

RENEWABLE & SUSTAINABLE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, August 20, 2019
TIME: 11:00 AM
LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse – Room 115, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Present: Reuben Van Tassel, Nancy Turyk, Sue Knuferman, Jake Hahn, Bill Leichtnam, Nicole Gessert

Others

Present: Bill Clendenning, Mark Holbrook, Ken Curry, Doug Machon, Benjamin Nusz (MSTC)

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair, Reuben Van Tassel called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. **Public Comments:**
Introductions

3. **Review Renewable & Sustainable goals of other WI Counties:**
Committee discussed information provided in the packet. Nancy Turyk provided a hand-out to summarize various other Counties R&S goals. Discussion ensued.
 - a. **Discuss creating Renewable & Sustainable goals for Wood County:**
Nancy Turyk provided an Executive Order #38 hand-out from Governor Evers in reference to clean energy. Van Tassel asked for consensus from the group regarding the direction they would like to take for establishing goals. Discussion ensued. Sue Knuferman and Nancy Turyk will work up a draft of goals to be brought back to the next meeting.

4. **Review example energy plans:**
Committee discussed the value of a comprehensive energy plan. Turyk indicated the Renewable Energy Data Analysis Course which would provide an Intern for energy data analysis has a deadline of August to apply for the course.
 - a. **Discuss formulating energy plan for Wood County:**
Jake Hahn stated that the Committee should move forward with the Energy Data Analysis.

Motion: (Hahn/Knuferman) to send recommendations to the Executive Committee for funding of \$2,000.00 for the Renewable Energy Data Analysis. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Discuss solar opportunities for Wood County:**
Committee reviewed solar opportunities recently presented to Wood County. Van Tassel indicated that some of the solar projects could help Wood County become a more marketable community. Bill Leichtnam suggested that a very visible project would be the most beneficial. Discussion ensued.

Motion: (Hahn/Leichtnam) to move forward with recommendations to the Executive Committee for a solar charging station at the Courthouse working with MSTC at their earliest convenience and the Nepco solar project with the Renewable & Sustainable grant funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Van Tassel advised that even with Executive Committee approval for funding, the Nepco solar project would still need to have HIRC Committee approval since Park's property is under their oversight.

Ben Nusz indicated the MSTC timeline may not fit the current goal for the charging station at the Courthouse but he is happy to partner with the County.

Turyk questioned the funding process for a larger project such as the Highway property solar project. Van Tassel explained it should be a request from the Highway Department to their oversight committee as

part of their CIP budget. Hahn indicated he will ask to have Nancy Turyk added to the HIRC agenda at the next meeting on 9/5/19 to present the proposed solar project at the Highway property.

6. **Review information previously provided to committee & Discuss information included in future Committee packets:**

Van Tassel questioned the Committee packet materials and consensus is to scale back the packet materials to a few relevant items associated with agenda items.

7. **Future agenda items:**

- Grant Applications
- Goals Draft
- Update from Executive Committee recommendations
- Develop Wood County Energy plan
- Approve Past meeting minutes

8. **Next Meeting:**

Thursday, September 26th. 10:00 a.m. @ Wood County Courthouse, Room 115

9. **Adjourn Renewable & Sustainable Committee Meeting:** Reuben Van Tassel adjourned @ 12:32 p.m.

Notes by Nicole Gessert, Maintenance Department

