

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

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

Members Excused: Carmen Good.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg and Kim Keech.

UW Extension Staff: Nancy Turyk.

Others Present: Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendening, Josh Miller (City of Marshfield), Tami Hahn (City of Pittsville), Jeff Gaier (Marshfield Municipal Airport), Scott Larson (Marshfield Area Chamber Foundation), Angel Whitehead (Heart of Wisconsin Rapids Chamber of Commerce), Ray Bossert (Village of Port Edwards, Meredith Kleker (Wisconsin Area Convention & Visitors Bureau), Cole Walters (Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau), Karen Olson (Marshfield C2 Makerspace), Connie Milz (Town of Milladore), Gail Kretschmer (Town of Saratoga) and Jamie Rokus (Sentrail Bark Community Dog Park).

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED Meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairman Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comment.** None.
4. **Review Correspondence.** None.
5. **Economic Development**

- a. Review 2022 Economic Development Grant Applications. Jason Grueneberg gave an overview of how the office solicited the availability of grant funding to the grant applicants. There were 15 applicants for 2021 grant requests for a total of \$256,499 with a total of \$165,500 that was approved by the CEED Committee. There were 21 applicants for 2022 for a total requested amount of \$433,364.45. The grant application review process is early in the budget cycle. County budget is unknown. There is no timeline as to when grant requests are approved. No action is necessary today.

The first two grant requests were shared from the applicants.

Motion by Jake Hahn to approve and accept the Marshfield Economic Development City of Subdivision for Marshfield grant in the amount of \$80,000. Second by Dave LaFontaine. Motion failed 2-3. Kenneth Curry feels that all grant applications should be reviewed before approved. Bill Leichtnam would like to hear about all projects from all applicants for grant requests. Robert Ashbeck would like to review all grant requests before making a decision.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to review all grant applications and make determination on the grant request. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development stakeholders gave a brief presentation of the grant request, return on investment and use of funds. Grant applications were reviewed by the committee.

#	2022 Economic Development Grant Requests	Requested
1	<i>C2 Makerspace</i> Start-up lab prep	\$ 30,000
2	<i>Marshfield Economic Development Board</i> City Subdivision for Marshfield	\$ 80,000
3	<i>Marshfield Economic Development Board</i> Housing Economic Impact for Marshfield	\$ 10,000
4	<i>Marshfield Economic Development Board</i> Lake Economic Impact for Marshfield	\$ 15,000
5	<i>City of Pittsville</i> Building Incentive Program	\$ 30,000
6	<i>City of Pittsville</i> LED Message Board	\$ 20,000
7	<i>City of Pittsville</i> Outdoor Recreational Rink-Shelter	\$ 5,000
8	<i>Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce</i> General Funding for Economic Development	\$ 19,500
9	<i>HOW, MACCI, Visit WR, Visit Marshfield</i> Marketing	\$ 4,000
10	<i>Marshfield Chamber Foundation</i> General Economic Development	\$ 19,500
11	<i>Marshfield Municipal Airport (Roy Shwery Field)</i> General Economic Development	\$ 10,000
12	Town of Dexter Board Informational Kiosk	\$ 2,850
13	Town of Milladore Blenker Road from Highway 10 to Trestik Drive	\$ 2,885
14	Town of Milladore Trestik Drive from Blenker Road to Mayflower	\$ 4,129.45
15	Town of Saratoga Seed Money	\$ 15,000
16	Town of Saratoga Nepco Lake Rest Area	\$ 30,000
17	<i>So Wood Co Airport Commission (Alexander Field)</i> General Funding for Economic Development	\$ 10,000
18	<i>Wisc Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau</i> State Fair Booth	\$ 3,000
19	Village of Port Edwards Dog Park	\$ 46,000
20	Village of Port Edwards Kayak Put-Ins	\$ 36,500
21	<i>Wood County Highway Department</i> Phase III ATV Route/Trail System	\$ 40,000
	Total Requested	\$433,364.45

Brief discussion. How do we proceed? Every partner of the county should be represented and receive something. REDI Plan has an Economic Development funding component of approximately \$46,000 in 2021 budget. All grants have merit.

- b. Discuss the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds for economic development.
 Encourage the County Board to spend some of the American Rescue Plan for Economic Development.

6. **Schedule next regular committee meeting.** The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at Wood County Courthouse in Conference Room #114.
7. **Agenda items for next meeting.** Agenda items need to be submitted by Wednesday, July 28 for the next regular CEED meeting.
8. **Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** A special CEED meeting to discuss Economic Development grant funding for 2022 will be Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. or immediately following the County Board meeting at Wood County Courthouse in Conference Room #114.
9. **Adjourn.** Chairman Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Minutes by Kim Keech, Planning & Zoning Office