

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2016  
 ERON EVENT BARN -3471 COUNTY ROAD C, STEVENS POINT

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, Kenneth Curry, Peter Hendler, Bill Leichtnam and Harvey Petersen

Member Excused:

Staff Present: Land & Water Conservation Staff – Shane Wucherpennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Lori Ruess, and Wednesday Jordan

Planning & Zoning Staff – Jason, Grueneberg and Jeff Brewbaker

UW Extension Staff – Peter Manley, Chris Viau, Kyli Brown, and Jeremy Erickson

Others Present: District #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Roy Diver, NRCS, John Eron, Farmer Led Group, Mark Zajackowski, Portage County Farm Bureau, Rick Potter, PACRS, Rick Georgeson, PACRS, Ron Schroeder, Portage County UWEX, Leif Erickson, Friends of Mill Creek, Randy Pankratz, Farmers of Mill Creek, Mark Vobora, Farmers of Mill Creek, Tyler Bulgrin, Farmers of Mill Creek, Steve Anderson, REGI, Barry Winrich, Rinehart Lake Association, Barb Winrich, Rinehart Lake Association, Lauren McCann, Wood County Farm Bureau, Dennis Bangart, United FCS, Mike Gronski, ProVision Partners Cooperative, Steve Bradley, Portage County LWCD, Dan O’Connell, Portage County LWCD, Mike Sabel, Mid-State Technical College, Sam Warp, Jr., Marshfield Wastewater, Scott Larson, MACCI, Jenny Ramker, Community Financial Bank, Becky Davis, Pheasants Forever

1. **Call CEED Committee Meeting to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** Rick Georgeson and Rick Potter, Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards (PACRS) introduced themselves and thanked John Eron for the invitation and hosting the meeting. They explained that the PACRS partner with conservation groups, state and local agencies, individuals, businesses and property associations to monitor water quality and find ways to reduce algae blooms.
3. **Review Correspondence.** Correspondence included: B.R.A.C.E Yourself for a Changing Environment Workshop – August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Central Rivers Farmshed Facility, Developing Wisconsin’s Vision for Food Production - August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Focus on Farming – August 26<sup>th</sup>. These workshops/meetings will be discussed and action taken if needed under agenda items #10 – Land & Water Conservation Department.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the July 6, 2016 CEED meeting 2) bills from, Planning & Zoning/Surveyor/Economic Development, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Justin Conner, Julie Akey, Jeff Brewbaker, Heather Marquardt, Shane Wucherpennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Lori Ruess, Peter Manley, Matt Lippert, Sarah Siegel, Jodi Friday, Chris Viau, Kyli Brown and Jeremy Erickson.
  - a. Minutes of July 6, 2016 CEED Meeting. No additions or corrections needed.
  - b. Department Bills. No additions or corrections needed.
  - c. Staff Activity Reports. No questions or comments.

Motion by Kenneth Curry to approve and accept the July 6, 2016 CEED minutes, bills, & staff activity reports from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation, and UW Extension as presented. Second by Peter Hendler.  
 Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Risk and Injury Report.** Nothing new to report this month.

## **6. Planning & Zoning**

### **A. Update on Community Assistance Visit (CAV) and unresolved floodplain violations.**

Jeff Brewbaker distributed a list of potential violations from the WI DNR Wood County Community Assistance Visit (floodplain program audit). Some sites have been corrected. Four sites were reviewed with the CEED. Site ID #'s included 335, 336, 337, 340/341.

- Site 335 – the principal structure was built prior to 1978 so the floodplain regulation would not apply unless improvements are made to the structure. DNR has been contract regarding this site/violation.
- Site 336 – This is an accessory building. Landowner obtained a Letter of Map Amendment in 2012. Landowner has been contacted and agreed to applying for the floodplain zoning permit and paying the \$50 fee.
- Site 337 – Landowners built new wings on the north and south side of an old barn. Owner obtained floodplain permit and this site should be resolved.
- 340/341 - This site is a seasonal hunting shack on the Yellow River. Site is located in an unstudied floodplain zone, so no elevation data is available. This violation will be revisited once staff has a feel for the scope of all problems.

With no opposition, Chairperson Henkel moved up agenda item 9G as Kyle Brown had to leave for another commitment.

### **4-H Camps and Farm Tech Days.**

Kyli Brown introduced herself and gave a brief report on 4-H Camp held at Camp Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells. Camp theme was May the 4-H Be With You. 65 youths and 10 counselors from Wood, Marathon and Juneau Counties attended. The camp agenda was planned by camp counselors from Wood, Marathon and Juneau Counties and included independent living, outdoor living, canoeing, and drama.

