

MINUTES  
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021  
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI

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

Staff Present:

Extension Staff: Jason Hausler, Karli Tomsyck (via WebEx), Nancy Turyk (via WebEx), Rachael Whitehair (via WebEx)

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning

1. **Call meeting to order.** Chairperson Curry called the CEED meeting to order at 10:50am
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Curry declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)**  
None.
4. **Review Correspondence.**  
None.
5. **Extension**
  - a. Situational Analysis Discussion  
Jason Hausler asked the CEED committee to identify community needs or issues for Extension to help address now and into the future (next five years). Discussion ensued and the following topics were identified:
    - Workforce development (job training, economic diversification, entrepreneurship)
    - Farm sustainability (small farm finances, education on legislation/policy)
    - Covid vaccine distribution (education, work with underserved audiences to help improve uptake rates)
    - Groundwater/surface water (health effects, environmental health, soil health/erosion)
    - Solar/renewables
    - Civil Discourse/Social Cohesion (community events, placemaking)
    - Infrastructure (broadband and technology, land stewardship)
    - Police/fire districts (equitable distribution)
    - Health education (AODA, mental health, environmental health, family stress)
    - Housing (needs assessment, availability of desirable housing)

Jason will be having situational analysis discussions with Clark, Marathon and Portage counties in February. After all data is synthesized and discussed with Extension staff, Jason hopes to have an updated report by summer to bring back to the CEED committee/County Board.
6. **Schedule next regular committee meeting.**  
The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00am at Wood County River Block Auditorium.
7. **Agenda items for next meeting.** None.
8. **Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** None.
9. **Adjourn.** Chair Curry declared the meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.

*Minutes by Karli Tomsyck, UW-Madison Division of Extension - Wood County*