smart Team virtual learning
- Pre-planning for the death of a loved one team



- Life Span program check-in
- Free Throw Fridays (institute weekly Zoom)
- Institute meetings on changes and programming
- Behavioral Health team meeting
- Department/Institute and Associate Dean monthly check-ins
- Weekly stress and coping team meetings

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## **HANNAH WENDELS & KELLY HAMMOND**

*Extension Wood County, FoodWise Nutrition Educator and Coordinator*

- Began teaching virtual elementary school lessons in Wood County for 5th grade classes at Mead and Howe, classes begin 10/20 and run for 4 weeks (Hannah, 10/20)
- Planning lessons/material for indirect education virtual lessons to be sent to the 5th grade students in Wood County who are learning from home all year in the WRPS system (Hannah, 10/16)
- Began co-teaching a StrongBodies class in both Wood and Portage County that is completely virtual and includes nutrition education as well as strength building (Hannah, 10/19)
- Completed work on an adult curriculum workgroup – Seniors Eating Well – revamping lessons for virtual and phone education lessons, will present to State FoodWise team in November (Hannah, 10/19)
- Had conversation with the South Wood County YMCA to plan for youth programming on nutrition education beginning in the next calendar year (Hannah & Kelly, 10/30)
- Completed the Summary Probation Evaluation for Hannah's 1 year of working with Extension and FoodWise (Hannah & Kelly, 10/28)
- Continue work with "Physical Activity/Nutrition for Colleagues in FoodWise" workgroup (ongoing, Hannah)
- Kelly will be on maternity leave starting early November, Jill Sanders the Regional Program Manager for FoodWise North State will be the point of contact for coordinator questions until her return (Kelly)
- Hannah approved to 1.0 FTE status began October 1st (Hannah)
- Kelly approved to 0.8 FTE status began October 1st (Kelly)
- Attend virtual FoodWise North Region check in calls (ongoing, Hannah & Kelly, Tuesdays)
- Attend virtual FoodWise State check in calls (ongoing, Hannah & Kelly, every other Tuesday)
- Attend virtual Wood County Extension check in calls (ongoing, Hannah & Kelly, Mondays)
- Attend virtual Extension Area 7 check in calls (ongoing, Hannah & Kelly, every other Wednesday)

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## **RACHAEL WHITEHAIR**

*Extension Wood County, Natural Resources Educator*

- Aided the CSGCC with developing an Outreach Plan for a Joint Solicitation funded grant proposal to conduct a groundwater gap analysis in the Central Sands Region (October 1)
- Interviewed a Wood Co. farmer using drone technology to broadcast cover crops to develop a video for the FMCWC Facebook page. (October 5)
- Met with NRE colleagues and the evaluation team to discuss possible connections between ongoing producer-led focused evaluation projects and how to collaborate to meet multiple stakeholder interests (October 5)





- Met with the 14-Mile Watershed Committee to assist with a grant proposal for continued water monitoring throughout the watershed (October 5)
- Attended a presentation by Mark louden and discussion with Area 7 colleagues regarding Amish culture and how to best address their needs through programming (October 6)
- Developed an educational video for FMWC, included an interview of Wood County farmers discussing their use of no-till and cover crop practices (October 7-22)
- Hosted weekly NRE coffee zoom to catch up with colleagues and collaborate across program areas (October 9,16,23)
- Hosted the monthly 14-mile watershed meeting via zoom (October 12)
- Met with John Exo as the first of monthly ongoing meetings to collaborate on program areas, primarily related to groundwater (October 13)
- Conducted a training for 14-mile committee members interested in using Youtube as a social media platform for outreach and education (October 13)
- Continued development of a survey to Extension colleagues in the Ag and Natural Resource insititutes to catalogue work done with producer-led groups; this is part of a larger evaluation to improve efficacy and success of producer-led programming throughout the state (October 15)
- Contacted multiple potential speakers and solidified speakers and content for the 2020 Central WI Farm Profitability Expo (October 19)
- Attended monthly GOLD (Guardians of Lake Decorah) meeting to assist with outreach material development (October 19)
- Presented to the Citizens Groundwater Group on programming related to surface and groundwater protection (October 19)
- Assisted the 14-mile watershed committee with developing a showing of the film “Kiss the Ground” (October 22)
- Attended PACRS meeting to advertise the showing of “Kiss the Ground” hosted by the 14-mile watershed committee (October 23)
- Met with NRE colleagues to discuss a proposal on the social dimenstions of watershed management for a presentation at the upcoming 2021 Water Week conference (October 23)
- Met with Northeastern WI regional producer-led network colleague to discuss recent field day events and ideas for future events and evaluation (October 26)
- Attended the American Evaluation Association Virtual Conference as professional development to improve evaluation techniques and assist development of ongoing evaluation projects (October 27-30)
- Attended EPPIC advisory panel meeting to stay updated on programming and assist where needed (October 27)

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## **JANELL WEHR**

*Extension Marathon & Wood Counties, Horticulture Educator*

- Launched pilot of Foundations in Horticulture, which will replace Level 1 Master Gardener training. Working as one of six facilitators leading 148 prospective Master Gardener volunteers. This program will be delivered in Wood County fall of 2021. One of the benefits of the new model is regardless of recruitment in Wood County, the educational foundational course will be offered yearly through a statewide system. In 2019, only two people signed up for “Level 1 Training” which did not meet a minimum threshold to warrant resources for the 13 week program.



- Met with Wood County Master Gardener Diagnostic team to review what went well and how to improve “Ask a Master Gardener” in which county residents gain evidence based information relating to horticultural inquiries. This past summer, the team’s response to pandemic conditions was nimble and they were able to continue their service to the community.
- Created a shared Google Drive for WCMGV to store files and collaborate on initiatives, including diagnostics
- Continue to update the WCMG Volunteers on changes coming to the Master Gardener Program
- Answer horticulture inquiries from county residents

## **Activities Report for Adam Groshek – October 2020**

### **Land and Water Resource Management Program/Animal Waste Storage Ordinance/CREP Activities:**

- ~Working with Wood County landowners for 4 new CREP contracts, environmental benefits reporting, and GIS updating to close out 2020 CREP fiscal year.
- ~Site checks at various CREP sites that were newly planted, managed, or maintained within the last year.
- ~Krings CREP/WRP grazing plan discussions with landowner, NRCS, and DATCP.
- ~With the end of the growing season, moving Kashen's streambank repair project to 2021. It is not expected to be able to construct a long-term solution in 2020.
- ~No-till drill calls, discussions, scheduling, and coordination with different LWCD employees to rent out to various Wood and Portage County landowners for planting/crop interseeding and cover crop planting.
- ~Manure pit abandonment planning for the Hayden family. As of now plan is to abandon pit before winter.
- ~Final asbuilt site-check to verify planted vegetation growth and GPS survey for the Reber manure storage facility abandonment.
- ~Enos Yoder manure storage abandonment planning, survey, design, bid document prep, and bid papers mailed out. To open/approve at November CEED meeting. Landowner is hoping to complete project this fall.
- ~Continued distribution and acceptance of Nitrate Water sample testing along with the Wood County Health Department lab.
- ~Discussion with Travis Marti on plans for an additional manure storage lagoon in 2021 to allow a doubling of his dairy milking herd.
- ~Site visit, asbuilts, and final construction approval for Gerald Tomfohrde well abandonment near Vesper.
- ~Response to complaint of farm equipment crossing intermittent stream and getting stuck/causing damage to streambed. Shane and I discussed with landowner and producer, resulting in a plan to install an official State approved rock re-inforced stream crossing to allow farm field access while preserving the intermittent streambed. Will survey and start plan design upon my return from paternity leave.
- ~Helping write/edit LWCD fall newsletter articles, especially with an update to the no-till drill rental use in 2020.
- ~Paternity leave of approximately 2 weeks to start any day now for our baby girl, due date is Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, but it could be any day.

