

## RENEWABLE & SUSTAINABLE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, June 24, 2020  
TIME: 9:00 AM  
LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse – Room 114, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Present: Jake Hahn, Al Breu, Dave LaFontaine, Bill Leichtnam, Mike Feirer,

### Others

Present: Reuben Van Tassel, Nancy Turyk, Nicole Gessert, Lance Pliml, Bill Clendenning

1. Call Meeting to Order: Supervisor Hahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Public Comments:  
None
3. Elect Chair:  
Bill Leichtnam nominated Supervisor Hahn for Chair. Dave LaFontaine moved to close the nominations.

Motion for Supervisor Hahn as R&S Committee chair carried unanimously.

4. Elect Vice Chair:  
Dave LaFontaine nominated Supervisor Leichtnam for Vice Chair. Dave LaFontaine moved to close the nominations.

Motion for Supervisor Leichtnam as R&S Committee chair carried unanimously.

5. Review/approve previous meeting minutes:  
Minutes from the March 5th, 2020 R&S Committee meeting.  
It was noted that Supervisor Feirer was in attendance but was not listed in the minutes.

Motion: (LaFontaine/Feirer) to approve the prior meeting minutes with the changes. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Reuben Van Tassel projects update:  
Van Tassel updated the Committee that he was still waiting to be contacted by Faith Technologies regarding the energy study. Nancy Turyk indicated she had reached out to Faith Technologies in March but had not heard back and did not pursue further due to Covid'19. Turyk will follow up with Faith Technologies. Discussion ensued.
7. Nancy Turyk projects update:  
Turyk indicated due to Covid'19 most of her efforts have been focused on coordinating with businesses for economic development.

Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) is coordinating the group buy discount again this year and Wood County is a sponsor. Turyk is looking for guidance from the R&S Committee as to any involvement they would like Turyk to have for promoting the MREA program. Discussion ensued. Turyk will reach out to MREA to see if they will have new postcards for distribution again this. Turyk will also check into possible email information for clerks and town chairmen, and a link on the County's website to MREA.

Turyk shared information regarding the Governor's task force on climate change just starting to open up. Turyk shared the link to the Committee for submitting comments to the task force:

<https://climatechange.wi.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>

8. Savion Solar Project:  
Turyk shared basic information on the status of the Savion solar project. Turyk indicated there is an open docket with information available on the Public Service Commission (PSC) website to follow along with the project. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Pliml stated he has been in contact with representatives from Savion and he will set up for a representative to attend a future meeting. Supervisor Leichtnam shared that developer's agreements have been worked on between the County and Savion but the process is behind schedule. He indicated Savion is quite sincere in wanting to have developer's agreements. Discussion ensued.

9. Energy Study:  
Discussed earlier under Reuben's projects agenda item. Turyk will reach out to Faith Technologies.
10. Staff Member:  
Supervisor Hahn asked Turyk what the status is for needing additional staff time for R&S priorities. Turyk indicated due to the Covid'19 pandemic her resources were directed to Covid'19 but that is beginning to alleviate. Turyk indicated there is potential some of her time may be directed to the Verso closure but she is hopeful that her schedule may allow her to direct more focus on R&S. She would like to reevaluate the priorities that were set forth by the Committee back in March. This will be added as an agenda item to the next R&S Committee meeting.
11. EV Charging Station:  
Turyk indicated she believes the grant funds from the VW settlement for EV charging stations have been looped into the Climate Change Taskforce recommendations. Possible recommendations could be available by August 2020 but it will also be dependent on the legislature schedule. Discussion ensued.
12. R&S and Lean Process Grants:  
Supervisor Hahn stated the three grant applications received are included in the packet. Discussion ensued.

Motion: (Breu/LaFontaine) to recommend approval of all three submitted grant applications and submit to the PIT Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Future agenda items:
  - Savion Representative
  - Nancy Turyk priority list
  - EV charging station
  - R&S and Lean Process Grants
14. During discussion for future agenda items it was noted to let the Property and Information Technology Committee (PIT) know of the recommendation to extend the deadline for the R&S and Lean Process grants.

Motion: (LaFontaine/Leichtnam) to recommend to the PIT Committee to leave open the grant deadline for additional grant applications. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Supervisor LaFontaine asked VanTassel if he had an idea of how many fixtures have been switched to LED Countywide. Van Tassel indicated he will see what information he can find from other departments countywide.
16. Supervisor Clendenning stated he is cautious about the Consolidated Water and Power Co. (CWPCo) tie to the River Block building due to the recent news about the Verso mill closure. Van Tassel indicated he has spoken with the President of CWPCo who has indicated that he believes there is enough of a separation of entities but would be glad to attend a meeting. Discussion ensued. Reuben will reach out to CWPCo about attending a future meeting.
17. Next meeting:  
TBD
18. Adjourn Renewable & Sustainable Committee Meeting:  
Supervisor Hahn declared the meeting adjourned @ 10:14 a.m.

Notes by Nicole Gessert, Maintenance Department

