

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
AGENDA

DATE: Wednesday, June 2, 2021
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse, Room 114

1. Call meeting to order.
 2. Declaration of Quorum.
 3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
 4. Review Correspondence.
 5. Consent Agenda.
 - a. Approve minutes of previous meeting
 - b. Approve bills
 - c. Receive staff activity reports
 6. Review items, if any, pulled from Consent Agenda.
 7. Risk and Injury Report
 8. Land & Water Conservation Department
 - a. Introduce Julianna Kollross, LWCD Summer Intern.
 - b. Discuss Dale and Jason Behrend's stream crossing access road project, set price and select contractor. crossing
 - i. Citizens Groundwater Group meeting.
 - ii. Health Committee report.
 - iii. Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGWCC) committee report.
 - iv. Golden Sands RC&D report.
 9. Private Sewage
 10. Land Records
 11. County Surveyor
 12. Planning
 - a. Request to approve the Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map
 13. Economic Development
 - a. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission update.
 - b. Update on the town of Grand Rapids Bicycle and Pedestrian trail/signage project, and consider release of 2021 Economic Development Grant Funds.
 - c. Discuss implementation of Wood County Rural Economic Development Plan.
 - d. Discuss 2022 Economic Development budget.
 - e. Broadband grant update and discussion.
 14. Extension
 - a. General Office Update
 - b. Monthly Report Feedback
 - c. County Board Presentation
 - d. Educator Presentation – Laura Huber, *4-H Program Educator*
 15. Requests for per diem for meeting attendants.
 16. Schedule next regular committee meeting.
 17. Agenda items for next meeting
 18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
 19. Adjourn
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Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Meeting number (access code): 187 536 8195

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m303beda9372cec67061b174884b1cb4b>
Meeting number (access code): 187 536 8195
Meeting password: CEED0602

MINUTES
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
 WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Jake Hahn, Dave LaFontaine, Bill Leichtnam

Members Excused: Carmen Good

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn (via WebEx)

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpfennig, Lori Ruess.

UW Extension Staff: Jason Hausler, Hannah Wendels (via WebEx), Nancy Turyk (via WebEx)

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning (via WebEx), Dist. #16 Supervisor Lance Pliml, (via WebEx) Ben Jeffrey, Wood County Health Department (via WebEx), Angel Whitehead (via WebEx) .

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 am.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)** None.
4. **Review Correspondence.** None.
5. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the April 7, 2021 and April 20, 2021 CEED meetings, 2) bills from Land & Water Conservation, Planning & Zoning and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Laura Huber, Matt Lippert, Nancy Turyk, Allison Jonjak, Jackie Carratini, Hannah Wendels, Kelly Hammond, Rachael Whitehair, Janell Wehr, Caleb Armstrong, Klayton Kree, Lori Ruess, Rod Mayer, Shane Wucherpfennig, Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn, Paul Bernard, Jeff Brewbaker, Scott Custer, Kim Keech and Victoria Wilson.
 - A. Minutes of April 7, 2021. No additions or corrections needed.
 - B. Minutes of April 20, 2021. No additions or corrections needed.
 - C. Department Bills. No additions or corrections needed.
 - D. Staff Activity Reports. No additions or corrections needed.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve and accept the April 7, 2021 and April 20, 2021 minutes, bills from Land & Water Conservation, Planning & Zoning and UW Extension, and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Jake Hahn. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Review items, if any, pulled from Consent Agenda.** None
7. **Risk and Injury Report.** None.
8. **Land & Water Conservation Department.**
 - A. Open/approve low bid for Dale and Jason Behrend's intermittent stream culvert crossing project. No bids were received. Shane Wucherpfennig explained this project was bid out four different times. The first time it was bid out, one bid was received from Kolo Trucking, and the CEED Committee denied the bid because it was considerably higher than the LWCD estimate. Shane added he is not sure why we did not receive any more bids on this project, but he could solicit bids or could do "average cost bidding" and find a contractor to complete the project. The Committee agreed that Wucherpfennig should begin with soliciting bids before doing average cost bidding.

- B. Review/approve resolution to oppose changes in the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims program. Shane Wucherpennig explained the resolution to oppose changes in the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims program (WDACP) through Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 that would eliminate all County control. Wood County has administered the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims program since inception in 1983. Fifty percent of the Conservation Program Coordinator's position is funded through the WDACP and Wood County landowners would lose the local assistance provided by this position. Discussion followed.

Dave LaFontaine commented he feels it is another attempt for the state to take away local control.

Bob Ashbeck asked how the program is funded and Wucherpennig added it is funded through hunting and fishing licenses. Ashbeck added he would have to vote against the resolution as he feels we are taking advantage of State money.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve the joint resolution with Judicial & Legislative Committee to oppose changes in the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried with Bob Ashbeck opposing.

- C. Discuss UW Stevens Point Groundwater Center well testing data set. Chair Curry explained he wanted this on the agenda for discussion, as when he took the resolution for continuing well water testing to the Operations Committee, someone asked why Wood County is providing free nitrate testing when testing is available through Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center (CWGC), UW Stevens Point. Shane Wucherpennig explained why the Land & Water Conservation Department took on the countywide nitrate testing versus using the CWGC data.

- CWGC data only consists of wells tested during a certain timeframe.
- Data not shared to public.
- CWGC database is an excellent tool for statistical data use.

Benefits of Wood County Land & Water data

- Able to get a current baseline in Wood County
- Know names, owner, and well depths.
- Data will be helpful if future groundwater study.
- Educational standpoint – brings awareness to landowners.

Discussion and questions followed. Chair Curry shared he wanted this committee and the County Board to know what we are gaining by offering the free nitrate testing. Bill Leichtnam mentioned the well testing is a very good program and we should start thinking about funding for the next step.

Shane gave a brief update on the May 4, 2021 North Central Land and Water Conservation virtual meeting, Matt Krueger, WI Land + Water Executive Director reported on the Governor's budget proposals, which includes funding Land & Water Conservation positions at the level outlined in the Joint DATCP/DNR grant application (first position 100%, second position 70% and third position 50%). Matt encouraged Land & Water Conservation Departments/Committees to reach out to the Joint Finance Committee in the form of a letter, supporting this proposal.

Motion by Bill Leichtnam to have the County Conservationist draft a letter to the Joint Finance Committee expressing support of the restored funding to Land & Water Conservation Departments and have the CEED review before sending. Second by Jake Hahn. Motion Carried unanimously.

D. Committee Reports

- i Citizen's (Wood County) Groundwater Group meeting. Bill Leichtnam shared a recap of the April 19th Citizen's Groundwater Group Meeting. George Kraft, Professor Emeritus, UWSP gave a presentation on "What we've learned from 30 years of

Groundwater Testing". Highlights of the meeting are covered in the Citizen's Groundwater Group Meeting minutes on page 30 of the CEED packet.

The next meeting will be held virtually on Monday, May 17th; the guest speaker will be Russ Groves, Entomologist.

ii. **Health Committee report.** Ben Jeffery shared there are no major updates on AGC. Completed contact information for wells not yet tested.

iii. **Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGWCC) committee report.** Nancy Turyk provided an update on the Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative Committee.

- The six county quarterly meeting was held in April.
- The \$60,000 grant was received.

Bill Leichtnam mentioned a Portage County Groundwater Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting at the Portage County Annex Building on June 3rd at 6:00 pm.

iv. **Golden Sands RC&D report.** Bill Leichtnam shared the next meeting is May 20th. He will have an update at the June CEED.

9. Private Sewage.

Jason Grueneberg reported over 3200 septic maintenance notices have been mailed.

10. Land Records.

Jason Grueneberg shared the Land Information Council meeting was held on April 29th.

11. County Surveyor.

Hosting the County Land Surveyor meeting.

12. Planning

Jason Grueneberg reported briefly on the following projects.

- Wood County Bike and Pedestrian plan is moving forward.
- Working with the Regional Plan Commission on an ATV/UTV economic impact study. Hope to have a report by fall.
- Working on a Wood County ATV/UTV plan/strategy.
- Adam Dekleyn working with several municipalities on Comprehensive Plans and/or Ordinances.

13. Economic Development

A. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Update.

Jason Grueneberg and Dave LaFontaine gave an update on the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

- Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 28th, Jason will scan and email information from the NCWRPC meeting packet to the Committee.
- Portage County just signed on to be a member.
- Sprint Grant – deadline May 12th.
- Jason participated in a meeting to develop a strategy for regional recovery from COVID-19. The planning process will take place over the next year.
- The Regional Plan Commission held discussion on forestry. The forestry industry has been drastically affected by the VERSO closure.

B. Update on Economic Development Administration CARES Act funding for recovery efforts in response to the VERSO Mill closure.

Jason Grueneberg shared an article announcing CARES Act funding in the amount of \$144,000 to Wisconsin Rapids following VERSO mill shutdown. Collaborated with Heart of Wisconsin and the City of Wisconsin Rapids to apply for this funding. This is a direct benefit of being a NCWRPC member.

Dave LaFontaine asked about the \$14.1 million Wood County is going to receive through the American Rescue Plan and how that the funds will be used. Jason Grueneberg noted the County is waiting for guidance on the use of these funds. Lance Pliml shared the \$14.1 million will be received in two checks, with the first check arriving sometime in May. Money will be put in interest-bearing accounts until the use of the money is finalized.

C. Discuss implementation of Wood County Rural Economic Development Plan.

Jason Grueneberg and Nancy Turyk reported.

- The REDI plan was adopted by County Board in April.
- A lot of work to work towards implementation.
- Looking to structure lead to move forward with broadband group.
- Goal is to have Nancy Turyk or Jason Grueneberg attended one of the group meetings.
- Anyone who wants to be part of the initiative can participate.
- Hope to see groups forming.
- Discussion with CEED on grant program
 - Proposals
 - How to distribute funds

Discussion followed which led to the next agenda item - Discuss 2022 Economic Development Budget.

D. Discuss 2022 Economic Development Budget.

Jason Grueneberg shared he is looking for direction on how to structure the 2022 Economic Development Grant program. He would like a decision by the June CEED meeting if the same procedure as last year should be followed or if changes are needed.

Dave Lafontaine mentioned it would be very helpful to look at the REDI plan. We need to know where money will be allocated to and what partners we need to implement the REDI plan.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Chairperson Curry stated Grueneberg should send the same information/application forms as last year and look at groups for initiatives. It was the consensus of the CEED that Jason have the information/application forms ready to send out shortly after the June CEED meeting.

E. Broadband grant update and discussion.

Jason Grueneberg handed out an article on broadband connectivity that was in the State Journal. He also gave an update on the broadband grant. Bug Tussel Wireless received approval for grant funding of about \$1,000,000 from the Public Service Commission (PSC) for broadband expansion in Wood County. In addition, County Board approved a resolution to provide Bug Tussel Wireless a \$1,000,000 loan. Bug Tussel has started to do some work in the county and a request for payment of the upfront work could be coming soon.