Caleb Armstrong  
Staff Report for October

- Assisted Rod on wildlife damage appraisals for Krohen's corn.
- Assisted Rod on wildlife damage appraisals for Ron Knuth's corn, soybeans, and alfalfa.
- Worked with Al Weiler on cost-share for cover crops along with getting involved in nutrient management.
- Worked on Al Weiler nutrient management plan, along with designing test plots for soil samples to be taken on his fields.
- Worked on Golden Acres nutrient management plan for cropping.
- Worked on creating and designing soil sample maps for testing for Golden Acres for needed samples for their nutrient management plan for 2020.
- Manually implemented soil samples into Golden Acres nutrient management from 2013-2015 so we could get a better understanding for the land and nutrients being applied.
- Did our monthly water sampling on the Mill Creek Watershed to sample for phosphorus and suspended solids.
- Assisted Adam on an abandoned well closure, and GPS the foundation of it.
- Assisted Shane on GPS mapping of Luke Kuefer's cost-shared fence.
- Started working on Luke Kuefer's nutrient management plan for 2021, along with getting his soil sample maps ready.
- Gather information on rotational grazing and plan on implementing this program into 2021 for LWCD.
- Did a no-till check on Jason Behrend's farm for his interseeded rye into corn, and sorghum into hay/pasture fields.
- Did a no-till check on Charlie Dorhorst's farm for his interseeded winter rye into cut corn. Worked with him on getting different cover crops established into his plant next year for earlier production along with breaking up compaction.
- Attended online webinar/training for rotational grazing cattle and breaking them into paddocks.
- Attended online webinar for erosion control along stream banks and waterways.
- Attended nutrient management meeting where we plan out our classes for 2021 with relating to Covid-19 policy.

## Activities Report for Emily Salvinski

### October 2020

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- **Wednesday, October 7.** Made a 9-key contract for farmer and set up a meeting.
- **Thursday, October 8.** Attended staff meeting. Field checked cover crop with Caleb. Prepped new field maps for meeting with farmer.
- **Monday, October 12.** Met with farmer in Mill Creek Watershed to sign contract and pick up no-till drill.
- **Tuesday, October 13.** Edited cost-share tracking database/excel files.
- **Wednesday, October 14.** Met with farmer to go over cost-share options.
- **Thursday, October 22.** Met with farmer to finish up nutrient management plan. Field checked cover crops. Wrote up contract for farmer, mapped into database.
- **Friday, October 23.** Wrote up contract for farmer in Mill Creek, mapped into database.
- **Tuesday, October 27.** Water sampling in the Mill Creek Watershed at 8 locations.

### ***Activities Report for Lori Ruess – October 2020***

- Answered phones and replied to emails
- Deposited checks for no-till drill and AWO permits.
- Reviewed general ledger.
- Reviewed payroll reports and payroll registers.
- Completed September sales tax report and forwarded to Finance.
- Completed cost-share contract for manure storage closure - Yoder
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the October 8, and October 22 payrolls.
- Started working on the Fall Conservation Connection newsletter.
- Put together the 2021 tree and shrub order form and updated tree and shrub software program.
- Completed change order and cost-share reimbursement and submitted reimbursement request to DATCP – manure storage closure.
- Completed change order and cost-share reimbursement and submitted reimbursement request to DATCP – streambank protection and & crossing.
- Completed employee benefits open enrollment lunch & learn.
- Assisted Rod Mayer with Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims third quarter reimbursement request.
- Completed Enos Yoder's bid letters for closure of his manure storage facility and assisted Adam Groshek with assembling and mailing the bid packets.
- Attended the October 8<sup>th</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup> staff meetings.
- Meeting with Shane Wucherpennig to review budgets and determine if any cuts could be made to the LWCD tax levy. We were able to reduce the LWCD tax levy budget by 5%.
- Reviewed 2020 budget and calculated estimated amount that will be unused year-end.
- Water Overview of Central Sands Lakes Study webinar – 1<sup>st</sup> presentation in a series.
- Organized County Board packet and submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Electronically submitted staff reports and packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the November CEED packet.

## ***Activities Report for Rod Mayer***

### ***OCTOBER 2020***

- Process Knuth appraisals (2 corn fields) to DNR database – damage maps.
- Review Ceyress FA letter for non-metallic mine.
- Correspondence with DNR for fence builds (6M & Hemlock Trails).
- Update non-metallic inspections list for this year.
- Completed GPS training – over phone.
- Received/delivered deer donation binders to Pittsville Meats and J&S Processing.
- Raikowski corn appraisal – field, process paperwork, create maps, DNR database.
- Knuth soybean appraisals on five fields – alfalfa on two fields. Field appraisal, process paperwork, create maps, DNR database.
- Records request for listing of bidders in mailing.
- Knuth corn appraisals on two fields. Field appraisal, process paperwork, create maps, DNR database.
- Contact APHIS, DNR, and Knuth to discuss bear damage found in one field.
- Site visit at Fanning Cranberry mine site to discuss going forward with owner.
- Scan send existing reclamation plan to Brad Tork for Fanning Pit for needed changes in future amendment.
- Site visit with contractor (Real Fence) for fence builds. (6M Cranberry and Hemlock Trails projects)
- Site visit with contractor (Badger State) for fence builds. (6M Cranberry & Hemlock Trails projects)
- Additional ag tags for Tom Arnold.
- Forms for bid opening on fence projects.
- Krohn corn appraisal. Field appraisal, process paperwork, damage maps, DNR database.
- Complete crop prices spreadsheet and average for damage appraisals.
- Review Ledger Deer Park Campground pond exemption.
- Create deer donation poster.
- DNR correspondence on Northern Frac/Marti mine site.
- Update 2021 NMM inspection/fee spreadsheet – ready for inspections.
- Bid opening for fence projects. Prepare final bid summary, letters to two contractors, and letters to two owners for acceptance of bids.
- Contact operators for Non-metallic mine inspections – for 57 mine sites.
- Began Non-metallic mine site inspections.



*Activities Report for Shane Wucherpfennig – October, 2020*

- **October 1** – ArcGIS virtual training, CSGCC meeting to discuss the State of Wisconsin Joint Solicitation for Groundwater Research and Monitoring grants.
- **October 2** – Met with County Conservationist Ed Hernandez from Waushara County on the Joint Solicitation Grant Outreach plan.
- **October 5**– Met with FSA to sign contracts for CREP.
- **October 6** – Joint Solicitation Grant Outreach plan. Field work in the afternoon.
- **October 7** – CEED Meeting, Budget Discussion with Finance and Department heads.
- **October 8**– Staff Meeting, CSGCC meeting to discuss the State of Wisconsin Joint Solicitation for Groundwater Research and Monitoring grants.
- **October 9** – Emails, Staff updates, Phone Calls and correspondence, Zoom Meeting.
- **October 12** – Phone calls, emails and correspondence. Field work.
- **October 13** – Worked on State of Wisconsin Joint Solicitation Outreach plan.
- **October 14** – Zoom meeting on State of Wisconsin grants.
- **October 15** – Virtual CSGCC meeting to discuss the State of Wisconsin Joint Solicitation for Groundwater Research and Monitoring grants.
- **October 16** – Phone calls, emails and correspondence. NM fall Planning meeting in Spencer.
- **October 19** – Field work, WebEx meeting invitation: Citizens (Wood County) Groundwater Group
- **October 20** – Special CEED Meeting, ArcGIS projects.
- **October 21** - Maps for contracts, emails and correspondence. Field work.
- **October 22** – Field visit to Chester Eron Site to contract for Cover crops. Emails, Phone Calls and correspondence.
- **October 23** - PACRS Meeting, Outreach plan. Field work
- **October 26** – Field visits, mapping and landowner contacts.
- **October 27** – Emails, Phone correspondence, site surveying and mapping.
- **October 28** – Worked on GPS connection issues, Maps for contracts, emails and correspondence.
- **October 29** – Worked on Job Performance evaluation for Director of Land & Water.
- **October 30** - Emails, Phone Calls and correspondence, Staff reports and CEED meeting preparation. Worked remotely.



TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director  
Adam DeKleyn, County Planner  
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator  
Jeff Brewbaker, Code Administrator  
Kim Keech, Admin Services 5  
Victoria Wilson, Admin Services 4

RE: Staff Report for November 4, 2020

## **1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)**

- a. Broadband Exploratory Group – On October 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the Wood County Broadband Exploratory Group Meetings. I have been designated as the County point of contact for the Public Service Commission grant application that will be submitted by December 1, 2020. The application will be submitted by Hilbert Communications, LLC (Bug Tusel Wireless).
- b. Planning & Zoning Code Technician – The Code Technician position has been filled, and the new employee is Scott Custer who worked for La Crosse County for 7 years. His first day will be November 12<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Wood County Economic Development Roundtable – On October 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, I facilitated Wood County Economic Development Roundtable meetings. Notes from those meetings are included as attachments to this report.
- d. Heart of Wisconsin Empower Meeting – On October 28<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the Heart of Wisconsin Empower Committee meeting. Some of the items discussed included hosting a future job fair, teen leadership opportunities, and the Business Education Alliance.
- e. Central Wisconsin Economic Development (CWED) Fund – On October 29<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the CWED Board of Directors' meeting. Some of the items covered included the 2021 budget, review of financials, coordination of strategic planning, and the fund administrator's report.

## **2. Planning (Adam DeKleyn)**

- a. Land Subdivision - Plat Review – CSM: (6) CSMs were submitted for review/approval. (7) CSMs were approved/recorded. (5) CSMs are pending approval. SUBDIVISION: (1) Final subdivision plat submitted for review/approval – Hidden Chapel Subdivision, Town of Saratoga, 12 lots.
- b. Town of Grand Rapids Comprehensive Plan – Natural, Agricultural, & Cultural Resources element was prepared and presented at last PC meeting. Economic Development element is being prepared for next PC meeting.

- c. City of Marshfield Water Quality Management (WQM)/Sewer Service Area (SSA) Plan Update – Attended the Plan Advisory Committee (PAC). PAC approved the updated 2040 SSA plan and boundary. Next step is for PC and City Council approval. P&Z is the designated administrative agent for SSA reviews and amendments.
- d. WI County Planning Directors Meeting – Attended the WCPD meeting to discuss the siting of large solar facilities. The group proposed a regulatory approach with proactive requirements that consider local concerns and land use impacts. The proposal will be forwarded on to WCA.
- e. Zoning – Continuing to update all town zoning GIS data to allow for better use, consistency and efficiency in county and town operations as well as public use. New zoning maps will be prepared for all towns.
- f. Town/County Planning and Zoning Assistance – Provided planning and zoning assistance to the general public and town officials. Multiple community survey summaries have been posted to the P&Z website: <https://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/PZ/CommunitySurveys.aspx>
- g. COVID-19 Operational Planning – Working remotely in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. County Planner functions and programs will remain operational as normal. I will be available by phone: (715) 421-8568 or email: adekleyn@co.wood.wi.us.

### 3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- a. HTTPS Protocol – moving web resources to use the https protocol, this is very important, our web services will not work if not moved to use this protocol.
- b. New/Existing Tie Sheets – continuing to improve the workflow for new and existing tie sheets – allowing for much quicker turn-around times in integrating new tie sheets to our existing systems.
- c. Grant Applications – Applying to two separate grants – one for COVID-19 relief and one for Next Generation 911, this will hopefully end up in us acquiring software to help in the next generation 911 migration as well as give us a little more funding for more GIS-specific endeavors.
- d. Parks/Forestry Maps – helping the Parks/Forestry Department create a stronger data base that will allow for new maps and web applications.
- e. Parcel Mapping – Mapping new parcels into the tax parcel database.

### 4. Code Administrator's (Jeff Brewbaker)

09-29-2020 – Inspection replacement mound A+0 plow TN: 02; plan review, soils evaluation & issued replacement mound <24" TN: 15

09-30-2020 – Inspection replacement mound A+0 absorption cell TN: 02; inspection

replacement convention tank & absorption cell TN: 19; inspection flood proofed structure for insurance purposes TN: 07

10-01-2020 – Inspection replacement mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 17; issued renewal mound <24" TN: 10; issued shoreland >300' to Ross Lake TN: 18; inspection new holding tank TN: 15

10-02-2020 – Shoreland after the fact permit request TN: 10; issued shoreland permit (recreational swimming pond) TN: 18; plan review, soils evaluation & issued new mound <24" TN: 13; soils evaluation replacement mound A+0 TN: 10; soils evaluation replacement mound <24" TN: 04

10-05-2020 – Soils evaluation new holding tank TN: 03; inspection replacement mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 19; issued renewal mound <24" TN: 19

10-06-2020 – Inspection replacement mound A+0 plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 11; inspection replacement mound A+0 tank TN: 02; soils onsite holding tank violation & shoreland violation investigation TN: 11; inspection replacement holding tank TN: 15

10-07-2020 – Inspection new mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 08; inspection replacement mound A+0 plow TN: 17

10-08-2020 – Inspection replacement mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 06; inspection replacement HT TN: 10; inspection replacement mound A+0 tank & absorption cell TN: 17

10-09-2020 – Inspection new mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 01; inspection replacement HT TN: 21; inspection replacement HT TN: 10; soils onsite, soils evaluation inspection shoreland & floodplain TN: 19

10-12-2020 – Completed total dynamic head calculations for mound inspections on 10-08 & 10-09

10-13-2020 – Inspection new mound A+0 plow TN: 16; soils evaluation, plan review & issued replacement mound <24" TN: 07; inspection new conventional tank & absorption cell TN: 07

10-14-2020 – Inspection new mound <24" plow & absorption cell TN: 22; inspection new mound <24" absorption cell TN: 16; inspection new conventional tank & absorption cell TN: 07; inspection reconstruct mound A+0 absorption cell TN: 16

10-15-2020 – Inspection replacement mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 07; soils evaluation, hydrograph, plan review & issued new conventional (Assembly Hall) TN: 18

10-16-2020 – Inspection replacement mound A+0 plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 15; inspection new mound <24" plow TN: 02; inspection new mound <24" plow TN: 11

10-19-2020 – Inspection new mound <24" absorption cell TN: 02

10-20-2020 – Soils evaluation replacement mound A+0 TN: 10; inspection replacement

conventional tank & absorption cell TN: 18; inspection new HT TN: 15; plan review & issued replacement mound <24" TN: 04

10-21-2020 – Soils evaluation, plan review & issued new mound <24 TN: 22; soils evaluation, hydrograph, plan review & issued new conventional TN: 13; soils onsite shoreland, floodplain & wetlands TN: 16

10-22-2020 – Issued new mound A+0 (GeoMat) TN: 03; soils evaluation, hydrograph, plan review & issued new conventional TN: 07; soils evaluation, hydrograph, plan review & issued replacement conventional TN: 07

10-23-2020 – Soils evaluation, plan review & issued replacement conventional TN: 13; soils evaluation, hydrograph, plan review & issued replacement conventional TN: 07; soils onsite TN: 07

10-26-2020 – Inspection new mound <24" plow, tank & absorption cell TN: 13; soils evaluation, hydrograph, plan review & issued replacement conventional TN: 07

10-27-2020 – Plan review & issued replacement HT TN: 02; plan review & issued new mound A+0 TN: 16; inspection new conventional tank & absorption cell TN: 18; inspection new conventional tank & absorption cell TN: 18

## **5. Office Activity (Kim Keech and Victoria Wilson)**

- a. Monthly Sanitary Permit Activity – There were 20 sanitary permits issued in September 2020 (9 New, 10 Replacements, 1 Reconnects and 0 Non-Plumbing) with revenues totaling \$12,200. There were 21 sanitary permits issued in September 2019 (7 New, 10 Replacements, 1 Reconnects and 3 Non-Plumbing) with revenues totaling \$7,600.

*\*New fees went into effect September 1, 2019.*

There were 150 sanitary permits issued through September 2020. For comparison purposes, the following are through the same period for the previous five years: 2019 – 138, 2018 – 135, 2017 – 142, 2016 – 127 and 2015 – 140.

