

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2018  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Mark Holbrook, Dave LaFontaine and Bill Leichtnam. Robert Ashbeck was excused at 3:38 p.m.

Members Excused: Harvey Petersen

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg and Kim Keech.  
 Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpennig.  
 UW Extension Staff: Nancy Turyk.

Others Present: Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendening.

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comment.** None
4. **Review Correspondence.** None

Item #7 was moved up on the agenda prior to closed session.

5. **CLOSED SESSION** - At 1:05 p.m., it was moved by Robert Ashbeck, and seconded by Bill Leichtnam, to go into closed session pursuant to the exemption contained in S.19.85 (1)(c) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of discussing Land & Water Conservation Department Head's performance and Planning & Zoning Department Head's performance. Roll call taken: Curry – aye, Holbrook – aye, Leichtnam – aye, LaFontaine – aye, Ashbeck – aye.
6. **Return to OPEN SESSION.** At 2:38 p.m., it was moved by Dave LaFontaine, seconded by Robert Ashbeck, to return to open session. All ayes.
7. **Inform CEED of discontinuance of Progress Lane in the Town of Rock.**

Shane Wucherpennig shared that when a township designates a discontinuance of use the CEED Committee has to be notified of the closing. Town of Rock had 8 residents sign a petition dated October 17, 2018 to close Progress Lane. Shane Wucherpennig explained that the reason for the request is that Progress Lane is a dead end road. Jason Grueneberg commented that the Planning & Zoning Department will look into the closing to see if there will be any issues or concerns.

**8. Economic Development Presentation and discussion – Nancy Turyk.**

Nancy Turyk gave a PowerPoint presentation on Economic Development in Wood County and Central Wisconsin. Nancy shared that there are many sides to economic development not just marketing. Economic development can also be tourism, UW Extension, land use planning, parks & forestry and transportation. In Wood County, there are many players who are involved in Economic Development. The agencies in Wood County that are involved in Economic Development are: City of Marshfield, Marshfield Chamber & Commerce, City of Wisconsin Rapids, Heart of Wisconsin, City of Nekoosa, HoChunk Nation, Greater Lakes Initiative, Planning & Zoning Department, UW Extension, Parks & Forestry Department, Highway Department, REGI, Small Business Development Center, North Central Regional Commission, Centergy, CWED, WEDC and ITBEC. Economic development activities that Wood County agencies are involved in are small business support, large business

support, county-wide semi-annual meetings, tourism, marketing and event planning. Agencies have an interest to be more organized county-wide working together. There are approximately 16,000 people who leave Wood County to work with approximately 16,000 people coming to work in Wood County each day. This suggests that Wood County is part of the Central Wisconsin ruralplex suggesting tight ties to adjacent communities. Nancy Turyk shared that the next steps could be conducting a SWOT analysis at the quarterly economic development roundtable meetings hosted by Wood County or participating in the future Regions Initiative as a county. Wood County needs to develop a vision and plan for the future regarding economic development.

**9. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.**

**10. Adjourn.** Chairman Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark L. Holbrook, Secretary

Minutes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office

Review for submittal to County Board by Mark L. Holbrook (approved November 23, 2018 @ 12:37 p.m.)