

MINUTES  
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014  
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Hilde Henkel, Robert Ashbeck, William Winch, Ken Curry, Ruth Moody and Harvey Petersen

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff – Jason Grueneberg and Julie Akey

UW Extension Staff – Peter Manley and Chris Viau

Land Conservation Dept. Staff – Jerry Storke

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Dist. #15 William Clendenning, Wood Co Board Chairman Dist. # 16 Supervisor Lance Pliml and Scott Larson (MACCI).

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
3. **Review Correspondence.**
  - a. Chairperson Henkel updated the Committee on the status of the Farm Technology Days.
  - b. Jason Grueneberg distributed copies of a brochure on the Central Housing Region CDBG Grant Program. This program focuses on rehabilitating and improving residential properties occupied by low-to-moderate income residents. Grueneberg explained approximately \$200,000 is now available until the end of July 2014 for Wood County residents. He further explained Juneau County Housing Authority is the lead contact agency for the region on this matter and specific concerns/questions should be directed to them. Committee members were encouraged to share this information with their towns.
  - c. Jason Grueneberg distributed a copy of a news release regarding Ohio-based Biery Cheese Co.'s purchase of Kickapoo Valley Cheese Corp. in the Town of Sherry. This company plans to invest \$19.7 million in Wisconsin, including equipment and upgrades to its recently purchased facility in Plover. The project is expected to create 31 full-time jobs and retain 111 positions at this new location. Brief discussion was held on the December 2011 Board of Adjustment hearing with Kickapoo Valley Cheese Corp.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the March 5, 2014 CEED meeting, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, UW Extension and Land Conservation and 3) staff activity reports.
  - a. Minutes of March 5, 2014 CEED Meeting. No additions or corrections needed.
  - b. Department Bills. No additions or corrections needed.
  - c. Staff Activity Reports. William Winch commented on the POWTS Servicing Notices (Item #1.b.) in Jason Grueneberg's report. He questioned when the Committee was going to again review the language on the post card. Following a brief discussion, Chairperson Henkel recommended Winch meet with staff members directly to review the proposed language on the post card.

*Motion by Ruth Moody to approve and accept the March 5, 2014 CEED minutes as presented, bills from Planning & Zoning, UW Extension and Land Conservation as presented and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

## 6. Economic Development

- a. Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce (MACCI) Update. MACCI Executive Director Scott Larson distributed copies of the 2013 Annual Report. He also updated the Committee on the following Workforce Development and Economic Development activities: Cruising for Careers, Health Career Connections, Reality Store, Youth Apprenticeship, Hiring our Heroes, an upcoming April visit by Dept. of Workforce Development Secy. Reggie Newson, Farm Show, AG Banquet, BIO Tech, Central Wisconsin Days, Entrepreneurial Development, International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) and an upcoming April visit by DOT Secretary Mark Gottlieb. Larson also indicated their website had been recently redeveloped.

## 7. Planning & Zoning

- a. Update on Department Staffing. Jason Grueneberg informed the Committee the two vacant P&Z positions have now been posted. To date, 6 applications have been received for the Planner position and 2 applications have been received for the Code Technician position. Grueneberg stated the HR Dept. had recently informed him more applications have been received.
- b. Consider Sponsoring Resolution to Support a 2014 State of Wisconsin Stewardship Grant Application Jason Grueneberg gave a brief presentation on the background of the bicycle and pedestrian connector trail between the City of Marshfield and Village of Hewitt. A Stewardship grant was submitted in 2013 and partially funded with \$45,000. The 2014 grant application will be based off of the 2013 application, which will expedite the process of completing this application. It was noted the right-of-way for the trail segment has been secured. The total cost of this phase of the project is estimated to be \$122,000, of which \$61,000 (50%) is anticipated to be covered by WI DNR Stewardship Grant funding. The 50% required match totaling \$61,000 is committed by the City of Marshfield, Village of Hewitt, Town of Marshfield, Marshfield Area Friends of the Trail, Security Health Plan of Marshfield as well other area stakeholders. No County funding is committed for the 50% match.