- b. 2020 Tax Refund Intercept Program (TRIP) – As of October 28<sup>th</sup>, Wood County received an additional \$1,205.00 for a total of \$8,780.47 on thirteen (13) outstanding cases for 2020.
- c. 2020 Maintenance Notices – Septic Maintenance Notices, ATU (Aerobic) Maintenance Notices, White Knight (Aerobic) Maintenance Notices and Farmer Exempt Holding Tank Maintenance Notices are scheduled to be mailed approximately Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> with a due date of Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. There were 2,583 mailed between the four notices. Septic maintenance 2<sup>nd</sup> reminders were mailed on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. There were 412 2<sup>nd</sup> reminder postcards mailed. As of October 28<sup>th</sup>, there are 154 septic systems that have not completed servicing for 2020. The Corporation Counsel letters (3<sup>rd</sup> reminders) are tentatively scheduled to be mailed on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

- d. 2020 Program Fee Notices – There are 4,622 program fee notices mailed on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> with a payment due date of Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The \$25 program fee can be paid online with an e-check, debit card or credit card. There will be a convenience fee if making payment by e-check, debit card or credit card. The \$25 program fee can also be paid by cash or check.
- e. Enforcement Activities Update (Small Claims) – None scheduled.
- f. Wisconsin Fund Grant Program – 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, the 2017 biennial budget act, repealed, effective June 30, 2021 the Wisconsin Fund Grant Program for failing septic systems. 2019 Wisconsin Assembly Bill 791 delayed the elimination of the Wisconsin Fund Grant Program to June 30, 2023 passed on February 18, 2020. 2019 Wisconsin Senate Bill 791 was scheduled for consideration late March but has not been considered due to COVID-19. No extension yet for the Wisconsin Fund Grant Program. Office Staff continues to take applications for the program.
  - i. (3) Wisconsin Fund Applications FY2021 – Wood County payment request has been submitted to the State of Wisconsin. Payment Request #1 was submitted on 9/03/2020. Payment Request #2 (final) was submitted on 9/11/2020. There was a delay from the State of Wisconsin in releasing the grant funds to the counties. The Wisconsin Fund Grant from the State of Wisconsin was received on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Wood County disbursement is expected Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. (4) Wisconsin Fund Applications FY2022 – Office Staff continue to accept Wisconsin Fund Grant Applications pending passage of 2019 Wisconsin Senate Bill 791.
- g. Sanitary Permit Database System Project – The next phase for the sanitary permit system database will consist of creating a service provider and comments interface. Information Technology Department continues work on the design phase of the project.
- h. Survey Document Indexing Project – There are over 4,000 survey documents that are being indexed with a tentative completion by the end of 2021.
- i. ArcGIS Software Project – Editing addresses in 22 townships.
- j. Kim attended the following meetings/trainings:
  - i. CEED Committee Meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. Citizens (Wood County) Groundwater Group on October 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - iii. Wellness Committee Meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- k. Victoria attended the following meetings/trainings:
  - i. Economic Development Meeting (COVID-19 Recovery) on October 8<sup>th</sup> & October 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - ii. Personal Protective Equipment Meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

## 2020 STATEWIDE and LOCAL CROP PRICES

MONTH	FIELD CORN	SOYBEANS	ALFALFA
Jan.	\$ 3.67	\$ 8.63	\$ 193.00
Feb.	\$ 3.68	\$ 8.45	\$ 170.67
Mar.	\$ 3.54	\$ 8.30	\$ 169.67
Apr.	\$ 3.32	\$ 8.13	\$ 161.67
May.	\$ 3.32	\$ 8.13	\$ 158.67
Jun.	\$ 3.35	\$ 8.19	\$ 158.00
Jul.	\$ 3.30	\$ 8.36	\$ 157.00
Aug.	\$ 3.02	\$ 8.57	\$ 157.33
Sep.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 154.00
Oct.	\$ 3.54	\$ 9.52	\$ 188.94
Nov.	\$ 3.59	\$ 9.73	\$ -
Dec.	\$ 3.67	\$ 9.82	\$ -
Total	\$ 37.99	\$95.84	\$ 1,668.94
	total/11	total/11	total/10
<b>Price</b>	<b>\$3.45</b>	<b>\$8.71</b>	<b>\$ 166.89</b>
	per bushel	per bushel	per ton

\* Wisconsin Farm Reporter  
 \* USDA-National Ag Statistics Services  
 \* USDA-APHIS  
 \* Ace Ethanol - Stanley  
 \* Agweb  
 \*ADM - Stevens Point  
 \* Wood County UW  
 \* UW Team Forage - Hay Report  
 \*Wisconsin Corn Growers Association (Wis. Rapids)  
 \* Provision Partners - Auburndale  
 \*Marquis Grain - Necedah Ethanol  
 \*Marathon Feed and Grain LLC -

## CITIZENS (WOOD COUNTY) GROUNDWATER GROUP MEETING

DATE: Monday, October 19, 2020  
TIME: 2:00 p.m.  
LOCATION: Teleconference via WebEx

**Present:** Ray Bossert, Bill Clendenning, Bruce Dimick, Nancy Eggleston, Tamas Houlihan, Kim Keech, Bill Leichtnam, Jen McNelly, Allison Werner, Rachael Whitehair and Shane Wucherpfennig.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Bill Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Speaker: Rachael Whitehair (Natural Resource Educator for Wood County/Central Sands Region, UW-Madison Extension – “Nitrate Reduction”**  
Highlights of the presentation:
  - Non-Point Source Pollution: Nitrogen and Phosphorus
  - The Watershed Approach: All who are involved or affected are at the table. Empower people to address environmental issues is the goal. A change in attitude then a change in behavior leads to environmental impact.
  - The Farmer-Farmer Education Model: Perceived practice characteristics. Trust is a huge factor
  - The Multiplier Affect: Creating Opportunities for Attitude Change such as Got clean water?, Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council, Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards, 14 Mile Watershed, Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo.
  - Local: Central WI Farm Profitability Expo – Our Mission: Working to encourage profitability farming by building resiliency, diversifying farming operations, reducing inputs, and increasing farmer’s return on investment.
  - State: Process-based evaluation of farmer-led councils
  - Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGCC) prepares Groundwater Gap Analysis: Focused review and study of existing data. Develop guidance of optional practices.
  - What you can do? Stay involved and informed. Spread the word about learning opportunities. Be an advocate for conservation and conservation farming.
4. **Correspondence/Updates/Handouts/Reports:**  
Bill Leichtnam shared the following at the meeting:
  - A. “High Water now, but prepare for normal and dry times” by Waushara Argus website link: <https://www.wausharaargus.com/high-water-now-prepare-normal-and-dry-times?fbclid=IwAR3N36h7oSLEBPRJpV1vGAgGd8ewWNuzqRe7kucnLMA9NsDb83n-4MnDU4s>
  - B. Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGCC) – Grant funds are being applied for. Phase 1 – GAP Analysis (outreach plan). Phase 2 – Implementation (“boots on the ground”).
  - C. Bruce Dimick shared the following three presentation highlights:
    - “Groundwater Outreach, Management, and Data Collection” by Kevin Masarik, UWSP
    - “Hydrogeology of Wisconsin” by Maureen Muldoon of Wisconsin Geology & Natural History Survey
    - “Columbia County Groundwater & Rural Drinking Water Testing and Education Program” by Kathleen Haas, Associate Professor & Community Development Educator UW–Madison Extension
  - D. WCA Virtual Workshop “Large Livestock Siting – Where do we go from here?” website link: <https://www.wicounties.org/uploads/EventMaterials/10-19-livestock-siting.pdf>
  - E. WCA Virtual Workshops website link: <https://www.wicounties.org/events/#past-event-materials>
5. **Action Items:**
  - A. Next Steps  
What should we do? How do we proceed? Where do we go from here?

- B. Protecting our ground & surface water with or without legislative support  
Continue to elevate water issues by educating citizens on clean water. Raise awareness to the community.

6. **Roundtable**

- A. Bill Clendenning – Introduced Allison Werner of River Alliance.
- B. Allison Werner – Policy and Advocacy Director of River Alliance
- C. Bruce Dimick – Recommends reading a book by Erin Brockovich titled “Superman’s Not Coming: Our National Water Crisis and What WE THE PEOPLE Can Do About It”.
- D. Nancy Eggelston – NR151 Rule Changes for Nitrate Technical Advisory Committee has been meeting. Public Hearings will be announced shortly.
- E. Rachael Whitehair – Suggests helping the 14 Mile Creek Watershed host the movie “Kiss the Ground”. This is currently available on Netflix. The movie time and date will be announced shortly.