Chair Curry mentioned Wood County should be working on how to structure the grant with Bug Tussel Wireless and this should probably be on the Operations Committee meeting agenda for discussion on drawing up an agreement with Bug Tussel Wireless. Jason Grueneberg will check with Lance Pliml on this.

14. Extension

A. General Office Update.

Jason Hausler shared a Wisconsin Extension Association (WEXA) meeting is taking place at 10:00 a.m., today (May 5), to formulate by-laws, update procedures, etc. Jason did not know if Wood County paid their \$50 WEXA dues and added, if the CEED is in favor, future dues could be put in Extension Department's budget.

Lance Pliml was in a meeting with Mark O'Connell, Executive Director of the Counties Association, and Mark joined the CEED meeting virtually to answer questions on WEXA dues.

He explained the dues are \$50/county to take care of travel; zero dollars are going to the association. He will check if Wood County has paid last year's dues.

The new format for the monthly staff report was put on hold. Hope to have it in the June CEED packet.

The 2020 Wood County Extension Annual Report was in the CEED packet and is being shared far & wide. If you have any questions on the report, please let Jason know.

B. Update on Board Chairs Return to Office Request

Jason Hausler shared 100% county paid employees will return to working in the office by June 1. July 1st is the target date for State staff members to return to the office.

C. 2022 Extension Contract Update.

Jason Hausler referred to the Educator's contract information on pages 57 and 58 of the CEED packet. He explained there is a projected \$4,000 increase in the Educator's contract budget from 2021 to 2022 based on true cost adjustments for health insurance and other benefits. It should also be noted that the baseline cost-share for professional development in the budget will sunset in 2022.

D. Educator Presentation – Hannah Wendels, *FoodWise Nutrition Educator*

Hannah Wendels, FoodWise Nutrition Educator shared highlights of the FoodWise program.

- In January, started monthly nutrition lessons with Ho-Chunk Head start – this will wrap up in June.
- Teaching virtual nutrition classes at Mead and Howe Elementary.
- New partnership with Wisconsin Rapids Food Services Director – implemented "harvest of the month" program, which promotes Wisconsin grown vegetables.
- Working on "in person" summer programs at the YMCA and Food Pantry.

Dave LaFontaine asked if Wood County schools outside the Wisconsin Rapids School District qualify for support under the FoodWise Program. Jason Hausler and Hannah explained the guidelines for qualification and added at this time no other school district in Wood County qualifies.

15. Requests for per diem for meeting attendants.

None.

16. The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 9:00 am., at the Wood County Courthouse in Room 114.

17. Agenda items for next meeting.

A. Agenda items for the June meeting need to be submitted by May 26th.

18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.

19. Adjourn. Chair Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Minutes by Lori Ruess, Land & Water Conservation Department

MINUTES
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
 TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Kenneth Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Jake Hahn, Dave LaFontaine, Bill Leichtnam, Carmen Good

Staff Present:

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpennig, Lori Ruess.

Others Present: District #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, District #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Ray Bossert, (via WebEx).

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 am.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comment.** None.
4. **Review Correspondence.** None.
5. **Review and approve support letter for conservation funding & water quality funding proposals to Joint Finance Committee.** Chairperson Curry asked if everyone reviewed the letter included in the CEED packet and the edited letter that Shane Wucherpennig emailed to the CEED. Bob Ashbeck mentioned he did not see the letter; Wucherpennig gave him a paper copy. Wucherpennig explained the letter requests support for restored annual base funding for county conservation staffing and items related to water quality and conservation in Wisconsin. The annual base funding obligation as defined in Wis. Stats Chapter 92 has not been met for 20 years.

Bill Leichtnam suggested a copy of the letter be forwarded to County Conservationists throughout the State. Wucherpennig will forward the letter to Matt Krueger, Wisconsin Land + Water Executive Director, to send to County Conservationists. He will also forward the letter to Bill Clendenning for the June 28th Wisconsin Counties Association meeting.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to sign and send the letter supporting the proposed conservation funding and water quality funding to the Joint Finance Committee. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried.

Voting Nay – Robert Ashbeck - Asking too much money from the State at one time. It's too much to expect from the State.

6. **Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** No additional meetings to schedule. The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 2nd at 9:00 a.m., Room 114.

7. **Adjourn.**

Chairperson Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

Minutes by Lori Ruess, Land & Water Conservation Department

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Extension Wood County

For the period of: May 2021

For the range of vouchers: 30210030 - 30210033

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30210030	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	05/11/2021	\$41.02	P
30210031	UW SOIL TESTING LAB	UW Soil Testing Charges	05/11/2021	\$650.00	P
30210032	US BANK	May Statement	05/18/2021	\$206.34	
30210033	JONJAK ALLISON	May Expenses	05/25/2021	\$39.00	
Grand Total:				\$936.36	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPT

For the period of: MAY 2021

For the range of vouchers: 18210055 - 18210062

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18210055	CLEMENTI ANTHONY & STEPHANIE	LWRM - CS WELL DECOMMISSIONING	03/11/2021	\$1,129.10	P
18210056	PARKER MCCRORY MFG CO	WLD - 5 - 6 V BATTERIES/HAUKE	04/21/2021	\$160.15	P
18210057	PLANTRA	LWC - 1800 TREE SHELTERS	04/27/2021	\$4,761.00	P
18210058	WEILER ALAN K	SWRM - CS NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	05/03/2021	\$6,020.00	P
18210059	TRACTOR SUPPLY CREDIT PLAN	WLD - 5 MILE SOLAR ENERGIZERS	03/29/2021	\$599.96	P
18210060	STRAIGHT LINE FENCE	WLD - 75% COST SHARE 6M FENCE	03/28/2021	\$11,775.00	P
18210061	WOOD COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS	WLD - RECORDING FEES 6M FENCE	05/03/2021	\$30.00	P
18210062	US BANK	LWCD - ENV ED & FIELD SUPPLIES	05/18/2021	\$51.09	
Grand Total:				\$24,526.30	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning Department

For the period of: May 2021

For the range of vouchers: 22210049 - 22210061

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22210049	INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION	PS-State Sanitary Permit (Apr)	04/30/2021	\$1,400.00	P
22210050	CARMODY SOFTWARE INC	PS-Upgrades/Services (May)	05/03/2021	\$299.00	P
22210051	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Services Per Contract (May)	05/04/2021	\$833.00	P
22210052	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	PS-ATU Mtce Processing 1st	04/30/2021	\$114.06	P
22210053	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	PS-Septic Mtce Processing 1st	04/30/2021	\$473.27	P
22210054	CLOUDPOINT GEOSPATIAL INC	LR-Bldg Footprint 60% Complete	04/30/2021	\$1,895.00	P
22210055	PANKRATZ MATTHEW & CAITLIN	PS-Wis Fund Grant Award	05/13/2021	\$2,657.00	P
22210056	MILWAUKEE CO SHERIFFS DEPT	PS-Service Fee (1)	05/12/2021	\$90.00	P
22210057	MILWAUKEE CO SHERIFFS DEPT	PS-Service Fee (1)	05/12/2021	\$90.00	P
22210058	US BANK	Credit Card Charges	05/18/2021	\$42.20	
22210059	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	05/23/2021	\$89.78	
22210060	MASTER GRAPHICS	LR-HP DesignJet Printer	05/20/2021	\$6,077.90	
22210061	MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL	LR-Datamark Address Evaluation	05/06/2021	\$17,000.00	
Grand Total:				\$31,061.21	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:



We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.

4-H – Positive Youth Development

Laura Huber, 4-H Program Educator

- A virtual meeting for Cloverbud-aged youth (grades K-2) where we learned about ground water and the water cycle. This effort was designed to provide youth with social connection and hands-on learning opportunities.
- A four-part 4-H club leader training for adults and youth who want to lead a 4-H club, assist a 4-H club leader, serve as a 4-H youth club officer, or learn more about 4-H clubs. The goal of this effort is to prepare youth and adults to provide positive youth development opportunities for young people to experience belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity, and to foster educational opportunities tied to the UW-Madison knowledge base.
- A virtual training for youth leaders from Clark, Marathon, and Wood Counties who will serve as camp counselors this summer during which youth learned more about camp counselor roles and responsibilities. The goal of this effort was to engage them in planning three upcoming day camps, and to prepare them for their roles.
- Design and implementation of the process to review and support submissions to the Positive Youth Development (PYD) virtual learning calendar, including development and curation of website resources and presenter mentorship, in order to build presenter capacity in virtual instruction and provide opportunities on a wide variety of content to meet youth needs to build relationships, connect, and learn.

Agriculture

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Agent

- Sample collection and survey information is being carried out for a Sustainable Agriculture Grant to evaluate the ability to utilize cover crops as high quality feed for lactating dairy cattle.
- On farm interviews are being conducted to assess needs and educational interests of dairy producers in Clark and Wood County.



Community Development

Nancy Turyk, Community Development Educator

- Develop an economic development plan for Wood County with contributions from its partners to guide initiatives needed to strengthen the local economy and collaborative environment.
- A collection of information and resources for County board and staff where they receive up to date information and available resources about energy efficiency and renewable energy to ensure they are aware of programs and funding opportunities.
- A collection of information and resources for economic development partners where they receive up to date information and available resources to ensure local business learn about economic development programs and funding opportunities.
- A proposal for the Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative was funded by DATCP to compile and evaluate existing groundwater information to guide management and policy decisions.
- A series of meetings for local, regional, and state partners to learn about economic development activities that encourage coordinated and efficient economic development strategies and collaborations
- An exploratory process for underserved community members to develop a collaborative initiative with Wisconsin Rapids, underrepresented communities and UniverCity Alliance to enhance culturally-relevant knowledge within the whole community.
- Developing a climate resilience menu for communities and Extension Educators to identify and guide strategies to enhance community resilience and mitigation.
- Developing a professional development series to provide Extension staff with an opportunity to learn about climate change in Wisconsin to enhance their confidence and programming capabilities.



Facilitation of the economic development planning process.

Cranberry Outreach

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

- A pre-emergent herbicide trial in which registered and unregistered chemistries are evaluated for their efficacy against identified weeds, and their crop-safeness.
- A workshop in which cranberry growers learned to propagate native nematodes to control insect populations on their farms.



Herbicide trial close-up



FoodWise

Hannah Wendels, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

- A virtual strength building and healthy eating class (StrongBodies) for older adults, where participants improve strength, balance, and flexibility to stay healthy and socially connected during a time of isolation.
- A monthly series of virtual nutrition classes for young children in 4K, where they made healthy snacks and learned about the five food groups to be healthier in the classroom and at home.
- A 4-week series of virtual nutrition classes to kindergartners, where the students learn about the five food groups, the importance of eating breakfast, and participate in physical activity to learn how to be healthier in the classroom and at home.