*Motion by Ken Curry to introduce a County Board Resolution to authorize the Planning & Zoning Department to prepare and submit a grant application to the State of Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources by May 1, 2014, to fund the completion of a bicycle and pedestrian connector trail between the City of Marshfield and the Village of Hewitt in 2015. Second by Ruth Moody. Motion carried unanimously.*

- c. Consider Sponsoring Resolution to Approve an Addition to the Village of Port Edwards Municipal Cemetery. The Village of Port Edwards has submitted a request for an addition to the Port Edwards Municipal Cemetery. Per s.157.07, Wis. State Statutes, County Board approval is required for all cemetery plats and replats. It was noted this proposed addition meets setback requirements and does not conflict with County ordinances.

*Motion by William Winch to introduce a County Board Resolution to recommend approval of an Addition to the Port Edwards Municipal Cemetery, located in the Town of Port Edwards, as required by s.157.07, Wis. State Statutes. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

## 8. UW Extension

- a. WACEC Regional and State Conference. Peter Manley informed the Committee the 2014 State WACEC Conference will be held June 23-24, 2014 at the Clarion Hotel, Eau Claire. The Regional WACEC Conference is scheduled for April 21, 2014 in Weston.

- b. Clean Sweep Resolution. This item was tabled until the May 7, 2014 CEED Meeting.
- c. Celebrating 100 Years of 4-H in Wisconsin. Chris Viau, 4-H Youth Development Educator, distributed a brochure entitled "Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders". He also presented a brief overview of Youth Development activities, which included the 4-H Day at the Capitol on March 19<sup>th</sup>. He reported they were able to meet with staff members of 2 area legislators on that day. Viau also reported they will be contacting alumni to share their stories and will be searching for archived items to be used in the creation of a history board, which is to be done in audio format. When asked about 4-H participation, Viau stated the available population of youth has declined over the past few years which resulted in fairly static participation in 4-H; however, the percentage of rural non-farm participation has shown an increase.

The first 4-H club was organized in October 1914 in Walworth County. All 72 counties are being asked to sign a Proclamation in support of commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development.

*Motion by Ken Curry to encourage Wood County Board Chairman Lance Pliml to sign the Proclamation in Support of Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

## 9. Land Conservation

- a. Golden Sands RC&D Council Meeting Update. Jerry Storke distributed the Golden Sands RC&D 2013 Highlights brochure and gave a brief update on the recent RC&D Council meeting. He reported RC&D will be applying for a \$200,000 two year grant for grazing, which would require a local match. Wood County LCD would have to provide a match that could include in-kind service, cost share funds, etc.

Storke also reported Steve Grant, WI DNR Forester, is assisting RC&D to find a new 'Forest Demo' participant for Wood County.

The 2014 Prairie Chicken Festival event starts on April 5<sup>th</sup> with the Grassland Gala. Prairie chicken viewing is held on the weekend of April 11-13. Additional information can be found at [www.prairiechickenfestival.org](http://www.prairiechickenfestival.org).

Brief discussion was held on the county delegates to the Golden Sands RC&D Council. It was recommended County Board Chairman Pliml be made aware that 1 CEED committee member should be a RC&D Council delegate.

- b. Approve and Sign 2015 Joint DATCP/DNR Grant. Jerry Storke presented the 2015 Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application for Chairman Henkel's signature. He reported there has been a decrease in funding the last 5-7 years; however, it seems to be stabilizing now. The grant allocation is usually \$125,000 for staff and support, \$60,000 for cost sharing and \$20,000 for nutrient management.

*Motion by Harvey Peterson to approve, sign and submit to DATCP the completed 2015 Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application. Second by Robert Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.*

## 10. Schedule Next Meeting

- a. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m.

## 11. Adjourn

*Motion by William Winch to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Second by Ruth Moody. Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Curry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth Curry, Secretary  
Minutes by Julie Akey, Planning & Zoning Office  
Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (approved April 4, 2014)