7. **Announcements of members / visitors (upcoming parallel events / meetings)** Announcements shared throughout the meeting.

Bruce Dimick announced that George Kraft is presenting “Record Rain, The Hydro-illogical Cycle: It’s a Busy Time in Water” webinar on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.

YouTube Live Stream: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=unlYB8CxA7Y&feature=youtu.be>

Website link: <https://www.winchesterwaupaca.org/>

8. **Future Speakers:**

November – Don Ystad, 14 Mile Creek Watershed of Town of Rome  
December – River Alliance

9. **Agenda Items for next meeting**

Agenda items should be submitted to Bill Leichtnam.

10. **Next Meeting** Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. (VIRTUAL)

11. **Adjourn Groundwater Group Meeting** Bill Leichtnam adjourned @ 3:44 p.m.

Notes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office



**WISCONSIN FUND GRANT PROGRAM TRENDS  
WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
FY1986 - FY2021**

FISCAL YEAR	NUMBER OF APPLICANTS	TOTAL RECEIVED	AVERAGE GRANT RECEIVED	APPLICATION FEES	AVERAGE GRANT AFTER FEES
1986	57	\$79,400	\$1,393	\$0	\$1,393
1987	59	\$106,196	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,800
1988	56	\$95,915	\$1,713	\$0	\$1,765
1989	48	\$78,067	\$1,626	\$0	\$1,626
1990	49	\$86,675	\$1,769	\$0	\$1,769
1991	85	\$163,741	\$1,926	\$10,899	\$1,798
1992	99	\$224,425	\$2,267	\$14,518	\$2,120
1993	84	\$152,563	\$1,816	\$10,227	\$1,694
1994	65	\$114,678	\$1,764	\$8,560	\$1,633
1995	45	\$97,964	\$2,177	\$6,489	\$2,033
1996	71	\$135,265	\$1,905	\$9,675	\$1,769
1997	44	\$92,096	\$2,093	\$7,831	\$1,915
1998	57	\$115,209	\$2,021	\$5,947	\$1,917
1999	29	\$85,174	\$2,937	\$4,382	\$2,786
2000	41	\$106,311	\$2,593	\$5,859	\$2,450
2001	30	\$88,387	\$2,946	\$4,446	\$2,798
2002	30	\$109,964	\$3,665	\$4,459	\$3,517
2003	26	\$72,474	\$2,787	\$3,831	\$2,640
2004	20	\$72,465	\$3,623	\$3,000	\$3,473
2005	34	\$117,117	\$3,445	\$5,060	\$3,296
2006	18	\$49,885	\$2,771	\$2,621	\$2,626
2007	25	\$82,237	\$3,289	\$3,750	\$3,139
2008	21	\$72,852	\$3,469	\$3,117	\$3,321
2009	24	\$81,643	\$3,402	\$3,370	\$3,261
2010	32	\$122,353	\$3,824	\$4,800	\$3,674
2011	23	\$72,428	\$3,149	\$3,239	\$3,008
2012	27	\$73,921	\$2,738	\$3,989	\$2,590
2013	28	\$69,738	\$2,491	\$3,871	\$2,352
2014	17	\$63,821	\$3,754	\$2,400	\$3,613
2015	15	\$68,965	\$4,598	\$2,141	\$4,455
2016	11	\$45,371	\$4,125	\$1,650	\$3,975
2017	12	\$19,119	\$1,593	\$1,350	\$1,481
2018	4	\$15,799	\$3,950	\$600	\$3,800
2019	7	\$33,582	\$4,797	\$1,050	\$4,647
2020	5	\$25,360	\$5,072	\$750	\$4,922
2021	3	\$9,327	\$3,109	\$450	\$2,959
<b>TOTALS</b>	1,301	\$3,100,487	\$102,399	\$144,331	\$98,015
<b>AVG/YR</b>	36	\$86,125	\$2,844	\$4,009	\$2,723
Note: Wood Co entered into the Wis Fund Grant Program, effective 1/15/85, with passage of Co Board Resolution #11.					
Note: 1994 was a 'short year' due to a change of the deadline date of submitting applications from May 31st to January 31st.					
SOURCE: WOOD COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING OFFICE					

Via: Teleconference

Jason Grueneberg, Wood County Planning & Zoning Director, as facilitator

In Attendance: Matt McLean-Director-Visit Marshfield; Nancy Turyk-Community Development Educator-UWEX; Kelly Borchardt-Executive Director-Childcaring; Kristie Rauter-Egge-Community Health Planner-Wood County; Kyle Kearns-Director of Community Development-City of Wisconsin Rapids; Betsy Wood-Managing Director-Incourage; Josh Miller-Development Services Director-City of Marshfield; Michelle Boernke-Campus Executive-UWSP@Marshfield; Jodi Friday-Community Impact Director-United Way; Victoria Wilson-Administrative Services-Wood County Planning & Zoning

***Jason Grueneberg-Wood County Planning & Zoning:***

- Active cases in Wood County are at about 140 cases right now. There has been a continued increase in cases in the 18-24 age group.
- Schools have been changing on a daily basis. Teachers are being quarantined along with some classes.
- Governor Evers passed Executive Order #90 mandating mask wearing until November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Eighty nine thousand people in the State of Wisconsin have recovered from COVID-19.

***Scott Larson-MACCI (Update provided via email):***

- The economic development partners in Marshfield are preparing a presentation on the economic conditions in Marshfield. This will be presented to the Marshfield plan commission in October.
- The Heart of Wisconsin and MACCI are working on a promotional video.

***Josh Miller-City of Marshfield:***

- The CEED committee did recommend a grant to do the West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street redevelopment project. This will help connect the west part of downtown to Central Ave and Wenzel Plaza. UW Madison capstone project has also chosen this as one of their projects, which will save us additional money.

***Matt McLean-Visit Marshfield:***

- We are currently working on our visitor guide and did a photo shoot last week.
- We are in the middle of applying for a Travel Cares Act grant. There will be \$8 million dollars to help CVBs and tourism entities. The hope is to get up to \$100,000, which would cover about half of what we are projecting to be down for the year.
- I am helping the plaza on Main Street apply for a cultural grant for groups that do musical and art events.
- Work continues on the Play Outdoors in Wisconsin campaign. We just wrapped up a contest to give away \$500 towards a trip to Central Wisconsin. We had more people enter than anticipated.
- Washington Elementary in Marshfield had two classes that had to be quarantined due to COVID-19.

***Michelle Boernke-UWSP:***

- UWSP overall has seen an increase of enrollment of 1%.
- Classes are going well. A lot of students at the Marshfield campus are showing up face to face. Many students do attend classes asynchronously.
- There are 214 cases at UWSP. Marshfield campus has zero cases of COVID-19 at this time.
- As of Thanksgiving, we are all moving to 100% online classes. We are hoping though that if the Marshfield campus remains at zero or low cases, the chancellor will consider allowing us to continue having face-to-face classes. We are finding this to be a better experience for the students.
- We did a virtual fundraiser called "Taste and Talent" which raised about half of the money (compared to the past) that goes to benefit UW Marshfield students.

- We are having a professional, virtual tour of the campus done. Many students and parents would like to have a tour of the Marshfield campus but we cannot provide that for students from far away. Having videos and drone footage along with other pictures will provide that tour experience to those students and parents.

***Kristie Rauter-Egge-Wood County Health Department:***

- We have been putting together guidelines around Halloween and other fall events, which will be available soon.
- We added three new metrics to our gating metrics. One of the metrics involves the Department of Health Services “burden map”. The maps represent cases per 100,000. Wood County is listed as “high” meaning we have more than 100 cases per 100,000 people in the last two weeks. For more information on the “burden map” go to <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm>.
- Another metric is regarding “ILI”. We have seen an increase in Influenza Like Illnesses. When a student in school displays certain symptoms, they are sent home and recommended to go in for COVID-19 testing. If they test negative they may return to school. If the family prefers not to have their student tested, they must remain home for a certain amount of days.
- We are looking at having community based testing that would be available weekly. I applied for a grant for community testing and we were awarded this grant. We will put together a strike team to go out and do testing that provides faster test results. The delay in test results effects whether students and teachers can return to school if they are negative.