Horticulture

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Coordinator

- An interactive web based class for the general public, where participants were introduced to sowing seeds, planting transplants, and differentiating which crops are best suited for each method. This effort was designed to increase food security.
- Planning for a webinar for home gardeners in collaboration with the Marshfield Cultural Fair and Badger Talks. The goal of this effort is introduce participants to the importance of genetic diversity so that they may become better environmental stewards in their backyard gardens.



Human Development and Relationships

Jackie Carattini, Human Development and Relationships Educator

- A 10 session virtual series (Aging Mastery Program) for seniors in Wood, Sheboygan and Central WI counties, where participants develop sustainable behaviors across many dimensions that lead to improved health, stronger economic security, enhanced well-being, and increased societal participation. The program, developed by the National Council of Aging is designed to help older adults learn to age well by focusing on key aspects of health, finances, relationships, personal growth, and community involvement.
- An in-service training for HeadStart staff and teachers, where they gained hands-on skills to be able to cope with stress while leaning about the importance of self-care. The goal of this effort was to support them in putting their self-care needs first in order to be able to care for others.

Natural Resources

Rachael Whitehair, Natural Resource Educator



*Farmers of Mill Creek Field Trip:
Students watch the digging of the soil pit.*

- Two field trips to the Eron Farm hosted by the Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council. Students ages K2 through 4th grade came to the farm for a morning of programming on pollinator habitat, soil health, cover crops, and water resources. Educators from UW-Madison Extension Wood County and Portage County, and Portage County Land & Water provided hands-on learning experiences. Wood County Land & Water provided their new roller crimper for a demonstration on a field of rye.
- Planning for a restoration site for the Marshfield community in collaboration with North Ridge Church, Land & Water, Auburndale High School, The Friends of Mill Creek Community Group, and The Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Group. The goal of this effort is to assist the development of this site regarding prairie establishment and management as well as develop educational opportunities through signage, so the community has a natural space for worship, reflection, recreation, and education.

Staff Report for May 2021

Caleb Armstrong

- Worked with Barry Richardson on a cost-share contract to help cover his no-till planting he did earlier this year on his hayfields.
 - Worked on future plans as well with him to do some more no-tilling as well as introducing some cover crops onto his fields this upcoming fall. Have to still plan out what fields and what cover crop will be introduced into this all.
- Attended a managed grazing webinar that was more specific to linking food, people, animals, and the environment and how they all work together as one.
- Listened in to UW-Extension Corn update for the surrounding areas with the growing season getting under way. This gave us updates with prices, common pests that are already around in the area, as well as soil updates relating to temperature.
- Picked up the no-till drill from Jared Katzenberger as where it was fixed due to an arm piece on the drill get damaged during planting.
- Dropped off and picked up no-till drill to Erick Johnson located in southern part of Pittsville.
 - He planted with the drill about 70 acres of interseeding grasses into pastures for his horses to have.
- Dropped off and picked-up no-till drill from Paul Ruesch located just north of Milladore.
 - He was using the no-till drill to plant about 3 acres of land for a pollinator mix that he got through the NRCS.
 - Paul mixed shelled cocoa beans with his mix to even out the seed mix.
- Attended an invasive species webinar, more relating to phragmites. This was on how to control the invasive and the mapping research that has been done that has showed the spread overtime of it.
- Started up our 6 month long water sampling for Mill Creek and Bear Creek.
 - Had to work with Scott Provost on collecting materials needed so we could proceed with collecting the water samples.
- Proceeded with our monthly streamflow monitoring on the 6 creeks located in the south east part of Wood County.
- Did some no-till drill checks on upcoming cash crops starting to emerge from the ground.
- Worked on fixing up the drill with Shane to repair some parts that were malfunctioning.
 - More not so urgent work is needed to be done to repair the drill up to speed.
- Went with Shane to Arlington to retrieve roller crimper for youth education uses on Eron's event barn, for a prairie planting.

Activities Report for Julianna Kollross

MAY 2021

- Started my summer internship on May 10th, 2021
- Attended orientation and met my coworkers
- Went on a site visit with Shane to speak with a landowner regarding the waterway in their backyard
- Learned about no-till farming, AEA's, and Farmland Preservation
- Assisted Rod with fence inspection
- Did safety trainings
- Weeded and watered the Pollinator Garden
- Assisted with a conservation education event for children at the Eron Event Barn
- Researched standards of conservation practices
- Assisted Shane with returning the crimper to Arlington
- Listened in on the Citizens (Wood County) Groundwater Group meeting
- Assisted Caleb and Klayton to replace posts to mark a CREP boundary at a farm
- Assisted Caleb and Klayton with collecting water samples of the Mill Creek Watershed to send them in for nutrient testing.
- Assisted Shane in picking up the Rusty Crayfish from Pittsville High School
- Printed & laminated maps in preparation for the Transect Survey
- Assisted Caleb and Klayton in dropping off the no-till drill at a farm
- Attended the Staff Meeting on May 24th

Staff Report for Klayton Kree

May 2021

- Attended/listened in on the NorthCentral Area Land and Water Association meeting
- No till drill pickup, then drop off at Johnson with Caleb A
- Health Coaching Phone call 7th with Adam Fandre
- No till drill pickup, then drop off at Ruesch, and then pickup 4 days later with Caleb A
- Grazing webinars with Holly Giombi NRCS
- Monthly Streamflow monitoring with Caleb A. measuring streams around southeastern WI Rapids. Use an instrument to gather stream information for monitoring multiple creeks.
- Monthly water quality sampling with Caleb A. and Julianna K. in the mill creek watershed area. Take samples from the surface water in containers and put them on ice to mail to a lab.
- No till drill pickup and drop off at Kueffer with Caleb A
- Finished construction plan design for Schreiner stream crossing and created cost estimate and sent over to landowner/user Scheuer for his use to look at.
- Have continued working on gathering data and information for Cashen streambank protection and figuring out what needs to be done and how to do it to help fix the erosion problems. Will send that information, once fully gathered, to Drew Z.
- Began working on preliminary data and information collection for Dietel
 - Survey for a TBM elevation point at Cashen w/Julianna K and then a site survey at Dietel to put into AutoCAD to begin design work for stations and computations.
 - Will use preliminary data for aid in design work.

Activities Report for Lori Ruess
MAY 2021

- Answered phones and replied to emails
- Reviewed general ledger.
- Reviewed payroll reports and payroll registers.
- Completed April sales tax report and forwarded to Finance.
- Updated tree shelter forms (price increase) and sent a request to IT to post them on the Land Conservation webpage.
- Assisted Julianna Kollross, summer intern, with office procedures.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the May 6th and May 20th payrolls.
- Attended May 5th and May 18th CEED meetings and completed minutes.
- Updated various forms using Adobe and making them fillable.
- Assisted Rod with mailing of NMM notification letters.
- Meeting with Klayton to review carryover and 2021 SWRM projects.
- Teleconference with Dan Brandl to review and discuss progress of the new non-metallic mining program.
- Attended May 24th CEED meeting and completed minutes.
- Pollinator garden maintenance with Julianna.
- Completed a cost-share contract for well decommissioning for a landowner in the Town of Seneca.
- Organized County Board packet and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Electronically submitted staff reports and packet materials to the County Clerk's office for CEED packet.

Activities Report for Rod Mayer

MAY 2021

- Completed 1st quarter Wildlife Damage Program reimbursement and submitted to DNR and updated DNR database.
- Completed 6M fence contract (recorded), sent copy to landowner, updated DNR database and files.
- Dupee mine site review correspondence – highway commissioner for access approval, DNR for mine discharge, looked over storm water plan, – etc. Contacted engineering company for minor edits and received for final review.
- Completed public notice for new Dupee mine site – published in Wisconsin Rapids Tribune and sent letters to all landowners within 300’ of the site. Put file together for the new mine site.
- Review, edits, and approval on Kobza pond site exemption received from a complaint. Sent letter to pond owner and an update to complainant.
- Inspected four ponds – GPSed and made maps where needed for checks in size and wetlands, organized inspection pictures, completed letters with one for an extension to stabilize site and three completed.
- Attended North Central Land & Water association meeting virtually.
- Sent letter to landowner for new pond complaint – confirmed area on GIS.
- Completed inspections on 16 wildlife program fences - including: contacted all landowners, inspected all borders of fences, created maps showing all issues, organized pics showing all issues, sent letters with inspection forms to all landowners, updated DNR database.
- Delivered fencer batteries to Apiary owner.
- Received order of tree shelters – unloaded in shop.
- Met with landowner for goose issues in new seeded corn – advised on use of bird banger scare tactics. Sent info to additional landowner for how to deal with geese issues on cranberry marsh.
- Put together maps and contact info for Forest/Parks Dept. detailing mine site locations for summer trail improvements.
- Reviewed and updated financial assurance renewal for a Non-metallic mine site.
- Prepared maps for upcoming alfalfa appraisal for one of the enrollees looked into disk height method.
- Correspondence with Apiary producer – placed order for 6v solar chargers for bear abatement.



Activities Report for Shane Wucherpennig – May, 2021

- **May 4** – North Central Land & Water Conservation Association meeting. Met with Cory & Erica Leigh for a well closure.
- **May 5** – CEED Meeting, emails, Phone correspondence.
- **May 6** – virtual meetings, Emails, Phone correspondence.
- **May 7** – J&L resolution opposing DNR bill to have state take over the Wildlife Damage program.
- **May 10** – Julianna Kollross (summer intern) first day orientation and Landowner visits.
- **May 11** – CAD training – Worked on well closure plan.
- **May 12** – Met with Rachel Whitehair to discuss a prairie project by Marshfield. Delivered compost to Wood County schools for prairie planting/educational days. Randy Seidl Storage facility design.
- **May 13** – Picked up and delivered Roller crimper from Arlington Ag. Res. Station to use in a field day on the Eron farm for the 14th.
- **May 14** – Help set up at a FMCWC Field Day Mfld & WI Rapids Schools.
- **May 17** – Delivered roller crimper back to Arlington. Citizens (Wood County) Groundwater Group meeting in the afternoon.
- **May 18** – Special CEED Meeting, County Board..
- **May 19** – PHS Rusty Crayfish project in Pittsville. Time reporting, agenda items, staff reports, reports and BITS Program.
- **May 20** – Pickup and drop off compost at Kennedy school in Jct. City.
- **May 21** – Zoom meeting. Tracking. PACRS Meeting.
- **May 24** – Staff meeting – Worked on well closure plan.
- **May 25** – Met with Mike Duckett and Russ Biebl from NRCS to discuss issues he is having with his waste storage facility. – Worked on well closure plan.
- **May 26** – Department Head meeting – Worked on well closure plan, field visits.
- **May 27** – CSGCC Communications Team Meeting with Becky Roberts and Lynn Markham.
- **May 28** – off
- **May 31** – Holiday Memorial Day.

