

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
 TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #317A, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

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

Members Excused: Harvey Peterson.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg and Kim Keech.

Land & Water Conservation Staff: None.

UW Extension Staff: None.

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Heather Gehrt (Wood County Treasurer), Attorney Peter Kastenzholz (Wood County Corporation Counsel), Jason Stringer (Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation) and Jon Hochkammer (Wisconsin Counties Association).

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED Meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** None.
3. **Review Correspondence.** None.
4. **Consider ordinance adopting a PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Ordinance, approving the PACE Joint Powers Agreement, and approving the appointment of a PACE Commission member.**

Jason Grueneberg discussed three key highlights of Wood County Ordinance #17-5-1:

- a. Adopts the PACE Ordinance.
- b. Approves the PACE Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement.
- c. Approves appointing Adam Fischer as a PACE Commission member.

Jason Grueneberg commented that Peter Kastenzholz and Mike Martin have reviewed Wood County Ordinance #17-5-1 adopting PACE making minor changes. Jason Grueneberg asked that Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement relating to Wisconsin PACE Commission to strike the part in Section 14. (a) "in substantially the form, and substantively to the effect, set forth in EXHIBIT A to this agreement" at the Wood County Board Meeting because the PACE Commission has been formed.

Jon Hochkammer (Wisconsin Counties Association) discussed that PACE is between the property owner and lender, county treasurer collects the taxes, and loans underwritten by the PACE lender are in good economic standing at time of the loan which results in minimal foreclosures.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve and accept Wood County Ordinance 17-5-1 to adopt a PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Ordinance, approve a Joint Powers Agreement, and approve the appointment of a Commission member making Wood County commercial property owners, lessees, and lenders eligible for PACE financing of energy or water efficiency improvements or renewable resource projects. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried 4-1. Robert Ashbeck voted against the motion because he has concerns that Wood County would be held liable if the property owner defaults on the loan.*

5. **Consider possible groundwater legislation correspondence.**

Bill Leichtnam briefly discussed Wisconsin SB 22 & AB 50 Water Sustainability Act. Jon Hochkammer (Wisconsin Counties Association) suggested that a meeting with area legislatures versus a letter would be beneficial and that he would be willing to arrange a meeting with the CEED Committee and other board members.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve that Jon Hochkammer (Wisconsin Counties Association) set-up a meeting within 60 days with area legislatures to discuss possible groundwater legislation. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried unanimously.*

**6. Adjourn.**

*Motion by Adam Fischer to adjourn at 9:34 a.m. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Curry, Secretary  
Minutes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Department  
Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (approved on May 18, 2017 @ 1:03 p.m.)