

MINUTES  
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016  
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Ken Curry, Robert Ashbeck, Bill Leichtnam, Gerald Nelson and Harvey Peterson.

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg, Julie Akey, Justin Conner and Heather Marquardt.

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpennig and Tracy Arnold.

UW Extension Staff: Peter Manley and Jodi Friday.

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 Supervisor Bill Clendenning and Jill Hicks (WNEP)

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** None.
3. **Review Correspondence.**
  - a. Robert Ashbeck distributed a copy of a postcard from the Wood County Farm Bureau that was mailed to the attention of Wood County farmers. It highlighted County issues that may impact farms.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the December 2, 2015 CEED meeting, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, UW Extension and Land Conservation and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Justin Conner, April Opatik, Julie Akey, Jeff Brewbaker, Shane Wucherpennig, Tracy Arnold, Adam Groshek, Lori Ruess, Peter Manley, Matt Lippert, Teri Lessig, Sarah Siegel, Jodi Friday, Chris Viau and Kyli Brown.
  - a. Minutes of December 2 2015. No additions or corrections needed; however, Supervisor Leichtnam requested discussion on the following items:
    - i. Scott Larson's (MACCI) comment on millennial's are choosing where to live based on recreational opportunities over job opportunities. Brief discussion followed later in the meeting under Item #8 Economic Development.
    - ii. The contractor's cost (Veolia) from the 2015 Clean Sweep. Peter Manley provided an explanation.
    - iii. County-wide zoning. It was explained several previous P&Z committees had discussed this matter; however, due to a lack of town support, it was never pursued.
  - b. Department Bills. No additions or corrections needed.
  - c. Staff Activity Reports. No questions or comments.

<i>Motion by Gerald Nelson to approve and accept the December 2, 2015 CEED minutes as presented, bills from Planning &amp; Zoning, Land Conservation and UW Extension as presented and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Ken Curry. Motion carried unanimously.</i>
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5. **Risk and Injury Report.** Nothing new to report this month.

**6. Land Conservation**

- a. Update on County Conservationist Meeting Shane Wucherpennig reported on the County Conservationist meeting he attended December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. He reported several roundtable discussions were available on various issues. The next meeting will be held in the Spring.
- b. Update on Healthy Soil Healthy Water Planning Committee The Healthy Soil & Water Workshop will be held February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Mid-State Technical College. A preliminary flyer has

been prepared as well as a basic agenda for this workshop; however, timelines need to be finalized. It was reported \$3500 in donations have been received to date. The goal is to draw in a diverse group of agricultural groups to share ideas and success stories. Shane Wucherpennig reported this workshop may become an annual event.

Supervisor Leichtnam requested committee approval be given for committee members to attend this workshop. It was reported attendance at this workshop will be limited due to the venue location. It was the consensus of the Committee that members could attend this workshop contingent upon seat availability.

- c. Update on Groundwater Sub-Committee Meeting It was reported no Mission Statement has been developed yet. Future meetings are scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup> and January 29<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Nelson reported Rep. Kulp had recently indicated he does not foresee legislation coming up on this matter.
- d. Consider Resolution to Increase Administrative Services 4 position hours from 80% to FTE At last month's CEED meeting, members discussed and approved increasing the Administrative Services 4 position from 80% to full time (2015 hours). It was reported the Executive Committee acted on this matter yesterday and also approved it. The co-sponsored County Board Resolution to increase this position's hours from 80% to 100% and to amend the necessary budgets to fully fund unanticipated expenditures in 2016 will be acted on at the January 19<sup>th</sup> County Board meeting.
- e. Review Draft Job Description for Conservation Specialist Position for 2017 Budget The Committee reviewed a draft copy of the job description for the proposed Conservation Specialist Position to be included in the 2017 budget. It was further noted Human Resources will also be reviewing this document. Brief discussion followed.

*Motion by Gerald Nelson to approve the job description for the proposed Conservation Specialist Position as presented. Second by Harvey Peterson.*

*Voting Aye: Hilde Henkel, Gerald Nelson, Harvey Peterson, Bill Leichtnam and Ken Curry.*

*Voting Nay: - Robert Ashbeck (does not support an additional position).*

*Motion carried 4-1.*

- f. Update on Wildlife Damage Fences Tracy Arnold informed the Committee all four fences have been installed. Installation began on November 4<sup>th</sup> and completed on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a DNR program and done at no cost to the property owner; however, maintenance of the fences is the responsibility of the owner. It was noted there is now a total of 67 fences in Wood County.