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director
Adam DeKleyn, County Planner
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator
Jeff Brewbaker, Code Administrator
Scott Custer, Code Technician
Kim Keech, Admin Services 5
Victoria Wilson, Admin Services 4

RE: Staff Report for June 2, 2021

1. **Economic Development** (Jason Grueneberg)

- a. Wisconsin Counties Association Weekly Leadership Meeting – On May 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th, I attended the WCA weekly leadership meetings. The meetings provide updates on the state budget, facilitated discussion on the redistricting process, as well as a variety of other updates and discussion.
- b. Wood County Economic Development Roundtable – On May 6th, I facilitated a Wood County Economic Development Roundtable meeting. The notes from the meeting are attached to this report. The Roundtable members will start shifting focus from COVID-19 response to implementation of the Wood County Rural Economic Development Plan.
- c. Forestry Industry Listening Session – On May 11th, I participated in a Forest Industry listening session to better address the changing industry and prepare for the future. The session was coordinated by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission in cooperation with the Council on Forestry, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, and the Department of Natural Resources.
- d. Marshfield Economic Development Board – On May 13th, I attended the city of Marshfield Economic Development Board meeting. Some of the agenda items included a presentation on West 2nd Street development concept, 2021 budget overview, 2 façade grant requests, and a discussion regarding a proposed city subdivision.
- e. Central Wisconsin Economic Development Fund – On May 19th, I participated in the Central Wisconsin Economic Development Fund meeting. Agenda items included approval of the administrative services contract, review of financials, the monthly funds status and activity report, and the administrator's update.
- f. Rural Economic Development Innovation (REDI) Webinar – On May 20th, I attended a webinar on maintaining a highly functioning REDI team.
- g. Heart of Wisconsin Economic Development Task Force – On May 25th, I participated in the Heart of Wisconsin Economic Development Task Force

meeting. The meeting primarily focused on the creation of the group and as well as discussion on possibly restarting a Business and Education Alliance.

2. Planning (Adam DeKleyn)

- a. Land Subdivision - Plat Review – CSM: (7) CSMs were submitted for review/approval. (7) CSMs were approved/recorded. (4) CSMs are pending approval.
- b. Town of Grand Rapids Comprehensive Plan – Met with Town Plan Commission met twice this month. Facilitated SWOT analysis and vision development with PC. Draft of plan is completed and available online [HERE](#).
- c. Wood County Well – Water Systems Program – Continuing to navigate program implementation process. Tentative implementation date: 1/1/22. Staff are in the process of developing DPZ administrative/program functions and well driller outreach efforts. Staff attended DNR training as a prerequisite to certification. Program information is available [HERE](#).
- d. Water Quality Management (WQM)/Sewer Service Area (SSA) Review –
City of Wisconsin Rapids SSA: Review Compliance Letter issued for Sanitary Sewer Extension – Dollar General. Village of Biron (S9, T22N, R6E). To service a retail store and adjacent site for future commercial development.

City of Marshfield SSA: Review Compliance Letter issued for: Sanitary Sewer Extension – City Subdivision - Daniel's Addition. City of Marshfield (S12, T25N, R2E). Extending service along Cypress Ave, Andrea St, and Birch Ave
- e. Wood County Bike and Pedestrian Plan Update – Initiating plan update with assistance of RPC. Community survey and mapping application have been developed with input from core planning group. Survey and mapping application will be rolled out in the near future.
- f. Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance – Town of Lincoln readopted its zoning ordinance in May. The Town submitted a request for approval to DPZ. Included in this packet is a staff memo detailing the request. CEED and CB action is required.
- g. Town of Cameron Zoning Update – Updated official town zoning map. An interactive official town zoning map is available online: [HERE](#)
- h. Wood County ATV/UTV Survey and Economic Impact Project – Survey has been developed. The purpose of the project is to gather information from ATV/UTV users related to trail and route preferences, and to determine some basic economic impact from users.
- i. Other Town Zoning Updates – Completing updates to the following official town zoning maps: Cameron and Grand Rapids. Presenting at upcoming town meetings.

- j. Town/County Planning and Zoning Assistance – Provided planning and zoning assistance to the general public and town officials.

3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- a. Parcel Mapping
- b. Addressing Updates
- c. Working with DATAMARK deliverable, reviewing candidate addresses missing from the GIS data.
- d. Working on server migration.

4. Code Administrator (Jeff Brewbaker)

04-28-2021 – Plan review, soils evaluation & hydrograph replacement mound >24” TN: 18; soils evaluation & hydrograph replacement conventional TN: 07

04-29-2021 – Soils onsite TN: 03; (4) unpermitted failing systems TN: 03

04-30-2021 – Vacation

05-03-2021 – Vacation

05-04-2021 – Soils evaluation replacement mound >24” TN: 14; plan review replacement mound A+0 TN: 10; issued shoreland permit-pipeline repair TN: 10

05-05-2021 – Inspection replacement plow mound >24” TN: 14; mobile home site visit without a sanitary permit TN: 15; HT maintenance discussion with home owner TN: 15

05-06-2021 – Code Technician 6 month review; soils evaluation, plan review & issued replacement mound >24” TN 13; soils evaluation, hydrograph & plan review new conventional TN: 07; shoreland Biron flowage TN: 17

05-07-2021 – Soils evaluation & hydrograph new conventional TN: 18; resent shoreland request-campground TN: 18; soils evaluation, hydrograph & plan review new conventional TN: 18; plan review new conventional-10 campsites TN: 18

05-10-2021 – Soils evaluation, plan review & issued replacement mound <24” TN:07; soils evaluation, hydrograph & plan review new conventional TN: 18

05-11-2021 – (7) Unpermitted system verification notices TN: various

05-12-2021 – Shoreland permit (34 private campsites) TN: 18

05-13-2021 – Violation onsite TN: 11; inspection mound A+0 (geo mat) plow TN: 10; soils onsite replacement mound <24” TN: 22; inspection replacement mound A+0 (geo mat) plow TN: 10

05-14-2021 – Inspection replacement mound <24” plow TN: 22; soils evaluation HT TN:

03

05-17-2021 – Soils evaluation, plan review & issued new mound A+0 (revised HT) TN: 10; proposed campground expansion TN: 18; failing system verification TN: 07

05-18-2021 – Inspection mound <24” tank & absorption cell TN: 22; soils evaluation & hydrograph new conventional TN: 19; soils evaluation TN: 02

05-19-2021 – Soils evaluation, plan review & issued replacement mound <24” TN: 13; soils evaluation& issued replacement mound A+0 TN: 20

05-20-2021 – Inspection new mound A+0 abs cell & seeded/mulch TN: 11; Wisconsin DNR Well Delegation Training

05-21-2021 – Septic system verification TN: 09

05-24-2021 – Soils evaluation TN: 14; septic system verification TN: 15; plan review & issued reconnect mound <24” TN: 19; septic system investigation TN: 15

05-25-2021 – Soils evaluation & hydrograph Camper sites with sewer TN: 18; Castle Rock Watershed Floodplain Discovery meeting; camper investigation @ request of Town of Grand Rapids; 5-mile creek shoreland & floodplain onsite TN: 18

5. Code Technician (Scott Custer)

4-28-2021 – Conventional application review TN-07. Shoreland permit review TN-18.

4-29-2021 – Holding tank onsite meeting TN-03*. New conventional system inspection TN-18.

4-30-2021 – Inspection report mound TN-18. HT inspection/maintenance phone meeting with land owner X 2.

5-3-2021 – HT Inspection Report TN-01. Shoreland Meeting with land owner TN-07. Mound plan review TN-14.

5-4-2021 – Mound plan review TN-21. HT plan review TN-01. Holding tank notices meeting.

5-5-2021 – Mound plow inspection TN-14. Shoreland application meeting with land owner TN-07. Created goals for 6 month review.

5-6-2021 – Issued (X3) shoreland zoning permits TN-07. 6 month probation review. Mound inspection TN-14.

5-7-2021 – Mound inspection TN-14. Conventional system application review TN-18. Holding tank renewal TN-15 (X2).Conventional plan review TN-18.

5-10-2021 – Conventional inspection TN-07. Mound plan review TN-12.

5-11-2021 – Mound inspection TN-17. Permit renewal for replacement geo-mat TN-01.

5-12-2021 – Shoreland meeting with landowner building a new house. Issued shoreland permit TN-18. 2 Inspection reports for conventional systems TN-13 and TN-18.

5-13-2021 – Conventional inspection TN-18 (X2). Conventional inspection TN-13.

5-14-2021 – Floodplain utility structure discussion with utility company. Issued Mound system permit. Reviewed shoreland permit application.

5-17-2021 – Issued shoreland permit TN-20. Mound core inspection TN-12. Unpermitted inspection TN-07. Mound inspection TN-10. Reconnect inspection TN-16.

5-18-2021 – Conventional plan review TN-19. Conventional plan review TN-13. Mound plan review TN-02.

5-19-2021 – Mound core two inspections TN-02. Conventional inspection TN-18. Mound inspection report TN-14. Reviewed HT reconnect permit TN-15.

5-20-2021 – Conventional inspection TN-07. Well Delegation training online.

5-21-2021 – System verification TN-09. Conventional plan approval TN-14. Reviewed reconnect permit TN-22.

5-24-2021 – Reviewed reconnect permit application TN-15. Reviewed new conventional permit application TN-18. Failing system verification TN-15.*

5-25-2021 – Castle Rock Watershed meeting. Floodplain/Shoreland onsite meeting.

*Training purposes for Code Technician with Code Administrator.

6. Office Activity (Kim Keech and Victoria Wilson)

- a. Monthly Sanitary Permit Activity – There were 17 sanitary permits issued in April 2021 (6 New, 8 Replacements, 3 Reconnects and 0 Non-Plumbing) with revenues totaling \$9,250. There were 20 sanitary permits issued in April 2020 (11 New, 7 Replacements, 2 Reconnects and 0 Non-Plumbing) with revenues totaling \$11,675.

There were 36 sanitary permits issued through April 2021. For comparison purposes, the following are through the same period for the previous five years: 2020 – 42, 2019 – 24, 2018 – 27, 2017 – 46 and 2016 – 32.

- b. 2021 Tax Refund Intercept Program (TRIP) – As of May 25th, Wood County received \$0 payment for a total of \$2,661.00 on five (5) outstanding cases for 2021.
- c. 2021 Maintenance Notices – Septic Maintenance Notices, ATU (Aerobic) Maintenance Notices, White Knight (Aerobic) Maintenance Notices, Holding Tank (Farmer Exempt) and Holding Tank Maintenance Notices were mailed Friday, April 23rd with a due date of Friday, August 13th. There are approximately 3,207 to be mailed between the five notices.