***Nancy Turyk-UW Ext:***

- We are submitting an application to participate in a broadband pilot program that would provide technical support to the county or whichever municipality we choose to identify in the pilot study. Only fifteen communities will be selected across the state for this pilot program.
- Through the REDI process, a small group is identifying goals and objectives to develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the county.

***Kelly Borchardt-Childcaring:***

- There was a situation in Stevens Point where the YMCA closed down their childcare for a few weeks due to outbreaks with the staff. That is one of the largest childcare providers in Portage County.
- We are grateful for the toolkit the Health Department has put out for childcare providers. We are featuring it in our newsletter.
- We get the sense that childcare providers are doing a good job of using PPE.

***Kyle Kearns-City of Wisconsin Rapids:***

- We are excited about some of the information we heard at the Verso meeting yesterday. There may be some action or activity around the mill. I will hopefully have new or more information later this afternoon.
- We are focusing on the budget right now.

***Verso Discussion:***

- The job fair had some success for many of the former Verso employees.
- A job fair will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center in Stevens Point from 1:00pm to 6:00pm on Monday September 28, 2020.
- The Economic Development Corporation remains involved and continues to offer support.
- Communication with the City of Wisconsin Rapids and Verso has seen improvement.
- Tari Jahns from United Way said they have so far been able to respond to the requests for assistance that have come in. They expect to see an increase in requests in the coming months.
- Tyler Drake from the Department of Workforce Development states that unemployment seems to be working well for former Verso employees.
- The Job Center remains open to assist former Verso employees.
- The next Rapids Together meeting is TBD.

- PPE meeting: Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00am via teleconference
- Next EDR meeting: Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00am via teleconference

Adjourned at 10:03am

Via: Teleconference

Jason Grueneberg, Wood County Planning & Zoning Director, as facilitator

In Attendance: Matt McLean-Director-Visit Marshfield; Nancy Turyk-Community Development Educator-UWEX; Scott Larson-Executive Director-MACCI; Dennis Lawrence-Executive Director-North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission; Josh Miller-Development Services Director-City of Marshfield; Michelle Boernke-Campus Executive-UWSP@Marshfield; Meredith Kleker-Executive Director-Wisconsin Rapids CVB; Craig Bernstein-Manager-Workforce Development-MSTC; Kristie Rauter-Egge-Community Health Planner-Wood County; Victoria Wilson-Administrative Services-Wood County Planning & Zoning

***Jason Grueneberg-Wood County Planning & Zoning:***

- Active cases in Wood County are at about 143 cases right now.
- Statewide, we are on the national news as being a hot spot for COVID-19 with the Fox Valley and La Crosse areas being hit the hardest. This has prompted the State to open their field hospital in West Allis.
- "Governor Evers Invests Additional \$100 Million in Wisconsin Small Businesses and Economic stabilization". For further information, see press release from Governor Evers at the end of these notes.
- Second round of We're All In Grants will provide \$50 million more for small businesses. Businesses that received funds under the first round of We're All In Grants, as well as the Ethnic Minority Emergency Grant program, are also eligible for the second round of We're All In Grants. Priority will be given to businesses that have not previously received funds from either of the first two programs, those with ethnically diverse ownership, and those in the hardest-hit sectors, such as restaurants and taverns, hair and nail salons and barber shops, and other services.
- Governor Evers Emergency Order #3 goes into effect today. This order limits public gatherings to no more than 25 percent of a room or building's total occupancy. This directive is effective at 8 a.m. on Oct. 8, 2020, and will remain in effect until Nov. 6, 2020, and applies to any gatherings at locations that are open to the public such as stores, restaurants, and other businesses that allow public entry, as well as spaces with ticketed events.

***Scott Larson-MACCI (Update provided via email):***

- We have spent a lot of time this week pushing out information on Emergency Order #3 as well as the implications associated with whether the names of businesses will be released that were linked to positive COVID-19 cases.
- We are also helping to push information out to businesses regarding the incentive programs that are available and encouraging them to apply.
- With the Emergency Order #3 in place, studies indicate that upwards of 47% of hotels in the state could fail and 50% of restaurants could fail.
- Work continues on the promotional videos for the county that we are working on with the Heart of Wisconsin.

***Josh Miller-City of Marshfield:***

- The City was selected by the UW capstone project to do the West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street corridor. We are working with a student on this project. We walked the corridor and gave them a tour of the city garage site. The first semester they collect data and set goals. The second semester they start putting together a vision of what that area could look like.
- We have had a lot of inquiries on industrial land so we will be working on getting a TIF district set up and acquiring some industrial land from the UW.

***Matt McLean-Visit Marshfield:***

- I hosted a Zoom meeting with our hotel partners on Tuesday. We had reps from the Holiday Inn, Hotel Marshfield and the new Hampton Inn. The Hampton Inn is hoping to open in the spring. It was good to have these partners meet virtually and do some networking. We are sharing information with the hotel partners on the Emergency Order #3 to give some clarification on the order and what businesses are included in the 25% limit and what is excluded so they are aware of their limitations. For more information on what this means to your business, go to <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02792.pdf>.
- I applied for the new Wisconsin Tourism Relief to Accelerate Vitality and Economic Lift (TRAVEL) stimulus grant program. We can apply for up to 25% of our standard annual budget, which equates to about \$100, 000. This will cut about half of our projected losses for the year.
- I participated in a town hall forum put on by Senator Ron Johnson. He felt the PPP and Cares Act Grant did not really help the hotels as much as he would have liked. He feels the new grants put out by the governor's office will more directly affect the lodging industry.
- Similar to the closure of Verso, having 47% of the hotels close will impact not only the hotel workers, but the area as a whole. People coming to visit the area may be forced to stay at hotels in surrounding areas such as Stevens Point.
- A Travel Sentiment study indicates that about half of the 1000 adults surveyed do not want to travel. In addition, about half of the population do not want people coming to their towns and possibly spreading the virus.
- Based on current projections, the travel industry will not recover from this pandemic until 2024.
- Rural Partners Economic Development Conference is coming up April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at Hotel Marshfield.
- Badger State Games gymnastic event will be held at Marshfield High School on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Vintage Snowmobile National Championship Show & Swap will be held at the Central Wisconsin State Fairgrounds August 6<sup>th</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- We are hoping that the hockey group can run some tournaments this year as well.

**Michelle Boernke-UWSP:**

- The new Coronavirus (COVID-19) website is available: <https://www.uwsp.edu/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>
- The UW Marshfield campus is small but remains at zero cases.
- We are at 9% capacity for our rooms because we require nine foot distancing.

**Kristie Rauter-Egge-Wood County Health Department:**

- We have seen an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases. We will have over 1000 cases today.
- Our hospitals and health care system are strained.
- We have seen our access and capacity for testing increase quite a bit recently.
- The new mass gathering order is for 28 days. The purpose of this order is to cover two infectious period cycles. The infection incubation period for the virus is 14 days.
- The schools are doing a good job locally so we are not seeing a lot of spread in our schools.
- We are updating our mask complaint form to include mass gathering complaints.
- We just brought on seven new contact tracers.

**Meredith Kleker-WR CVB:**

- We will not be hosting the state WIAA cross country meet this year. This event in the past brought over 10,000 visitors and had an economic impact of over \$700,000. WIAA has decided to divide the meet up into divisions for safety reasons related to COVID-19.
- We just updated our website with COVID-10 traveler information. We are seeing a higher interest in the "Cranberry Highway" so we are distributing information often on that.
- The Rafter's and Central Wisconsin BMX had a successful season.
- The Cranberry Clash 3 X 3 Coed Hockey tournament was recently held successfully by the South Wood County Youth Hockey Association.

