MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, February 5, 2014

WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, Kenneth Curry, William Winch, and Harvey Petersen

Member Excused: Ruth Moody

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff – Jason Grueneberg

UW Extension Staff – Peter Manley, Matt Lippert, Mary Spencer, Christine Hollar, Lacey Stirk

Land Conservation Dept. Staff – Jerry Storke

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** Peter Manley reported that Chris Viau, 4-H Youth Development Educator, has moved to the next step in the University tenure process. Teri Lessig, Horticulture Assistant, has applied for a title change through the University process.
3. **Review Correspondence.**

There was no correspondence for review.

1. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the January 8, 2014 CEED meeting, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, UW Extension and Land Conservation and 3) staff activity reports from Jason Grueneberg, Julie Akey, Jeff Brewbaker, Justin Conner, Jerry Storke, Tracy Arnold, Peter Manley, Matt Lippert, Teri Lessig, Sara Siegel, Jodi Friday, Chris Viau, Kyli Brown, and Christine Hollar.

*Motion by Robert Ashbeck to approve and accept the January 8, 2014 CEED minutes and staff activity reports from Planning & Zoning, Land Conservation, and UW Extension as presented and to accept the bills as presented from Planning & Zoning, Land Conservation and UW Extension. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried unanimously.*

1. **Risk and Injury Report.** Nothing to report this month.
2. **University Extension.**
3. WACEC Regional Meeting, February 21, 2014

Peter Manley asked the CEED Committee members if anyone was planning to attend the WACEC Regional Meeting on February 21, 2014 to be held in Rothschild, WI. Bob Ashbeck and Peter Manley will be attending.

1. Farm Technology Days

Matt Lippert reported that he was alerting the CEED Committee of interest at the State level for Wood County to host the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days in 2018. Ken Curry asked if there would be any capital outlay required of the County. Lippert reported a meeting is being held on April 2, 2014 which Wood County has been invited to attend to review the requirements and commitment of the County and potentially local agencies. He asked the Committee if there was potential interest for Wood County to host this event. Lippert was confident that there would be several area farm owners that would be interested in hosting this event on their property. He suggested considering host farms near the Hwy 10 corridor for easy access. Wood County hosted this event in 1960; consequently, there is no recent history of the preparation and commitment to this event. Typically, this event draws approximately 40,000 to 60,000 people to the County. In 2012, the event was held in Marathon County and Barron County last year. Portage County is hosting the event this year, Dane County in 2015, Walworth County in 2016, and Kewanee County in 2017. Chair Hilde Henkel suggested contacting Lance Pliml, County Executive, and the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce, and other area economic leaders to discuss the potential interest of attending the informational meeting on April 2, 2014. The Committee agreed that this would be good for the County and recommends that representatives from Wood County attend the informational meeting.

1. Designer Drugs aka Club Drugs

Christine Hollar, Wood County UW-Extension 4-H Youth Development Educator and Co-Chair of the Inner Wisconsin Coalition for Youth, presented information on designer drugs. These are synthetic drugs which are “manufactured” in homes and garages by making “a minor modification in the chemical structure of an existing drug, resulting in a new substance with similar pharmacologic effects, especially one created to achieve the same effect as a controlled or illegal drug.” (*dictionary.com*) There is no quality control and drugs with unpredictable side effects are created. There is no standard treatment plan when overdoses occur as emergency rooms do not know what was taken because drugs such as cocaine, morphine, marijuana have been altered. Because of the potential dangers, recent laws have been enacted to grant powers to law enforcement agencies to outlaw every designer drug on the street. Hollar’s purpose is to provide information to area school counselors, teachers, principals and superintendents, and to anyone working with youth to train them to recognize the signs of potential drug use. The target age group of users is 14 to 23. Hollar was joined by Lacey Stirk, an Ameri-Corps member who provides assistance to the Coalition.

1. **Land Conservation.**
2. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group Update

Shannon Rohde was unable to attend so the report will be moved to the March meeting.

1. Approve Proclamation in Support of “Celebration of Grasslands Month”

Jerry Storke presented a proclamation from the Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. in support of the Celebration of Grasslands Month in April 2014. This will be celebrated in conjunction with the Prairie Chicken Festival during the month of April. Storke asked the Committee for support and to submit this to the County Board at the March meeting.