- d. Enforcement Activities Update (Small Claims) – None
- e. Sanitary Permit Database System Project – The next phase for the sanitary permit system database will consist of creating a service provider and comments interface. Information Technology Department continues work on the design phase of the project.
- f. Survey Document Indexing Project – There are over 4,000 survey documents that are being indexed with a tentative completion by the end of 2021.
- g. ArcGIS Software Project – Editing addresses in 22 townships.
- h. Wisconsin Fund Grant Program - 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, the 2017 biennial budget act, repealed, effective June 30, 2021 the Wisconsin Fund Grant Program for failing septic systems. Governor Evers has included the Wisconsin Fund Grant program in his 2021-2023 budget draft. It is anticipated the fate of the program will not be known until it is signed into law which is due to happen by July 1, 2021.

Office Staff continues to promote and take applications for the grant program. Wisconsin Fund Grant program brochure and application form can be found on the Wood County Planning & Zoning website.

- i. Kim attended the following meetings/trainings:
 - i. Citizens (Wood County) Groundwater Group on May 17th.
 - ii. DNR Training – Private Well Water Systems on May 20th.
- j. Victoria attended the following meetings/trainings:
 - i. Economic Development Meeting (COVID-19 Recovery) on May 6th.
 - ii. DNR Training – Private Well Water Systems on May 20th.

CITIZENS (WOOD COUNTY) GROUNDWATER GROUP MEETING

DATE: Monday, May 17, 2021
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Teleconference via WebEx

Present: Caleb Armstrong, Ray Bossert, Rhonda Carrell, Bill Clendenning, Bruce Dimick, John Endrizzi, Gordon Gottbeheut, Russ Groves, Tamas Houlihan, Ben Jeffrey, Kim Keech, Julianna Kollross, Klayton Kree, Dustin Ladd, Bill Leichtnam, Matt Lippert, Jen McNelly, Michael Tiboris, Gregg Wavrunek, Rachael Whitehair, Shane Wucherpennig, Tim Wuebben and Don Ystad.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Bill Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. **Public Comment:** Shane Wucherpennig mentioned that they were encouraged by the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Director to reach out to the Joint Finance Committee for the Governor to encourage that committee to vote in favor of the additional funding for the County Conservation offices. A letter was drafted to support conservation funding and water quality funding proposals to the Joint Finance Committee. The Governor has included parts of what used to be the "13 water bills" in the proposed budget. The Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee will review the letter on Tuesday, May 18th @ 9:00 a.m.

UPDATE: *Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee approved 5-1 the support letter to encourage conservation and water quality funding proposals to the Joint Finance Committee.*

3. **Speaker – Dr. Russ Groves, Entomologist, UW-Madison; “Neonicotinoids”**
Dr. Russ Groves is a Professor, Extension Specialist and Department Chair with UW Madison Entomology Department.

Highlights of “Neonicotinoids” presentation:

- What are neonicotinoid insecticides? Developed in early 90's as a safer alternative to older, toxic insecticides. Applied as a seed coat, soil drench or foliar application. Water soluble. Makes up 25% of the global pesticide market.
- Neonicotinoid detection is widespread.
- Groundwater contamination susceptibility published in 1987 by DNR, USGS, Wisconsin Geological & Natural History Survey and UW Madison. Contamination susceptibility + neonicotinoids applications = groundwater detections
- Summary of well detections: 69% above limit quantification. Mean: 0.221-0.375 ppb. Maximum: 1.69 ppb. Most samples very low (6 samples above 1.0 ppb). Seasonal fluctuations in thiamethoxam detections. Region and Farm: Significant differences in means.
- What might help explain the high variation observed within and between wells? Characteristics of the individual wells (depth, age). Neonicotinoid inputs and agricultural intensity (crops). Leaching rate and groundwater flow paths.
- Are associated streams susceptible to contamination? Sandy, fast-draining soils. Unconfined aquifers close to surface. These aquifers also feed surface water systems.
- Pilot Study (2017-2020): Sample sites along Wisconsin River Watershed. Includes Ten Mile Creek, Fourteen Mile Creek, Four Mile Creek, Big Roche-a-Cri and Little Roche-a-Cri. Found Thiamethoxam and Imidacloprid detections.
- Leola Ditch (2020-2021): Neonicotinoid sampling at a spatial scale within Fourteen Mile Creek. 10-15 sampling sites around 3.5 miles. Sampling surface and groundwater monthly. Identify small scale fluctuations. Analyze stream chemistry and identify neonicotinoids entering streams.
- Proposed NR140 – Cycle 10: Focus is on preventative action limit measures versus enforcement standards.
- Where do we go from here?
Bio rational Insecticides: <https://www.openpr.com/news/2170008/global-biorational-insecticides-market-2020-forecast-to-2028>

Precision Farming: <https://www.ingenia.org.uk/Ingenia/Articles/83bfc7e2-3a34-4a97-ad26-5986cedd39a0>

- Options in Agriculture – Next Steps: Advance and potential new type of biotechnology products. Risk analysis system for biotechnology products. Risk relative to existing products and organisms. Scientific capabilities, tools, and expertise critical for regulatory agencies to support oversight of potential future products of biotechnology. Future Biotechnology Products and Opportunities to Enhance Capabilities of the Biotechnology Regulatory System: <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/future-biotechnology-products-and-opportunities-to-enhance-capabilities-of-the-biotechnology-regulatory-system>

Discussion followed.

4. **Correspondence/Updates/Handouts/Reports:**

Bill Clendenning shared that any resolutions for the Wisconsin Counties Association State Conference are due to the Judicial & Legislative Committee by June 27th.

5. **Action Items proposed by Citizens (Wood County) Groundwater Group** None.

6. **Roundtable**

- A. Don Ystad – Shared that the 14 Mile Watershed rewrote their goals to be better aligned with the Nine Key Element Watershed Plan. The group was primarily a lakes group but wanted to be inclusive by reaching out to all stakeholders upstream along the watershed which is mainly agriculture producers. Group name is now known as 14 Mile Watershed Alliance. IRS approval as a 501c3 for non-profit status. New status allows for more funding opportunities. Nine Key Element Watershed Plan is a 10 year plan. Name change assures the groups existence during the Nine Key Element Watershed Plan.
- B. Bill Clendenning – Don Ystad is the contact person for the 14 Mile Watershed Alliance. The 501c3 status of the organization is a benefit.
- C. Tamas Houlihan – Don Ystad gave a presentation and update of the 14 Mile Watershed Alliance at the Water Task Force meeting of the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association. 14 Mile Watershed Alliance is inclusive and building relationships with neighbors.
- D. Don Ystad – John Endrizzi was one of the original founders of the 14 Mile Watershed and instrumental in water testing. The group is not a one man show but a group of 6-8 people who have put the effort into the program.

7. **Announcements of members / visitors (upcoming parallel events / meetings)**

Joint meeting of the Portage County Land & Water Conservation Committee and Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee Thursday, June 3rd @ 6:00 p.m. Conference Rooms 1 & 2 @ 1462 Strongs Avenue, Courthouse Annex, Stevens Point. Speakers: John Exo and Chris Clayton to discuss NR151 changes.

Wisconsin Gannett article “Farmers Pioneer Innovative Practices” published on May 12, 2021. Highlighted Fond du Lac County and Outagamie County.

Wisconsin Gannett article “Study finds state lakes data on algae blooms” published on May 10, 2021. Discussed algae blooms on Wisconsin 15,000 lakes.

8. **Future Speakers:** June - Scott Provost, “Neonicotinoids”

9. **Agenda Items for next meeting** Agenda items should be submitted to Bill Leichtnam or Kim Keech by the second Monday of the month.

10. **Next Meeting** Monday, June 21st, 2:00 p.m. (VIRTUAL)

11. **Adjourn Groundwater Group Meeting** Chair Bill Leichtnam adjourned @ 3:22 p.m.

Notes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

DATE: June 2, 2021 Meeting
TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee (CEED)
County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Adam DeKleyn, County Planner
RE: Request to Approve the Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map

STAFF MEMORANDUM

Introduction:

The Town of Lincoln readopted their town zoning ordinance and zoning map on May 11, 2021. The town submitted the zoning ordinance to the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) for review and approval. Request is further discussed herein.

Background:

Wood County adopted the Wood County Zoning Ordinance #700. This ordinance is in effect in all 22 towns within its jurisdiction. In counties having a county zoning ordinance, no town zoning ordinance or amendment of a zoning ordinance may be adopted unless approved by the County Board of Supervisors *Wis. Stat. §60.62(3)(a)*.

Analysis:

Back in 2019, the Town of Lincoln completed an update of its comprehensive plan. As part of that process, the Town Plan Commission recently completed a review of its existing town zoning ordinance. The plan commission determined no amendments were necessary, however, they recommended that the Town Board readopt the zoning ordinance to reaffirm the town's dedication to their local planning and zoning program.

The Town Plan Commission held a public hearing and recommended to readopt the zoning ordinance on April 27, 2021. Subsequently, the Town Board readopted the zoning ordinance on May 11, 2021. The final step in the process is approval or disapproval by County Board.

The Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map can be reviewed at the DPZ Office at 400 Market St. Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday; or online at the links below:

[Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance](#)

[Official Zoning Map](#)

Conclusions & Recommendations:

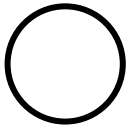
County review and decision concerning approval or disapproval of a town zoning ordinance is limited to cases of abuse of discretion, excess of power, or error of law. Based on the information submitted to the DPZ, the Town of Lincoln adhered to the process re-adopting its town zoning ordinance as outlined in the Wis. Stats. Additionally, I find no conflict with any county planning and zoning programs or ordinances.

DPZ has reviewed the request and recommends forwarding the attached resolution (*Attachment 1*) to the County Board of Supervisors, approving the Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance, with a favorable recommendation.

Attachments:

1. Resolution

(ZA-2021-002)



RESOLUTION#

Introduced by
Page 1 of 1

CEED Committee

ITEM#
DATE June 15, 2021
Effective Date June 15, 2021

Motion:

Adopted:

1st

Lost:

2nd

Tabled:

No:

Yes:

Absent:

Number of votes required:

X

 Majority

Two-thirds

Reviewed by:

PAK

, Corp Counsel

Reviewed by:

, Finance Dir.

ARD

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: Approve the Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The Town of Lincoln is responsible for any costs associated with administering their town zoning ordinance.

		NO	YES	A
1	LaFontaine, D			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Feirer, M			
4	Wagner, E			
5	Fischer, A			
6	Breu, A			
7	Ashbeck, R			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Winch, W			
10	Thao, L			
11	Curry, K			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2021 the Town of Lincoln readopted a zoning ordinance to promote the health, safety, aesthetics, comfort, prosperity, and general welfare of the town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 60.62(3)(a) Wis. Stats., in counties having a county zoning ordinance, no town zoning ordinance or amendment of a zoning ordinance may be adopted unless approved by the County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2021 the Town of Lincoln submitted the zoning ordinance to the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning for review and approval pursuant to the Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, county review and decision concerning approval or disapproval of a town zoning ordinance is limited to cases of abuse of discretion, excess of power, or error of law; and

WHEREAS, the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning reviewed the information submitted by the Town of Lincoln and finds the town adhered to the process for readopting a town zoning ordinance as outlined in the Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning finds no conflict with any county planning and zoning programs and ordinances; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2021 the Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee (CEED) reviewed the request and recommended approval; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wood County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to § 60.62(3)(a) Wis. Stats., hereby approves the Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map by reference.