- The Riverkings season starts this coming Friday. They plan to allow only 25% of the capacity of the South Wood County Recreation center to the games.

**Kelly Borchardt-Childcaring (Shared via email to Jason):**

- The way childcare is being impacted right now is very similar to what we are seeing in the private and public schools.
- There has been a decline in the number of families seeking childcare referrals at this time.
- They are looking to apply for some funding for affordable childcare and quality workforce.

**Dennis Lawrence-NCWRPC:**

- We have MC software in partnership with WEDC available to look at a particular industry and its economic impact, whether it be positive or negative. This can give us an idea of what to expect with the possibility of business closures.

**Verso Discussion:**

- The cooperative group is still moving forward to possibly operate the Verso mill site.
- The CEO of Verso has resigned as well as the Department of Workforce Development Secretary.
- Many of the benefits former staff have applied for seem to be coming in a timely manner.
- It is not clear where the negotiations are as far as the unions. Some payouts have settled, but some have not. A Rapids Together meeting scheduled for today was cancelled and rescheduled for a later date.
- PPE meeting: Tuesday October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00am via teleconference
- Next EDR meeting: Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 9:00am via teleconference

Adjourned at 10:07 am



**Tony Evers**

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 6, 2020

Contact: [GovPress@wisconsin.gov](mailto:GovPress@wisconsin.gov) or 608-219-7443

## **Gov. Evers Invests Additional \$100 Million in Wisconsin Small Businesses and Economic Stabilization**

*Investments include second round of We're All In Grants and investments in tourism, entertainment, and*

## *cultural venues*

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today announced more than \$100 million in investments aimed at providing additional economic stabilization for small businesses and communities hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The new infusion of funds includes an additional \$50 million for “We’re All In Grants,” an economic development grant program launched by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) this summer. More than 26,000 businesses received “We’re all In Grants” statewide, but many continue to face economic challenges from the pandemic.

“Small businesses, including the tourism and lodging industries, are the backbone of our Wisconsin communities. The ongoing pandemic, combined with a lack of action at the federal level may force many of these businesses to shutter their doors for good,” said Gov. Evers. “That’s why we’re investing another \$100 million in businesses and communities across our state. Our communities are in desperate need of additional federal support, but we can’t wait a moment longer to do what we can here in Wisconsin.”

Today’s announcement also provides further investments in economic stabilization programs to support the lodging and tourism industry, live music and performance venues, cultural non-profits, and privately owned movie theaters. These efforts are funded through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and will help Wisconsin’s small businesses and venues that serve as cultural catalysts in communities across the state.

The new investments announced today include:

**Over \$50 million of \$5,000 We’re All In Grants to more than 10,000 Wisconsin small businesses.** The first phase of the program invested more than \$65 million in grants for more than 26,000 businesses statewide. This round of We’re All In Grants will prioritize businesses most impacted by the pandemic, including restaurants and taverns, hair and nail salons and barber shops, and other services. It will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue in partnership with WEDC. Learn more about the program and apply at [revenue.wi.gov](https://revenue.wi.gov).

“Wisconsin’s small businesses have demonstrated unbelievable creativity and ingenuity in adapting to the pandemic,” said WEDC Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes. “However, many of them are already stretched to the limit and are concerned about just surviving for the next few months.”

**\$20 million for the Wisconsin lodging industry.** In 2019, visitors to the state spent \$3.7 billion on lodging but recent reports indicate that up to two-thirds of all Wisconsin hotels face closure within the next 12 months without additional support. This investment will provide the lodging industry emergency resources to navigate a reduction in travel and cover the cost of implementing additional public health best practices as the pandemic continues.

**\$15 million for live music and performance venues throughout Wisconsin.** Music venues, which often serve as community gathering places and cultural hubs, were among the first small businesses to close and may be among the last to fully re-open. Many owners have been vocal in expressing the need for federal assistance to further supplement the state investments already made. Gov. Evers’ investment will help these venues that are shuttered and hopefully encourage a nationwide plan to save these businesses over the long term.



**\$10 million to support privately owned movie theaters.** Wisconsin movie theaters have not been spared the financial strain felt by movie theater companies nationally as content has been limited and activity limited across the state. This investment will assist privately owned movie theaters while federal support remains stalled.

**\$10 million in additional support for non-profit cultural venues.** The significant response to the original grant announcement several weeks demonstrates the challenges faced by these community centers of learning and culture. The additional support will bring the full investment in these treasures to \$15 million and support local communities around the state.

**\$4 million in additional investments for destination marketing organizations and tourism drivers, bringing the total investment by the Evers Administration to \$12 million.** These funds will help meet the demonstrated need based on the applications received in recent weeks after Governor Evers announced the program in September.

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Office of the Governor ♦ 115 East Capitol, Madison, WI 53702

Press Office: (608) 219-7443 ♦ Email: [GovPress@wisconsin.gov](mailto:GovPress@wisconsin.gov)

<https://evers.wi.gov> ♦ [Unsubscribe](#)

Via: Teleconference

Jason Grueneberg, Wood County Planning & Zoning Director, as facilitator

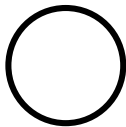
In Attendance: Scott Larson-Executive Director-MACCI; Nancy Turyk-Community Development Educator-UWEX; Betsy Wood-Managing Director-Incourage; Josh Miller-Development Services Director-City of Marshfield; Kristie Rauter-Egge-Community Health Planner-Wood County; Jodi Friday-Community Impact Director-United Way Victoria Wilson-Administrative Services-Wood County Planning & Zoning

***Jason Grueneberg-Wood County Planning & Zoning:***

- Wood County currently has 957 positive COVID-19 cases with 157 of those being active.
- PPE needs do not seem to be a major concern at this time.
- All schools are back in session. We have not heard about any major issues at the high schools or elementary schools at this time.

***Kristie Rauter-Egge-Wood County Health Department:***

- The Wood County Health Department is doing their best to keep up with phone calls, returning calls in a timely manner and contact tracing.
- Due to the heavy work load, taking care of ourselves, so we can help take care of others, is essential.
- Next PPE meeting: Tuesday October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 9:00am
- Next Economic Recovery meeting is Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 9:00am
- Adjourned at 9:28 am



RESOLUTION#

Introduced by  
Page 1 of 2

ITEM# 4-  
DATE November 10, 2020  
Effective Date November 10, 2020  
Conservation, Education & Economic Development, Property & Information  
Technology, and Operations Committees

Motion:

Adopted:

1<sup>st</sup>

Lost:

2<sup>nd</sup>

Tabled:

No:

Yes:

Absent:

Number of votes required:

☒ Majority

☐ Two-thirds

Reviewed by:

, Corp Counsel

Reviewed by:

, Finance Dir.

LAD

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To authorize the Planning and Zoning Director to make application for broadband grants in partnership with Hilbert Communications, LLC and to contract with Hilbert for assisting in the grant application process.

FISCAL NOTE: The County is not making an actual financial commitment by means of this resolution but is expressing an intention to pursue broadband internet expansion in the county if funding from the state in support thereof is received.

WHEREAS, in order to address the substantial areas within Wood County that are unserved or underserved with access to broadband internet, Wood County recognizes a necessity to research and gather information to identify the broadband needs of its citizens and businesses, and to encourage providers to invest and provide those services in Wood County; and

WHEREAS, Hilbert Communications, LLC (“Hilbert”), and its subsidiary broadband wireless internet service provider company, Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC (“Bug Tussel”), have expressed a desire to commence a project consisting of the construction and operation of certain wireless communication services to provide the most advanced infrastructure to the unserved and underserved residents of Wood County; and

WHEREAS, Wood County desires to pursue Broadband Expansion Grants offered by and through the State of Wisconsin Public Service

Commission; and

WHEREAS, Hilbert advises it is willing and able to partner with Wood County to provide the latest advancements in broadband coverage and to seek all available grants to provide and subsidize the cost of necessary broadband infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, as a first step Wood County desires to pursue and make application for any and all grant money available for broadband coverage; and

WHEREAS, the committees introducing this resolution have considered Hilbert and Bug Tussel’s history of community partnerships and their proposal to expand broadband to unserved and underserved areas of Wood County and hereby recommend partnering with Hilbert to pursue broadband expansion grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES to authorize the Planning and Zoning Director to apply to the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission for broadband expansion grants in partnership with Hilbert, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning and Zoning Director is authorized to negotiate with Hilbert to enter into development agreements for assistance in the grant application process similar to those attached, wherein

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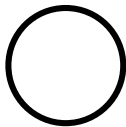
KEN CURRY (Chair)  
BILL LEICHTNAM  
ROBERT ASHBECK  
JAKE HAHN  
DAVE LAFONTAINE

AL BREU (Chair)  
DENNIS POLACH  
BRAD HAMILTON  
LAURA VALENSTEIN  
WILLIAM WINCH

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, this                      day of                      20                      .

