

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
 TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2019  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Kenneth Curry, Mark Holbrook, Robert Ashbeck, Dave LaFontaine and Bill Leichtnam.

Members Excused: Harvey Peterson

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg and Victoria Wilson.

UW Extension Staff: Nancy Turyk.

Others Present: Jake Hahn (Dist. #8 Supervisor), Dennis Polach (Dist. #14 Supervisor), Bill Clendenning (Dist. #15 Supervisor), Scott Larson (Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce), Josh Miller (City of Marshfield)

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. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the Tuesday, July 16, 2019 meeting and 2) monthly letter of comment from Jason Grueneberg.
  - a. Review/approve minutes: Minutes of July 16, 2019 meeting. No additions or corrections needed.
  - b. Review monthly letter of comment: Jason added that North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission reached out to area entities to make an effort to gather a list of businesses affected by the July 20<sup>th</sup> storm damage. NCWRPC then presented that list to the state to obtain 0% loans up to \$20,000 to be paid back in two years. The hope is to help those businesses remain in business or continue business as usual despite their losses from the storm.

*Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve and accept the July 16, 2019 CEED-ED minutes and monthly letter of comment as presented. Second by Mark Holbrook. Motion carried unanimously.*

4. **Public Comment.** None
5. **Review 2020 Economic Development Grant Applications.** Rather than review all 13 grant applications at today's meeting, Jason provided a summary of what is being requested for grants for 2020. Jason gave an overview of how our office solicited the availability of grant funding to the grant applicants and indicated we may have gotten more applications if the timeline hadn't been so tight. Total requested funds for this year is \$226,518. With Jason's office expenses of \$7325, possible membership in NCWRPC of \$43,000 and the grant requests, we're looking at a total ED budget for 2020 of nearly \$280,000. Nancy Turyk asked if any of the grant request projects could possibly fall under the NCWRPC membership. Jason stated he did not think so as many of the grant applicants provide a match in funding and they are looking for funding for operations that are internal to their organization and very specific projects. Review of applications will be at the next regular CEED meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup>.
6. **2020 Economic Development Grant Applications.** Will be discussed at next regular CEED meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup>.
7. **REDI Grant update and discussion.** Jason Grueneberg, Ken Curry, Nancy Turyk and Doug Machon met with the REDI team via video conference on Monday August 19<sup>th</sup>. It was a one hour

teleconference that covered what their intent was when they submitted their application to the USDA and what projects will be worked on. A two day workshop will occur in October where the Purdue team will come to Wood County. In the next few months a working team will be created. Ideally there will be 12 to 15 people on this team per the REDI team's recommendation. This team will comprise representation from Wisconsin Rapids, Marshfield and rural Wood County areas.

8. **Adjourn.** Kenneth Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Holbrook, CEED Committee Secretary  
Minutes by Victoria Wilson, Planning & Zoning Office