The zoning ordinance and zoning map can be reviewed at the Department of Planning and Zoning Office at 400 Market St. Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday; or online at the links below:

[Town of Lincoln Zoning Ordinance](#)

[Official Zoning Map](#)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Clerk of the Town of Lincoln for inclusion in their records.

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KENNETH CURRY, (Chair)
BILL LEICHTNAM
JAKE HAHN
ROBERT ASHBECK
DAVE LAFONTAINE

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, this 15th day of June 20 21 .

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

Via: Teleconference

Nancy Turyk, Community Development Educator-UW Extension, as facilitator

In Attendance: Scott Larson-Executive Director-MACCI; Kristie Rauter-Egge-Community Health Planner-Wood County; Matt McLean-Director-Visit Marshfield; Josh Miller-Development Services Director-City of Marshfield; Victoria Wilson-Administrative Services-Wood County Planning & Zoning

Nancy Turyk-UWEX:

- It is anticipated that the federal government will roll out the programs and rules regarding the large funding package on May 11th. From there the state will decide how to distribute the funds. This will result in many funding opportunities we will need to look into.
- The Economic Development Administration has funded a grant that Wisconsin Rapids had applied for earlier this year. The grant funds will be put towards the downtown Wisconsin Rapids area.

Scott Larson-MACCI:

- We continue to roll out our normal programming for 2021.
- The Small Business Administration held a program regarding restaurant funding opportunities that are available. "The American Rescue Plan Act established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) to provide funding to help restaurants and other eligible businesses keep their doors open. This program will provide restaurants with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023."

Matt McLean-Visit Marshfield:

- Angel sent out an RFP a couple of weeks ago. We have received some RFPs back and have narrowed them down to three potential candidates. We will work with the potential candidates to make a decision on which one to go with to produce promotional videos for recreation in Wood County.
- We toured the new Hampton Inn last week, which opened about a week ago. We are using social media to help get the word out that they are now open.
- The last week or two we have seen a slight increase in hotel occupancy.
- We plan to send out 14,000 inserts in the Hub City Times during the second week of May, which will display how we support our local economy by promoting tourism. The second week of May is National Travel and Tourism week.
- We are still on track to hold Maple Fall Fest in September.
- We are gearing up for our grant program for our partners in attractions, sports and events.
- We are working on Best of Marshfield, which will take place in June & July.

Josh Miller-City of Marshfield:

- We had a meeting regarding the Bike Share program last week. We are looking at deploying the bike share kiosks in four locations in Marshfield. The kiosks will have five bikes each. The locations are yet to be determined.
- The city is working on some housing projects, which include a city subdivision and a mixed use TIFF. We are lacking lots to provide single-family housing.
- We are hoping to get approval from the council on Tuesday for our TIFF districts.
- Permits for culverts, sidewalks and driveways can now be taken out online using Evolve software.
- The plan commission reviewed an apartment complex on the northwest side of Marshfield, which will provide seventy-two apartments.
- The aquatic center is on track. The tentative timeline for opening is July.
- The Marshfield Utility building construction on the south side will begin in June.

Kristie Rauter-Egge-WC Health Department:

- We continue to hold vaccination clinics in Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids. We will move from the airport hangar to the Grand Rapids Lions Park in the next week.
 - We are exploring ways to help vaccinate individuals that cannot come to a clinic.
 - We are hoping to launch the Bike Share program in May.
 - Farmer's Market season is approaching. We were able to get some legislation into the governor's budget around securing dollars for Farmer's Market and EBT to be used at the farmer's market.
- ❖ Next EDR meeting: To be determined
Adjourned at 9:33 am

Via: Teleconference

Jason Grueneberg, Wood County Planning & Zoning Director, as facilitator

In Attendance: Scott Larson-Executive Director-MACCI; Kristie Rauter-Egge-Community Health Planner-Wood County; Josh Miller-Development Services Director-City of Marshfield; Nancy Turyk-Community Development Educator-UWEX; Kyle Kearns-Director of Community Development-City of Wisconsin Rapids; Michelle Boernke-Campus Executive-UWSP@Marshfield; Dennis Lawrence-Executive Director-North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission; Angel Whitehead-President-Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce; Victoria Wilson-Administrative Services-Wood County Planning & Zoning

Jason Grueneberg-Wood County Planning & Zoning:

- We will be moving to a monthly meeting starting in June. We will likely change the time as well to try to accommodate people's schedules. More information to come.
- We are shifting topics away from Economic Recovery and COVID and moving towards REDI implementation.
- Active cases of COVID in Wood County are at 72. Schools are back in session full time. Vaccines are being pushed out adequately and demand is lessening.
- We continue to work on what the American Rescue Plan Act funds can be used for. Each municipality will get an allocation of funds but there is much uncertainty as to what the funds can be used for.
- The American Families Plan will assist family with childcare, community college, 4k and many other items for families. This is a \$1.8 trillion program.
- Jobless claims are down to 498,000; however, this is double the amount we should be seeing. There is a workforce issue again, so this will be a repeated topic going forward.
- We are seeing a housing shortage. Lumber costs are very high which is compounding the issue.

Scott Larson-MACCI:

- We continue to push out information as it relates to various business incentive programs that are out there such as Restaurant Recovery funding and PPP programs.
- We are starting to do training and other programs again.
- Workforce is at the forefront of conversations with businesses. This is a continued issue for many.
- As it relates to housing, in conversation with a builder who did a year-to-year comparison on the cost of building, the cost has increased by \$14,000 per house.

Josh Miller-City of Marshfield:

- At Tuesday's meeting, we will be proposing a city subdivision that will open up about 20 lots for new development in Marshfield.

Nancy Turyk-UWEX:

- In conversations with Purdue regarding next steps and federal funding, they are strongly encouraging us to identify the items we want funding for, such as housing or makerspaces, etc. They will then work with federal agencies to determine who has programs to potentially fund what we need.

Michelle Boernke-UWSP:

- We are opening to the public June 1st with programming. We are starting to plan for the fall with the arts, which include theater, music, and the civic band will start practicing at the end of the month. Face coverings are still required on campus until July 1st.
- We are moving our testing from Tuesday to Monday from 8:00am-12:00pm starting May 24th and will continue throughout the summer.
- We are working with Lori Peterson from the Health Department to see if we can get a vaccination site for our neighborhood.

- The summer programs with kids is looking to be complicated due to lack of staffing.
- We are back to full face-to-face education this fall.
- There will be short-term housing available at The Villas this summer.
- We have a new chancellor and new strategic plan that is rolling out. It will be more focused on workforce and meeting the needs of the Marshfield campus.
- The C2 makerspace will likely move forward.
- Our goal is to make the Marshfield campus a “destination location” for our community.
- The School of Nursing from Marshfield Clinic has moved to our campus. This will bring eighty students and twelve faculty members.

Angel Whitehead-HOW:

- We had forty-six vendors at our job fair. About seventy people attended and four or five candidates were hired at the event. We have videos and other information on our website so employers can use that tool to continue to gain exposure for available jobs.
- We are doing our BINGO campaign right now to help support local businesses. Fifty business are participating and the campaign goes through Mother's day.
- We continue to push out information for any business opportunities, to our local businesses.
- In the last two weeks, I have met with two entrepreneurs and have three I am meeting with next week.

Dennis Lawrence-NCWRPC:

- We were recently awarded the Create your Community grant for being the best economic development initiative in Wisconsin by the Economic Development Administration.
- The EDA is anticipating receiving \$3 billion dollars in funding from the American Rescue plan for their programs. More information to come.

Kristie Rauter-Egge-WC Health Department:

- Things continue to move forward in a positive direction in regard to COVID cases and staff being able to keep on that, as well as vaccination clinics. After May we will no longer hold vaccination clinics. Interest has decreased and supply has increased. We will encourage people to contact their primary care providers or pharmacies for being vaccinated.
- Over the last couple of weeks, we have been reaching out to businesses and working with our community health workers to accommodate our more vulnerable populations to be vaccinated.
- We are working on our mitigation plan regarding gatherings.
- We met with folks in Marshfield to select sites for our bike share program. One will be at the library, one near Wildwood Zoo and one near the fairgrounds along with a fourth location. We are also working on the Wisconsin Rapids locations.
- Our farmer's markets will be starting very soon. There will be vouchers available to individuals on WIC as well as some for seniors. Debit, credit and Foodshare can be used at the south end market. We also work with Aspirus on their “Prescription fruit and vegetable program”.

Kyle Kearns-City of Wisconsin Rapids:

- Workforce is a very large problem for businesses. I had the opportunity to tour Mariani, a cranberry packaging company in Wisconsin Rapids. They have about twenty jobs they cannot fill. Another business that is in the product cleaning business is struggling to fill ten positions.
- The city did receive the Economic Development Administration grant. We had the EDA kick off meeting last week and will be releasing a Request for Proposal soon to hire a consultant to start pursuing the redevelopment plan.
- Concerning Verso, we hosted a meeting a few weeks ago at City Hall with the Co-op group. They are working to solidify their business plan, their industries and product, and package things together to garner funding to make an offer on the mill.

- There is a listening session this afternoon regarding the State's effort to strengthen and diversify Wisconsin's forest products industry. May 6th and May 11th: Public listening sessions. For more information, contact Kyle Kearns.

- ❖ Next EDR meeting: To be determined
- ❖ Adjourned at 10:10 am

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
Telephone: (715) 849-5510 Fax: (715) 849-5110
Web Page: www.ncwrpc.org Email: staff@ncwrpc.org



SERVING ADAMS, FOREST, JUNEAU, LANGLADE, LINCOLN, MARATHON, ONEIDA, PORTAGE, VILAS AND WOOD COUNTIES

Dear North Central Wisconsin:

It is our pleasure to present the **2020 Annual Report** for the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC). Throughout the *Annual Report* you will see many regional and local level projects we completed this past year.

As we all know, 2020 was unlike any other year. There was a worldwide health crisis and a resulting substantial economic disruption, but we persevered. During much of the year we shifted to a remote work environment and many of the accomplishments identified in this report were completed during this very challenging period.

The *Annual Report* is prepared to provide interested local, state, and federal officials as well as citizens with an overview of the activities undertaken by the NCWRPC over the last year. The report highlights our five core work areas:

- Economic Development,
- Geographic Information Systems,
- Intergovernmental Cooperation,
- Land Use, and
- Transportation.