*Motion by Kenneth Curry to approve the proclamation in support of the “Celebration of Grasslands Month” and to forward to the County Board to request their support. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.*

1. Golden Sands RC & D Council Meeting Update

Jerry Storke provided copies of promotional brochures, “Aquatic Invaders in the Classroom!” and “2014 Central Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival.” He also received a copy of a DVD, “Silent Invaders” which can be used in classrooms for instruction on aquatic invaders and how they affect Wisconsin waters. Copies will soon be available in the Land Conservation office and at public libraries.

1. Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association Conference

The 61st Annual Conference will be held on March 10-12, 2014 in Appleton, WI. Ruth Moody will be attending along with two or three Land Conservation staff members.

Storke announced that the Friends of Mill Creek will hold its annual meeting on February 26, 2014 to elect officers. Mill Creek is still on the impaired waters list. Teal Fyksen will work with this group educating people on rotational grazing.

1. **Planning & Zoning**
2. Consider resolution to amend the budgets of Planning & Zoning and Surveyor for transfer of available appropriations from Surveyor to Planning & Zoning

Jason Grueneberg provided a copy of a resolution requesting the budgets of Planning & Zoning and the Surveyor be amended to transfer unused funds from the Surveyor to Planning & Zoning for the purpose of paying the accumulated vacation expenditure from the recent retirement of the Planning & Zoning Director.

*Motion by William Winch to approve amending the budgets of Planning & Zoning and Surveyor for transfer of available appropriations from the Surveyor budget to the Planning & Zoning budget. Second by Kenneth Curry. Motion carried unanimously.*

1. Update on Department Staffing.

The Planning & Zoning Office is operating with one less person. The planner position has not been filled, yet. The JDQ for the planner position and the GIS position have been submitted to Carlson Dettman for review as some of the Land Records responsibilities of the planner position have been shifted to the GIS position. In addition, the planner position is no longer a supervisory position. These changes would allow the planner to focus on planning projects. Grueneberg hoped that the position would be posted by the next meeting.

1. Discuss Private Onsite Waste Treatment Systems Notice Wording

The Committee referred to Attachment D of the Planning & Zoning packet. William Winch asked how does the property owner know if the proof of service is recorded since that is done electronically by the service provider? Kenneth Curry suggested that the card be changed to include a phrase, such as “**To verify that your system servicing has been recorded**, *you may call 715-421-8466 or visit our website* [*www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/PZ/CodeEnforcement.aspx*](http://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/PZ/CodeEnforcement.aspx) *if you have any questions regarding this notice.”* It was also suggested that the property owner be sure they receive a receipt as proof that the service was provided and paid for.

1. **Economic Development**.
2. Central Housing Region Update on Funding Available to Wood County Property Owners for Housing Repairs

The Central Housing Region consortium for Wisconsin counties will provide $200,000 for home repairs for Wood County residents. The cap on the repairs is $20,000-$30,000 per project. The funds are paid back upon the sale of the house. Promotional materials will be mailed out next week. These funds may be used for window replacement, roof repair or replacement, septic repairs, and could also cover emergencies such as furnace replacement. Juneau County is serving as the lead county on this project and will be reviewing the applications. Grueneberg will monitor the applications from Wood County prior to sending out additional promotional materials since the need could be greater than the availability of funds.

1. **Closed Session**
2. **Performance Evaluations for Department Heads of Planning & Zoning, Land Conservation and UW Extension departments.**

***Motion by William Winch to enter into closed session at 10.45 a.m. pursuant to Chapter 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of conducting the annual performance evaluation of the department heads for Planning & Zoning, Land Conservation, and UW Extension departments. Second by Kenneth Curry.***

***Roll Call Vote:***

***Voting Aye: William Winch, Robert Ashbeck, Kenneth Curry, Harvey Petersen and Hilde Henkel.***

***Voting Nay: None***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

**B. Return to Open Session.**

***Motion by William Winch to return to open session at 11:33 a.m. Second by Robert Ashbeck.***

***Roll Call Vote:***

***Voting Aye: William Winch, Robert Ashbeck, Kenneth Curry, Harvey Petersen and Hilde Henkel.***

***Voting Nay: None***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

Evaluations were approved and will be submitted and discussed with the Department Heads.

**11. Schedule next meeting.**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.**

**12. Adjourn.**

Motion by William Winch to adjourn at 11:34 p.m. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Curry, Secretary

Minutes by Mary Spencer, Wood County UW Extension Department

Review for submittal to County Board by: Kenneth Curry, Secretary, February 7, 2014