## **7. UW Extension**

- a. UW Extension Reorganization Update Peter Manley reported he has not received any updates on the reorganization so he has nothing new to report. They are waiting for the Chancellor's report.
- b. WNEP Report Jill Hicks and Jodi Friday updated the Committee on the 2015 WNEP activities. It was reported this is a Federally funded program and is done at no cost to Wood County. The Power Point presentation revealed 4,163 educational contacts were made with school age children/youth through a series of lessons in the school classroom in 2015. Currently, four elementary schools in Wisconsin Rapids and one elementary school in Nekoosa are included in this program. Jodi Friday informed the Committee 2016 brings a few minor changes in the way the lessons were previously handled.

- 8. Economic Development** Brief discussion was held on last month's presentation by Scott Larson (MACCI) regarding his comment 'millenials are choosing where to live based on recreational opportunities over job opportunities'. Jason Grueneberg indicated the Park & Forestry Department is taking the lead on recreational aspects; however, the P&Z Department has oversight on the bicycle and pedestrian trails, prepares the maps for the trails and works on the County Resource map.

**9. Planning & Zoning**

- a. Update on Impact of Wisconsin Act 55 on County Shoreland Zoning. Heather Marquardt gave a brief presentation on the recent changes to the administration of County shoreland zoning as a result of Act 55, which took effect July 14, 2015. It was noted the significant changes were made to the following issues: 1) impervious surface calculations and the use of mitigation affidavits and 2) the regulation of maintenance, repair, replacement, restoration, rebuilding or remodeling of non-conforming structures. Brief discussion was held on when the County's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance would need to be amended to incorporate these recent changes.

**10. County Surveyor.**

- a. Select Contractor to Complete PLSS Maintenance for Project 1 of 50 Corners and Project 2 of 74 corners in 2016. Justin Conner reported the following:

Project 1 (50 corners) - Seven bids were submitted, with costs ranging from \$220/corner to \$874.94/per corner.

Project 2 (74 corners) – Eight bids were submitted, with costs ranging from \$229.73/corner to \$2,945.07/corner.

Upon reviewing the lowest bidder's proposal, it was determined this was a qualified and acceptable bid.

*Motion by Ken Curry to accept the low bid from Steigerwaldt of \$200/corner for Project 1 and \$229.73/corner for Project 2. Second by Gerald Nelson. Motion carried unanimously.*

Justin Conner also distributed a copy of the PLSS Corner Status Map showing the 2015 project (66 corners), the 2016 project (124 corners) and the completed corners (2,424). Committee members also reviewed a chart showing the trend of previous contracts (2010 to present) and the amount per corner.

- 11. Land Records.** Justin Conner reported the plan and grant application were submitted to the Dept of Administration in December. The 2016 PLSS projects will be covered by the grant which will free up money to be utilized for scanning surveyor records.

Chairperson Henkel suggested Conner give a brief presentation of the LiDAR project at a future County Board meeting. Staff will coordinate this with the Co Clerk's Office.

- 12. Closed Session.** The Committee went into closed session pursuant to s.19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats, for the purpose of reviewing annual goals and conducting performance evaluations of the Land Conservation, Planning & Zoning and UW Extension department heads.

*Motion by Gerald Nelson to enter into closed session at 11:48 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing annual goals and conduct performance evaluations of the Land Conservation, Planning & Zoning and UW Extension department heads. Second by Robert Ashbeck.*

*Voting Aye: Hilde Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, Gerald Nelson, Harvey Peterson, Bill Leichtnam and Ken Curry.*

*Voting Nay: None*

*Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion by Gerald Nelson to return to open session at 12:35 p.m. Second by Bill Leichtnam.*

*Voting Aye: Hilde Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, Gerald Nelson, Harvey Peterson, Bill Leichtnam and Ken Curry.*

*Voting Nay: None*

*Motion carried unanimously.*


### **13. Schedule Next Meeting**

- a. The next regular CEED meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

### **14. Adjourn**

*Motion by Harvey Peterson to adjourn at 12:36 p.m. Second by Bill Leichtnam. Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Curry, Secretary

Minutes by Julie Akey, Planning & Zoning Office

Review for submittal to County Board by Ken Curry (approved January 13, 2016)