In addition, the report meets the requirements as outlined in Wisconsin Statute 66.0309(8)(b) for annual report preparation. This is our 47th *Annual Report*.

With your continued support, we look forward to another successful year in 2021. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions regarding the *Annual Report*.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Millan
NCWRPC Chairperson

Dennis Lawrence, AICP, EDFP
Executive Director

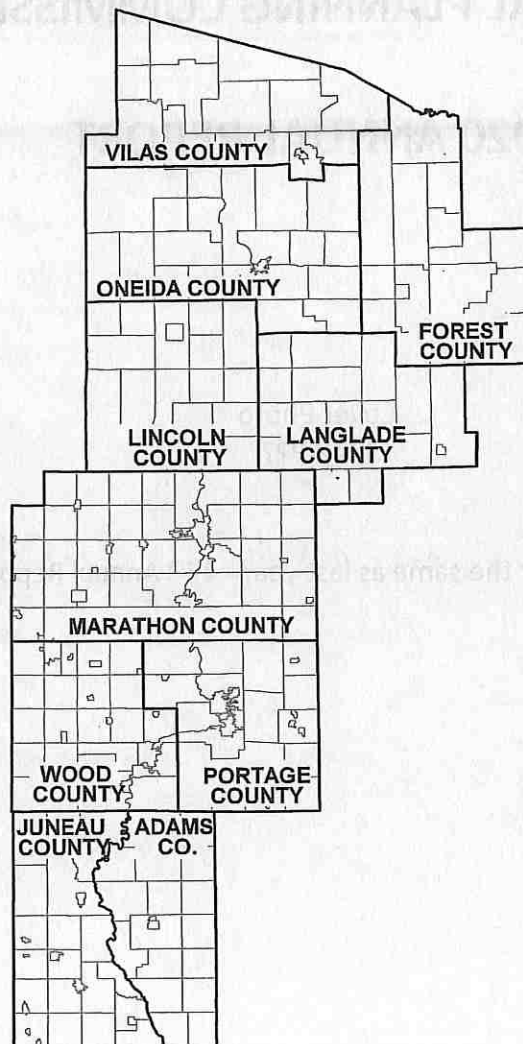
NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Cover Photo
Ideas???

(Back Cover the same as last year - 47th Annual Report)

**North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Service Area:**



Regional Facts:

2020 Population (DOA Estimate):	448,322
Square Miles:	9,325
Counties:	10
Cities:	22
Villages:	41
Towns:	196
Tribal:	4
Total Governmental & Tribal Units:	273

Purpose and History:

The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) was created in 1973 under Wisconsin Statute 66.0309 as a voluntary association of governments for the purpose of preparing plans for the physical development of the Region and its communities; to conduct research; to serve as a data center; and serve as a forum for communication, cooperation and coordination among federal, state, regional, and local interests; and to provide technical services to its membership.

Regional planning commissions provide assistance throughout the state. NCWRPC is one of nine regional planning commissions in Wisconsin; while nationwide there are about 500 similar type regional organizations.

(State Map jpg.)

Mission Statement:

In an advisory capacity to local units of government and tribes, the NCWRPC offers cost-effective, specialized planning services and expertise that support responsible development of the Region's economic, social, natural, and human-built environments. The NCWRPC also provides leadership and a regional forum for the creation of cooperative responses to shared opportunities and the challenges facing the counties and communities of the ten-county Region.

Types of Assistance:

NCWRPC is a regional planning and economic development agency, which provides assistance to local governments throughout the ten-county Region in the areas of economic development, geographic information systems (GIS), intergovernmental cooperation, land use planning, and transportation. The NCWRPC supplements existing staff, or takes the lead where there is no staff. The goal is to not duplicate efforts but rather provide an effective system of planning to fit each community's need.

The NCWRPC undertakes both regional and local planning projects. Regional accomplishments are highlighted on page 7 and Local Assistance projects are highlighted by county on pages 9 through 11.

State and Federal Relationships:

NCWRPC is an independent area-wide planning agency created by state statute that is governed by an appointed board, called a Commission, and serves the counties, towns, villages, cities, and tribes within the Region. In addition, there are two long-standing relationships with the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the federal U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), that support planning.

In 1975, NCWRPC was designated as a rural transportation planning region by the WisDOT. As such, the NCWRPC receives a planning grant annually to provide transportation planning assistance to support the state transportation work program throughout the region. Since 1980 the NCWRPC has maintained EDA designation as an economic development district. As such, the NCWRPC receives an annual economic development planning grant to provide local economic development assistance and prepare a regional report called a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); which maintains eligibility for various EDA grants for active members.

Publications:

Annually the NCWRPC prepares and publishes several planning documents. The NCWRPC also published a quarterly newsletter, NCWRPC NEWS, which is sent to over 1,100 people, including county supervisors, chief-elected officials, clerks and many other interested parties throughout the region, state, and nation. A list of plans, reports and other information is available at the NCWRPC website. See www.ncwrpc.org.

Organizational Goals:

NCWRPC maintains and regularly updates a Strategic Plan, as well as other related plans. Some of the goals from these plans are to:

- ✓ Provide cost-effective planning services to our members,
- ✓ Leverage state and federal dollars for the region,
- ✓ Communicate benefits of regional and local planning,
- ✓ Advance sustainable growth and development of the region, and
- ✓ Help communities identify strategies and solutions to planning issues and challenges facing them.

Program Areas:

NCWRPC provides assistance both regionally and locally in the following five areas:

ED - Economic Development

NCWRPC annually prepares a regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that analyzes the economy and identifies potential economic development projects. This report maintains the Region's eligibility for U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration public works programs. Other federal and state programs utilize this plan as well. NCWRPC also prepares EDA grant applications, among others, to bring funding into the Region.

NCWRPC provides local communities with assistance in a variety of other economic development related studies, including preparing detailed economic development plans that examine the local economy, assess local trends, and identify strategies to spur development. In addition, the NCWRPC provides grant writing and administrative assistance to communities that are seeking funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, as well as a variety of other grant programs, including WEDC, DNR, WisDOT, and USDA-Rural Development.

GIS - Geographic Information Systems

NCWRPC is a depository for a variety of demographic information for the area, including U.S. Census, American Community Survey, Economic Census, State Employment and Labor Information, and other specialized data sets. We maintain a Regional GIS database and computerized mapping system, including digital orthophotography. In addition, we assist with preparing County Land Information Plans and various grant applications for digital imagery. NCWRPC also coordinates efforts related to securing regional and statewide ariel imagery.

NCWRPC maintains an extensive digital mapping database for the local mapping. Custom data sets and maps can also be created for communities on request or as part of larger planning efforts. County Profiles are also prepared and updated as needed. Also, in partnership with WEDC, NCWRPC prepares quarterly economic development reports for each county in the Region using EMSI, specialized economic development analysis software. In addition, the NCWRPC provides redistricting assistance throughout the Region.

IGOV - Intergovernmental Cooperation

NCWRPC is available to conduct specialized studies on request. Over the years, a wide range of studies have been completed on subjects such as merging ambulance services, community consolidation, economic impact analysis, and boundary agreements. Many of these projects include a regional focus because they involve multiple units of government. In addition, the NCWRPC maintains a website and produces a regular newsletter to provide information and other resources.

LU - Land Use

NCWRPC is responsible for the development of a regional comprehensive plan for the ten-county Region. The Regional Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2004, the first regional comprehensive plan in the state under the new planning law, and was last updated in 2015. The mid-plan review of that document will be developed in 2020. NCWRPC also prepares other regionally focused plans from time to time.

NCWRPC prepares a variety of plans for local communities, including outdoor recreation plans, all hazard mitigation plans, land and water resource management plans, sewer service area plans, wellhead protection plans, and wildfire protection plans, among others. In addition, the NCWRPC assists local governments in the preparation of comprehensive plans under Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law, as well as assistance with zoning and land division ordinances that implement local plans.

TR - Transportation

NCWRPC prepares regional transportation plans including highway corridor studies, long-range urban area plans, parking studies, county-wide bicycle planning, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans, and grant writing for various WisDOT funding sources. The NCWRPC also provides on-going assistance to the Wausau Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

NCWRPC assists local governments in a variety of areas, including the preparation of local road improvement programs. These road plans provide a capital improvement schedule for upgrading local roads and help local units obtain Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funding for road reconstruction projects. Pavement rating and other assistance with the Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR) program is also available.

Regional Accomplishments – 2020

NCWRPC prepares, undertakes and manages several regional efforts. Below are some of the highlights of these efforts:

- Secured CARES Act funding for the organization to prepare a Regional Recovery Plan, as well as for other efforts within the region to assist in the recovery process.
- Provided technical assistance to several communities considering pursuing funding through the EDA CARES Act grant program.
- Prepared and maintained a substantial COVID-19 Recovery page on our website to provide information to both businesses and local governments.
- Secured approximately \$200,000 through state and federal grants to reduce overall costs for county and local projects related to air photo acquisition in our region, as part of the WROC effort.
- Prepared the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Performance Report to maintain the Region's Economic Development District designation, as defined by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).
- Completed implementation of a multiyear regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program to improve walking and biking conditions for 25 schools in eleven different school districts throughout the Region. Prepared regional SRTS summary document.
- Maintained and developed a Regional Mapping Information System, Census and Demographic Information, and a Planning Library for the Region.
- Continued a partnership with WEDC to provide EMSI economic development modeling tools to communities within the Region. Prepared regional reports.
- Provided region-wide assistance to the US Census Bureau related to demographics and mapping for the Census and subsequent redistricting.
- Working with North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board prepared a regional labor force study.
- Continued implementation of our Regional Bike Plan, which stems from our Regional Livability Plan, as a framework for county and local level bike and pedestrian planning efforts. Two community plans were prepared.
- Maintained designation as a rural transportation planning region by WisDOT to coordinate transportation strategies on a regional basis, as well as assist local governments prepare and submit required road ratings.
- Provide organizational support to various entities within the region, including: NCWDC, NEWCOM, NCWSC, Centergy, NRTC, and WROC.

NCWRPC is involved in various other regional efforts throughout the year that are not mentioned here.

On-going Regional Organizational Support:

NCWRPC provides assistance to a variety of organizations to support or complement planning efforts throughout our region.

- North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC)

Provide management assistance for a revolving loan fund operated by the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation, which provides gap financing to businesses throughout the Region. The Regional Development Fund has recently been de-federalized, with the goal of increasing jobs and expanding the local tax base within the Region.

- North East Wisconsin Public Safety Communication (NEWCOM)

Provide staff support to NEWCOM to manage and coordinate the organization to promote better emergency service communication throughout a 16 county Region.

- North Central Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition (NCWSC)

Provide staff support to the NCSWC. The North Central Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition is a group of 13 municipalities that coordinate education and outreach efforts to improve water quality in the Central Wisconsin River watershed.