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

Introduced by  
Page 2 of 2

ITEM#	4-
DATE	November 10, 2020
Effective Date:	November 10, 2020
Conservation, Education & Economic Development, Property & Information Technology, and Operations Committees	

there is no commitment to the county spending money without further authorization of the county board via resolution, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Planning and Zoning Director is authorized to do all such acts and to execute, acknowledge, and deliver all such documents necessary or desirable to fulfill the intent of this resolution.

[ ]	
ED WAGNER (Chair)	
DONNA ROZAR	
MIKE FEIRER	
ADAM FISCHER	
LANCE PLIML	
Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, this                      day of                      20                      .	
County Clerk	County Board Chairman

**FIRST AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR A BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT UNDER WIS.  
STAT. 196.504**

**THIS PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT** (“Agreement”) is made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 (“Effective Date”) by and between Wood County, Wisconsin (the “County”), a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, and Hilbert Communications, LLC (“Hilbert”), a Wisconsin limited liability company. The County and Hilbert are collectively referred to as the “Parties.”

**RECITALS**

- A. The County seeks to promote the development of high-speed broadband services to unserved and underserved areas within its boundaries and believes that cooperation with private-sector partners is necessary for the development of a county-wide broadband network that meets the needs of the County, its residents, and its businesses.
- B. To encourage and facilitate the development of high-speed broadband service in unserved and underserved areas within the county, the County and Hilbert, together constituting an “eligible applicant” within the meaning of Wis. Stat. 196.504, seek to enter into a public-private partnership to build an open access fiber optic backbone to facilitate the provision of such service by third-party wireline and wireless internet service providers (the “Project”) should adequate grant funding be available to do so.
- C. The full scope of the Project is yet to be defined but will be set forth in a final partnership agreement between the Parties (“Final Partnership Agreement”) if adequate grant funding is available to pursue the Project.
- D. The Parties intend that Hilbert, with the County as its public partner, apply to the State of Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant Program (“Grant Program”) pursuant to Wis. Stat. 196.504 to obtain a grant to be used to pay for part of the cost of constructing the Project.
- E. The County finds the Project to be in the public interest of the residents and businesses of Wood County.

**AGREEMENT**

**THE PARTIES** agree as follows:

1. **Purpose.** By this Agreement, the County and Hilbert hereby agree to form a public-private partnership so that Hilbert can apply to the Grant Program to obtain funds to be applied toward construction of the Project at no cost to the County. The County agrees that, as Hilbert’s public partner, it will cooperate with Hilbert in the preparation of the grant application. Hilbert agrees to submit the application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (“PSC”) no later than December 1, 2020.

2. **Project.** The Project will be developed by Hilbert if the County determines that adequate grant funding has been secured. The estimated cost of the initial phase of the Project is approximately \$ 2,075,308.00 (estimated Project cost). The Parties agree to evaluate a potential second phase of the Project within Wood County for fiber in the future.
3. **Project Funding.** In its grant application, Hilbert shall request a grant for \$518,827.00. If the Grant is awarded and if the Project receives final approval from each Party's respective governing body, Wood County will contribute \$415,062.00 and Hilbert will contribute \$1,141,419.00 to the Project. If the overall Project cost is less than projections, it is anticipated that the respective contributions will be decreased on a pro rata basis.
4. **Authorization.** Each Party represents that it has the authority to execute this Agreement.
5. **Records.** Hilbert shall provide the County with a copy of its application to the Grant Program at the same time the application is submitted to the PSC.
6. **Termination.** This Agreement shall become effective on the Effective Date and shall be terminated if Hilbert's grant application is unsuccessful. If the grant application is successful, this Agreement shall terminate either one hundred twenty (120) days after the grant award or in the event that the Parties enter into a Final Partnership Agreement, whichever comes first.
7. **Entire Agreement.** There are no representations or understandings of any kind not stated in this Agreement.
8. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Wisconsin without regard to its conflict of laws provision.
9. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement pursuant to duly adopted Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_ effective as of the date of the last party to sign (the "Effective Date") below.

**Wood County**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 ) ss.

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

On \_\_\_\_\_, before me, \_\_\_\_\_, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of Wisconsin that the forgoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Seal)

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECOND AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING  
FOR A BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT UNDER WIS. STAT. 196.504**

**THIS PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT** ("Agreement") is made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 ("Effective Date") by and between Wood County, Wisconsin (the "County"), a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, and Hilbert Communications, LLC ("Hilbert"), a Wisconsin limited liability company. The County and Hilbert are collectively referred to as the "Parties."

**RECITALS**

- A. The County seeks to promote the development of high-speed broadband services to unserved and underserved areas within its boundaries and believes that cooperation with private-sector partners is necessary for the development of a county-wide broadband network that meets the needs of the County, its residents, and its businesses.
- B. To encourage and facilitate the development of high-speed broadband service in unserved and underserved areas within the county, the County and Hilbert, together constituting an "eligible applicant" within the meaning of Wis. Stat. 196.504, seek to enter into a public-private partnership to build an open access fiber optic backbone to facilitate the provision of such service by third-party wireline and wireless internet service providers (the "Project") should adequate grant funding be available to do so.
- C. The full scope of the Project is yet to be defined but will be set forth in a final partnership agreement between the Parties ("Final Partnership Agreement") if adequate grant funding is available to pursue the Project.
- D. The Parties intend that Hilbert, with the County as its public partner, apply to the State of Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant Program ("Grant Program") pursuant to Wis. Stat. 196.504 to obtain a grant to be used to pay for part of the cost of constructing the Project.
- E. The County finds the Project to be in the public interest of the residents and businesses of Wood County.

**AGREEMENT**

**THE PARTIES** agree as follows:

- 1. **Purpose.** By this Agreement, the County and Hilbert hereby agree to form a public-private partnership so that Hilbert can apply to the Grant Program to obtain funds to be applied toward construction of the Project at no cost to the County. The County agrees that, as Hilbert's public partner, it will cooperate with Hilbert in the preparation of the grant application. Hilbert agrees to submit the application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin ("PSC") no later than December 1, 2020.
- 2. **Project.** The Project will be developed by Hilbert if the County determines that adequate grant funding has been secured. The estimated cost of the initial phase of the Project is approximately \$ 2,979,304.00 (estimated Project cost). The Parties agree to evaluate a potential second phase of the Project within Wood County for fiber in the future.



3. **Project Funding.** In its grant application, Hilbert shall request a grant for \$529,968.00. If the Grant is awarded and if the Project receives final approval from each Party's respective governing body, Wood County will contribute \$595,861.00 and Hilbert will contribute \$1,853,475.00 to the Project. If the overall Project cost is less than projections, it is anticipated that the respective contributions will be decreased on a pro rata basis.
4. **Authorization.** Each Party represents that it has the authority to execute this Agreement.
5. **Records.** Hilbert shall provide the County with a copy of its application to the Grant Program at the same time the application is submitted to the PSC.
6. **Termination.** This Agreement shall become effective on the Effective Date and shall be terminated if Hilbert's grant application is unsuccessful. If the grant application is successful, this Agreement shall terminate either one hundred twenty (120) days after the grant award or in the event that the Parties enter into a Final Partnership Agreement, whichever comes first.
7. **Entire Agreement.** There are no representations or understandings of any kind not stated in this Agreement.
8. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Wisconsin without regard to its conflict of laws provision.
9. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

