

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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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