- Centergy

Provide staff support to Centergy a regional economic development organization serving Adams, Lincoln, Marathon, Portage and Wood Counties. Centergy strives to leverage the collective economic power of its five counties to unite efforts to attract talent and development to the area.

- Northwoods Rail Transit Commission (NRTC)

Provide staff assistance to the NRTC. The mission of the Northwoods Rail Transit Commission is to sustain and enhance safe, reliable, and efficient rail service critical to the businesses, communities and economies in northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

- Wisconsin Regional Orthophotography Consortium (WROC)

Began as a regional effort in 2005 and now spans the entire state of Wisconsin. This is a collaborative effort to gather orthoimagery for various applications from addressing to 911 to planning. The effort is conducted every five years and covers over 56,000 square miles of aerial imagery. A variety of state and federal partners are involved in this effort as well as over 100 local units of government.

Selected Accomplishments by County - 2020

Reflected below are projects completed or underway within our nine full county member counties. Wood County is a new member for 2020.

Adams County

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- ✓ Town of Quincy Comprehensive Plan underway
- ✓ Maintain Online County Records System
- ✓ State Parcel Submission assistance to DOA per state statute
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey (BAS)
- ✓ City of Adams Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ 2020 Land Use Coverage Update
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Forest County

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- ✓ Forest County Potawatomi Bike & Pedestrian Plan underway
- ✓ State Parcel Submission assistance to DOA per state statutes
- ✓ Regional Economic Development Loan to Local Business
- ✓ Town of Lincoln Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ County GIS & Parcel Mapping Assistance
- ✓ Wabeno Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS)
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey (BAS)
- ✓ Mole Lake Tribal Mitigation Planning Grant
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Juneau County

- ✓ City of New Lisbon Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey (BAS)
- ✓ JCEDC Sales Tax Data Assistance
- ✓ Juneau County Health Assessment Assistance
- ✓ Mauston Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS)
- ✓ Town of Armenia Comprehensive Plan underway
- ✓ City of Elroy Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Accomplishments by County continued...

Langlade County

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- ✓ City of Antigo EDA Public Works Grant Application
- ✓ Elcho Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS)
- ✓ Prepared Antigo Fire Department Maps
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey (BAS)
- ✓ County Land Records and GIS Assistance
- ✓ Maintain Online County Records System
- ✓ White Lake Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS)
- ✓ State Parcel Submission assistance to DOA per state statutes
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Lincoln County

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant
- ✓ Merrill Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS)
- ✓ City of Tomahawk Outdoor Recreation plan
- ✓ County Comprehensive Plan Update Assistance
- ✓ City of Tomahawk Bike & Pedestrian Plan DOT TAP Grant Application
- ✓ Town of Russell Road Survey Management Plan underway
- ✓ 2020 Land Use Coverage Update
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Marathon County

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant
- ✓ Village of Rothschild Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ City of Mosinee Interactive on-line Zoning Map
- ✓ County DOT 5304 Planning Grant
- ✓ Town of Rib Mountain Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Village of Kronenwetter Outdoor Recreation Plan
- ✓ Village of Weston Housing Affordability Report Update
- ✓ Town of Wausau Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Accomplishments by County continued...

Oneida County

- ✓ County All Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant
- ✓ Town of Newbold Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey (BAS)
- ✓ City of Rhinelander Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- ✓ Maintain Online County Survey Records System
- ✓ 2020 Land Use Coverage Update
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Vilas County

- ✓ Census Boundary Annexation Survey
- ✓ Town of Conover Comprehensive Plan underway
- ✓ Town of Land O Lakes Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Town of Winchester Comprehensive Plan underway
- ✓ Town of Presque Isle Comprehensive Plan underway
- ✓ 2020 Land Use Coverage Update
- ✓ Lac du Flambeau Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS) underway
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Wood County

- ✓ County Bike & Pedestrian Plan DOT TAP Grant Application
- ✓ County REDI Plan Assistance
- ✓ Nekoosa Safe Routes to School Plan (SRTS)
- ✓ Wisconsin Rapids EDA CARES Act grant application
- ✓ Verso Mill Closure Economic Impact Reports
- ✓ Marshfield Sewer Service Area Plan
- ✓ Quarterly Economic Reports

Staff also attends various meetings, responds to inquiries, provides assistance to a variety of departments, agencies, and organizations, and completes numerous projects throughout the region not mentioned above.

Wood County Joins NCWRPC!

The county board of supervisors took action to join the NCWRPC in 2020 to become our newest member. As part of county membership all local units are automatically members as well. We look forward to many successful outcomes resulting from this collaborate relationship. Working together we all achieve more!

2020 Audited Financial Statements:

Each year the NCWRPC engages an independent auditor to provide an examination of financial operations. A copy of the complete 2020 Audit Report and Management Communications Letter is available for review at the NCWRPC Office. Below is the December 31, 2020 Statement of Net Position:

ASSETS:

Current Assets	1,701,051
Noncurrent Assets	5,050
Other Assets-Net Pension	79,915
Capital Assets	<u>7,724</u>

TOTAL ASSETS: \$2,254,510

TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS: \$219,402

LIABILITIES:

Current Liabilities	294,046
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>172,373</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$466,419

TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS: \$551,836

Net Invested Capital Assets	7,724
Restricted	79,915
Unrestricted	<u>1,368,018</u>

TOTAL NET POSITION: \$1,455,657

Annual Levy Rate:

By state statute the membership charge or levy rate to local governments cannot exceed 0.003% of equalized real estate value. The rate was set at 0.00275% in 2000 and has been reduced multiple times since. By 2020 that rate was reduced to 0.000851%, which is well less than one third of the statutory limit! In addition, to level out the wide range of valuations of our member counties, the NCWRPC established a cap. The NCWRPC continually seeks other revenue sources to minimize costs to our members.

Leveraging Funds:

To keep membership contributions low, additional funds are secured from other sources to operate the organization. A simple Return on Membership (ROM) analysis shows that every membership dollar provided to the NCWRPC leverages additional dollars. In 2020, for every 1 dollar the NCWRPC received from membership it directly leveraged over 5 dollars from grants, local projects, and other sources.

North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation - NCWDC 2020 Annual Report:

The NCWRPC with the support of its counties, area economic development corporations, private lenders, and others, established the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC). The NCWDC is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, staffed by the NCWRPC, to manage economic development loan funds. The NCWDC has made over 20 loans and created or retained over 445 jobs in the Region.

The NCWDC Board recently took action to de-federalize and consolidate the two current funds into one fund. Two funds managed were de-federalized and merged into one fund in 2019, there was only one active loan in the portfolio during this period. A revised loan manual and application form is being prepared for the new fund. Total Assets of the fund, as of December 31, 2020, are \$483,980.

The new fund is now called the **Regional Development Fund**. An eleven-member Board of Directors provides oversight to the NCWDC, which includes one person from each of the counties in the Region, along with one representative from the NCWRPC. Board of Directors listed is current as of December 31, 2020:

Adams County	Daric Smith
Forest County	Bev Collins, President
Juneau County	Terry Whipple
Langlade County	Angie Close, Vice - President
Lincoln County	Bill Bialecki
Marathon County	Vicki Ruesch
Oneida County	Zach Vruwink
Portage County	Todd Kuckkahn
Vilas County	Kathy Schmidt
Wood County	Jason Grueneberg
NCWRPC	Craig McEwen, Secretary - Treasurer

In addition, there is a five-person Loan Review Committee that reviews and makes the final funding decision on each loan application. Current members are: Bill Bialecki, Angie Close, Bev Collins, and Dan Daubert. One position is vacant.

Staff:

Dennis Lawrence, EDFP, AICP, Executive Director

Dennis has worked with the NCWRPC since 1992 and became the Executive Director in 1997. He has a bachelor's degree in public administration from UW-La Crosse and a master's degree in urban planning from UW-Milwaukee. He is certified as an Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Dennis provides overall management to the organization and works in all areas of planning.

Carrie Edmondson, Planner

Carrie started work with the NCWRPC in 2018. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Arizona State University and a master's degree in public administration from California State University, Fullerton. Carrie works in the areas of community development, land use, and transportation.

Andrew Faust, GISP, Senior GIS Analyst

Andy has worked with the NCWRPC since 1995. He has a bachelor's degree in urban and regional studies from UW-Oshkosh. He is also certified as a Geographic Information System Professional (GISP). Andy works in the areas of GIS and land use.

Fredrick Heider, AICP, Planner

Fred has worked with the NCWRPC since 2004. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources and land use from UW-Stevens Point and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Fred works mainly in the areas of land use and transportation.

Darryl Landeau, AICP, Senior Planner

Darryl has worked with the NCWRPC since 1993. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources from UW-Stevens Point and a master's degree in urban studies from Mankato State University. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Darryl works mainly in the areas of land use and transportation.

Eric Sonnleitner, Planner

Eric has worked with the NCWRPC since 2017. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources and land use from UW-Stevens Point. Eric works mainly in the areas of community development, GIS, land use, and transportation.

Pam Winkels, Office Assistant

Pam has worked with the NCWRPC since 2015. She has a bachelor's degree in graphic communications from St. Norbert's. Pam provides program support, staff support, and general office assistance.

Commissioners:

An appointed commission oversees the activities of the executive director and the organization. As detailed in Wisconsin statutes, three commissioners from each member county govern the NCWRPC. One is selected directly by the County (C), one directly by the Governor (G), and the third is a Joint (J) selection between the County and Governor. Term ending is also displayed; however, note that all serve until reappointed or replaced. Commissioners listed are current as of December 31, 2020.

NCWRPC officers are Paul Millan, Chairperson; Loretta Baughan, Vice-Chairperson; and Edmund Wafle, Secretary – Treasurer.

Adams County

Rocky Gilner, C (6/24)
Appointment Pending, G (6/22)
Rick Pease, J (6/20)

Marathon County

Catherine Wineman, C (6/21)
Daniel Guild, G (6/23)
Craig McEwen, J (6/25)

Forest County

Bill Chaney, C (1/20)
Paul Millan, G (1/24)
Cindy Gretzinger, J (1/22)

Oneida County

Thomas Rudolph, C (1/20)
Ted Cushing, G (1/22)
Harland Lee, J (1/24)

Juneau County

Edmund Wafle, C (6/19)
Kenneth Winters, G (6/23)
Jerry Niles, J (6/21)

Portage County

None Participating

Langlade County

Ronald Nye, C (1/25)
Angela Close, G (1/22)
Reinhardt Balcerzak, J (1/25)

Vilas County

Robert Hanson, C (6/25)
Jay Verhulst, G (1/23)
Vacant, J (1/21)

Lincoln County

Paul Gilk, C (6/22)
Loretta Baughan, G (6/21)
Vacant, J (6/23)

Wood County

Gerald Nelson, C (6/23)
Doug Machon, G (6/21)
Dave LaFontaine, J (6/25)

In addition, per Wisconsin Statute, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) - Missy Hughes - is an ex-officio officer of the NCWRPC.