Kyli and Mark Cournoyer will co-chair of the Farm Tech Youth Tent Committee for the 2018 Farm Tech Days in Wood County.

### **B. Review 2017 Planning & Zoning Budget.**

Jason Grueneberg thanked the Eron's for hosting the CEED meeting. He presented the preliminary Planning & Zoning, Land Records, Private Sewage, Surveyor, and Census Redistricting budgets. He explained the Planning & Zoning and Surveyor budgets are tax levied and the overall tax levy increase is 5.02 %. Increases are due mainly to wages and benefits (step increases, health insurance, and retirement). Discussion followed.

### **C. Review 2017 Economic Development Budget.**

Jason presented the 2017 Transportation and Economic Development budget along with a list of proposed 2017 Economic Development Grant Requests totaling \$122,500. Grant requests include: Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry - \$19,500, Marshfield Economic Development Board - \$30,500, Heart of Wisconsin Chamber - \$19,500, Regional Economic Growth Initiative - \$30,500, State Fair Booth - \$2,500, Prairie Chicken Festival Sponsorship - \$5,000, Alexander Field - \$7,500, Roy Shwery Field - \$7,500. Discussion followed.

Motion by Bill Leichtnam to approve the Planning & Zoning, Land Records, Private Sewage, Surveyor, Census Redistricting, and Transportation and Economic Development budgets as presented. Second by Peter Hendler. Supervisor Ashbeck opposed the Transportation and Economic Development budget due to the \$5,000 Prairie Chicken Festival Sponsorship. He is opposed to the prairie chicken funding because he doesn't want any more valuable farmland lost due to prairie chickens. Motion carried.

## 7. Economic Development

### A. Regional Economic Growth Initiative (REGI) Update Provided by Steven Anderson, President.

Steve Anderson, President, gave a brief update on REGI. As president he is accountable & responsible for leading and developing the strategy for business development and regional business growth. He gave updates and information on municipal forum, business retention & expansion and attraction opportunities.

## 8. Discussion/Action for Water Protection Policies for Wood County.

Chairperson Henkel asked Peter Hendler, Chairperson of the newly formed CEED subcommittee on water protection policies for Wood County, for an update. Peter stated the subcommittee's first meeting will be Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., at the Wood County Courthouse. The Committee plans to work on the Mission Statement working with what the County currently has started.

Bill Leichtnam recommended that some efforts be put forward to blend the two subcommittees, as the Judicial & Legislative subcommittee met 16 times and has made progress. Chairperson Henkel stated that per meeting minutes, the Judicial and Legislative subcommittee dissolved as of August 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 9. UW Extension

### A. UW Extension Reorganization Update.

Peter Manley gave a brief update on the UW Extension Reorganization. Workgroups at the state level have completed their tasks. The state is asking counties to submit their usual budgets.

Peter Hendler asked what impacts the reorganization has on Wood County. Peter Manley stated currently there are no direct impacts; staff is aware of the reorganization and the office is fully staffed.

### B. Secretary Position Update.

Katie Tomsyck accepted the Administrative Services position. Her first day with Wood County UW Extension was June 25<sup>th</sup>.

### C. Clean Sweep Funding Resolution.

Peter Manley presented a resolution to authorize the submittal of a state grant application and the subsequent appropriation of \$20,000 in County funds and \$9,000 in outside donations for an Agricultural & Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep Program for Wood County, in 2017.

Motion by Kenneth Curry to co-sponsor a County Board Resolution to authorize the submittal of a state grant application and the subsequent appropriation of County Funds and outside donations for an Agricultural & Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep Program for Wood County, in 2017. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.

### D. Resolution to Attend National 4-H Agents Conference, New Orleans.

The Committee reviewed a proposed County Board Resolution authorizing Chris Viau, Wood County 4-H Youth Development Educator, to attend the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Annual Conference in New Orleans, October 7-14, 2016.

Chris has been selected to teach a session at the conference titled "A Year in the Life of a State Officer. He will also represent Wisconsin and the North Central region in governance of the organization during board meetings.

Motion by Bill Leichtnam to authorize Chris Viau, Wood County 4-H Youth Development Educator, to attend the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Annual Conference in New Orleans, October 7-14, 2016. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.

**E. Budget Update.**

Peter Manley presented the preliminary UW-Extension 2017 budget. Personal Services are increasing 4.5 % due to wages and benefits (step increases, health insurance, and retirement). Professional Services, Telephone, Publications, and Liability Insurance are decreasing. Total increase in tax levy is 1.35%. Discussion followed.

Motion by Bill Leichtnam to approve the UW- Extension 2017 budget as presented. Second by Peter Hendler. Motion carried unanimously.

