

MINUTES  
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2017  
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Adam Fischer and Harvey Petersen.

Members Excused: Bill Leichtnam.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg.

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Lori Ruess and Joel Ebert.

UW Extension Staff: Jason Hausler and Peter Manley.

Others Present: Dist. # 14 Dennis Polach, Dist. # 15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Keith Merkel, 80 Feet is Enough, Mark Borchardt, 80 Feet is Enough, Rick Bakovka, REGI, Melissa Reichert, Heart of WI Chamber of Commerce, Scott Larson, MACCI, Jason Angell, City of Marshfield, Jeremy Sickler, Alexander Field, Mike Martin, Finance Director, Mark Hoffman, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** Mark Borchardt founding member of 80 Feet is Enough expressed his disappointment with the committee’s decision to table the resolution to reform Wisconsin eminent domain statutes prohibiting the forcible taking of citizen’s land for the private gain of for-profit pipeline companies. He handed out two news articles and asked the committee to reconsider the resolution which would at least allow the County Board to debate eminent domain.

Keith Merkel Wood County landowner also expressed his concerns with the resolution being tabled and asked for the Committee to reconsider.

Bill Clendenning stated that if the CEED Committee does not reconsider the resolution he will put it on the August 4th Judicial & Legislative Committee agenda.

3. **Review Correspondence.**
  - A. Tracy Arnold shared an article on Pittsville High School’s rusty crayfish research and removal project that was featured in the August Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine. Central Wisconsin is well represented in the August edition; there is an article by Paul Skawinski. UW Extension’s Lakes Program on monarch butterflies and an article on Port Edwards being recognized as a monarch-friendly community for efforts to create and foster conservation.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the July 5, 2017 and July 18, 2017 CEED meetings, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn, Justin Conner, Jeff Brewbaker, Stevana Skinner, Kim Keech, Victoria Wilson, Shane Wucherpennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Emily Salvinski, Lori Ruess, Peter Manley, Matt Lippert, Sarah Siegel, Jodi Friday, Chris Viau, Kyli Brown and Jeremy Erickson.
  - A. Minutes of July 5, 2017 and July 18, 2017. No additions or corrections needed.
  - B. Department Bills. No questions or comments.
  - C. Staff Activity Reports. Chairperson Henkel had a question on item 5.a.iv. of the Code Administrator’s staff report. It was discussed under agenda item # 9.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve and accept the July 5, 2017 and July 18, 2017 CEED minutes, bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation, and UW Extension and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

**6. UW Extension.**

A. Area Extension Director, Introduction. Peter Manley introduced Jason Hausler Area Extension Director. Jason grew up in Wausau and worked with UW Extension for the past six years; most recently working in Dunn County. He is excited to be back in Central Wisconsin.

B. nEXT Gen Reorganization Staffing Proposal. Jason Hausler explained the new nEXT Gen staffing proposal. The new staffing plan is a flat fee "pay for service" staffing model. Each position description has a set fee which does not change from county to county. With the new staffing plan Wood County UWEX comes in under budget. Discussion and questions followed.

Jason Hausler addressed the questions and concerns and assured the committee he will take any questions he couldn't answer to the state. He plans to attend future CEED meetings and thanked the Committee for their support to UWEX.

Peter Manley presented the RD/PD scenario which listed the flat fee price per FTE that counties are asked to pay. Positions that are fully county funded were not included in the scenario. A \$10,000 1<sup>st</sup> position discount is given to counties with an Extension office and a \$3,000 allowance for professional development was included. Discussion followed.

C. Budget review Peter Manley presented the 2018 UWEX budgets for review. He explained the tax levy increase of \$2,130 or .38%. Discussion followed.

*Motion by Kenneth Curry to approve the 2018 UWEX budgets as presented. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

D. Soils and 4-H Leader's Account. Peter Manley stated that an agreement has been reached with a past employee and the discrepancies in the accounts will be rectified.