**F. Part-time Employee Status and Benefits Issue.**

Issued resolved itself. No need to discuss.

**G. 4-H Camps and Farm Tech Day.**

This item was moved up on the agenda.

**10. Land & Water Conservation Department.**

**A. Review 2017 Land & Water Conservation Budgets.**

Shane Wucherpennig presented the 2017 Land & Water Conservation, DATCP, Wildlife Damage, and Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation, Trust Fund and Permits and Fines budgets. The Land & Water Conservation budget is the only budget with a tax levy. 82% tax levy increase is due to County Board approved new Conservation Specialist position, capital outlay – pickup truck, wages and benefits (step increases, health insurance, and retirement), and rent due to proposed move to the River Block building. Shane pointed out that minus the new position and truck, the LWCD budget would meet the 2017 budget parameters. Discussion followed.

Motion by Peter Hendler to approve the Land & Water Conservation, DATCP, Wildlife Damage, Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation, Trust Fund and Permits and Fines budgets as presented. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Approve and Accept the Low Bid Received for Flying Dollar Cattle, LLC's Waste Storage Facility, Waste Transfer System & Vegetative Treatment Area, for the Purpose of Basing Cost-Share.**

Chairperson Henkel opened the two bids received for Flying Dollar Cattle, LLC's Waste Storage Facility, Waste Transfer System & Vegetative Treatment Area (VTA) on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at a public bid opening in the Land & Water Conservation Department. The vegetative treatment area is the only project included in the bid amounts as Foxland Harvestore provided the estimated of \$222,261.53 for the waste storage facility and waste transfer system. Bids for the VTA were:

Lee DeBoer – Flying Dollar Cattle - \$19,599.96

Troy Weichelt, Weichelt Trucking - \$19,944.00

Motion by Harvey Petersen to accept the low bid from Lee DeBoer – Flying Dollar Cattle in the amount of \$19,599.96 for the purpose of basing cost-share. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Discussion on Wetland Indicator Soils Policy.**

Shane Wucherpennig gave a brief presentation on the Wetland Screening and Delineation Procedures. Effective June 1, 2016 the DNR required full implementation of the Wetland Screening and Delineation Procedures guidance. The guidance establishes a revised process requiring customers applying for storm water, Concentrated Animal Feed Operations (CAFO), and waterway and wetland permits to submit with their applications a verified wetland delineation when wetland are present in or adjacent to a project area. Shane explained that this will affect most projects where technical assistance or cost share is offered through the LWCD. Landowners would have the option to have a private consultant or a county employee complete the wetland determination. Shane would like to have three or four of his staff certified to complete wetland determinations to speed the process for landowners that are receiving LWCD technical assistance or cost-share. Three day training is offered two times a year and currently there are no openings for the three day training until July of 2017. There is a 5 day training/certification course being offered in September of 2016 for \$1,200.

Chairperson Henkel recommended that one staff person from the LWCD attend the training/certification in September and the remaining staff go to training in 2017. She expressed the importance to get someone certified as soon as possible. It should also be noted that the County has a non-compete with private consultants policy, so staff would only be able to complete wetland determinations for the projects that are directly associated with LWCD programs.

**D. Update on Fall CEED Tour.**

A brochure on the Fall CEED Tour was handed out to all in attendance. The tour will be held on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Tour stops included CJ Searles Cranberry Co., LLC, Marshfield Wastewater Treatment Plant, Flying Dollar Cattle, LLC, and Alexander Field Wisconsin Rapids. Registration deadline is Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**E. Review Department Head Goals with CEED Committee.**

Shane Wucherpennig and Jason Grueneberg reviewed their goals and accomplishments with the CEED. Peter Manley stated he did not bring his goals to review as it was his understanding that it was not necessary now that he is under the 133 contract.

Robert Ashbeck, Peter Hendler, and Bill Leichtnam were approved to attend the B.R.A.C.E. Yourself for a Changing Environment Workshop on August 17<sup>th</sup> at Central Rivers Farmshed Facility in Stevens Point.

**F. Presentation by John Eron and Farm Tour.**

A tour of the Eron's soil and water conservation practices including no-till, cover crops, and buffer strips along waterways leading to the Mill Creek took place. Following the tour a lunch was served in the event barn.

**11. Schedule Next Regular Committee Meeting.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

**12. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.** A special joint CEED and Health and Human Services meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room 114.

**13. Adjourn.**

Motion by Robert Ashbeck to adjourn at 12:37 p.m. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kenneth Curry".

Minutes by Lori Ruess, Land and Water Conservation Department

Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (August 10, 2016 @ 2:00 p.m.)