E. 133 Contract Amendment. Peter Manley presented an amendment to the current 133 contracts. The amendment extends the contracts for six months.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve extending the current 133 contracts for six months. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried Unanimously.*

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

A. Review/approve 2018 Land Conservation Department budgets. Shane Wucherpennig presented the 2018 Land & Water Conservation Department budgets. Two out of the six budgets are levied budgets. The Land Conservation budget has a \$16,781 or 8.42% increase in tax levy. Increases are in personal services and contractual services; supplies and expenses and fixed charges decreased. Due to state budget uncertainties, DATCP cannot issue a preliminary allocation to counties until the state budget is passed. Counties were advised to budget with a 10% decrease in grant allocations if they want to present a conservative budget. The DATCP budget reflects the 10% revenue decrease. Discussion followed.

*Motion by Kenneth Curry to approve the Land & Water Conservation Admin., DATCP Grant, Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims, Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation, Trust Fund, and Permits & Fines budgets as presented. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.*

B. Chairperson Henkel opened the five bids received for Thomas Hamus's manure storage facility. Bids were as follows: Weichelt Trucking - \$135,296.31, Jeff Ertl - \$145,659.90, Rich Weiler Construction - \$152,550.00, Kolo Trucking & Excavating - \$166,305.15 and Earth Inc. - \$180,894.65.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve the low bid from Weichelt Trucking in the amount of \$135,296.31 (after review and verification that the bid is accurate and complete) for the purpose of basing the cost-share amount for Thomas Hamus's manure storage facility. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.*

- C. Discuss WCA request for La Crosse County resolution. Chairperson Henkel reported that the WCA Agriculture, Environmental & Land Use steering Committee voted to adopt a La Crosse County resolution requesting enforcement of WPDES according to statute. The resolution will be presented at the WCA business meeting in November. It was asked if there are similar situations in Wood County and should Wood County consider a resolution? Following discussion it was decided to put this topic on the September CEED agenda for further discussion.

## **8. Economic Development.**

- A. Update from Alexander Field in Wisconsin Rapids and Roy Shwery Field in Marshfield. Jeremy Sickler, Alexander Field General Manager, stated Jeffrey Gaier, General Manager of Marshfield Municipal Airport, was not able to attend the meeting due to a prior commitment. Jeff did put together an Airport Activity Report which Jeremy handed out. Jeremy asked for disbursement of 2017 Economic Development funds allocated to Alexander and Roy Shwery Fields, updated the Committee on increased air traffic and the proposed upgrades at Alexander Field, thanked the committee for their generosity, and ask for continued generosity for future funding. He added that Alexander Field applied for a \$2,500 increase in Economic Development funding from Wood County in 2018. If approved, the additional funding would be used for crack filling of the main runway.
- B. Review/approve 2018 Economic Development budget. Jason Grueneberg presented the proposed 2018 Economic Development budget and reviewed the 2018 Economic Development grant applications with the committee. The Marshfield Economic Development Board applied for an additional \$31,250 to support the newly created Marshfield Residential Incentive Program and Alexander Field applied for an additional \$2,500. Discussion followed.

Adam Fischer stated he would like to see a change to the application process in 2018 based on need and what is in the best interest of tax paying citizens.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve the 2018 Economic Development budget as presented. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried. Kenneth Curry opposed. He feels the money allocated to Marshfield Residential Incentive Program is an intrusion of the private market.*

## **9. Planning.**

- A. Review/Approve 2018 Planning & Zoning Department budgets. Jason Grueneberg presented the Planning & Zoning, Land Records, Private Sewage, Census Redistricting and Surveyor budgets. The Planning and Zoning budget has less than a 1% increase in tax levy; no tax levy increase in the other two levied budgets. Discussion followed.

*Motion by Adam Fischer to approve the Planning & Zoning, Land Records, Private Sewage, Census Redistricting and Surveyor budgets as presented. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

Jason Grueneberg answered the questions Chairperson Henkel had on the Code Administrator's staff report regarding sites with new structures and no sanitary permits.

## **10. Schedule Next Meeting.**

The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., at the Wood County Courthouse in Room #115.

**11. Agenda items for next meeting.**

- A. Nine recommendations from Bill Leichtnam.
- B. Discuss possible resolution requesting enforcement of WPDES according to statute.
- C. Introduction of newly hired Planning & Zoning Department personnel.

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

No additional meetings were scheduled.

**13. Adjourn.**

*Motion by Harvey Petersen to adjourn at 12:20 p.m. Second by Adam Fischer. Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Curry, Secretary

Minutes by Lori Ruess, Land & Water Conservation Dept.

Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (approved on 08/08/2017 at 9:08 a.m.)