

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, August 7, 2013
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

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

Member Excused: Robert Ashbeck

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff – Gary Popelka, Jason Grueneberg

UW Extension Staff – Chris Viau, Jodi Friday and Mary Spencer

Land Conservation Dept Staff – Jerry Storke

Others Present: Dist. #14 Supervisor Dennis Polach, Jason Angell (City of Marshfield); Adam Tegen (City of Wisconsin Rapids), Zach Vruwink, (Mayor, City of Wisconsin Rapids); Scott Larson (Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry); Melissa Reichert (Heart of Wisconsin Chamber); Phil Hartley (Heart of Wisconsin Chamber); Rick Merdan (Incourage Community Foundation); Gus Mancuso (Incourage Community Foundation); Jenny Riggerbach (Incourage Community Foundation); Kelly Ryan (Incourage Community Foundation); Teal Fyksen (Golden Sands RC&D); Amy Thorstensen (Golden Sands RC&D)

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** Bill Winch requested a copy of changes regarding high water regulations.
3. **Review Correspondence.**

No correspondence to be reviewed.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the July 3, 2013 CEED meeting, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, UW Extension and Land Conservation and 3) staff activity reports. No additions or corrections were made.

Motion by Ruth Moody to approve and accept the consent agenda items including the minutes of the July 3, 2013 CEED Committee meeting, bills from Planning & Zoning, UW Extension and Land Conservation, and the staff activity report. Second by Ken Curry. Motion carried unanimously.

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

6. University Extension

- a. WNEP Report- Rapids Family Backpacks Program. Jodi Friday, Wood County WNEP Educator, provided information on the Rapids Family Backpacks Program which was initiated by public school social workers contacting UW Extension and the WNEP educator. This program helps families stretch their food budget for healthy weekend meals. The program has grown as a collaborative effort involving three public grade schools and River Cities High School. As a service to the community, the high school students pack the backpacks with ingredients to create a meal along with recipes to make the meal. Backpacks are free to families with children in three participating schools by making a request to a school social worker. The backpacks are returned and refilled and distributed to another family the following week. The program is funded by donations from UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and many local community organizations.

- b. 2014 Budget Review. Chris Viau provided an overview of the UW Extension 2014 budget which includes the Junior Fair budget and project accounts budget. He reviewed the budget adjustments with the Committee and explained increases and decreases in line items. The proposed 2014 budget meets the Executive Committee directive.

Motion by Ken Curry to forward the proposed 2014 UW Extension budgets as presented to the Executive Committee for approval. Second by William Winch. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. UWEX 5-Year Awards. Chris Viau presented a plaque to Hilde Henkel and to Ruth Moody signifying their five-years of service to Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committee (WACEC) and the CEED Committee with appreciation and recognition for their work.

(The order of the agenda from this point was changed to accommodate the visitors present for the discussion on a proposal submitted under the Economic Development agenda item.)

7. Economic Development

- a. Jason Grueneberg presented a request to continue the financial support of the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry (\$19,500 in 2013) and the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce (\$19,500 in 2013) as provided in the 2013 budget. As part of the request from the City of Marshfield-Economic Development Board and MACCI, an additional \$30,000 was requested to continue to advance initiatives for economic development in Marshfield. A second request was presented requesting support for collaborative economic development funding to support the Regional Economic Growth Initiative (REGI) in the amount of \$30,500. Members of REGI and members of the two Chamber of Commerce organizations as well as representatives from Incourage Foundation and the City of Marshfield and the City of Wisconsin Rapids were available to answer questions regarding these requests. Seven municipalities are working together to commit funds to REGI to assist with the collaborative effort for economic development of Wood County. The agencies are mindful of limited resources available while recognizing that the requests are an investment in the communities of Wood County. Discussion occurred and questions by CEED Committee members were addressed.
- b. Review and approve 2014 budget. Jason Grueneberg presented the 2014 budget for Economic Development answering any additional questions. A correction to Grants-Bicycle Trails line will be made. The item was combined with the Airport Aids line which will be shown as a separate line item.

Motion by Ruth Moody to forward to the Executive Committee for approval of the proposed 2014 Economic Development budget as presented and corrected. Second by William Winch. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Planning and Zoning

- a. Review and approve 2014 budgets for Planning & Zoning and Private Sewage Program. Jason Grueneberg presented budgets for Planning & Zoning Department which included the Land Records budget, Private Sewage budget, Census & Redistricting budget and the County Surveyor's budget. Each line item was reviewed for each budget indicating the change and reason for the change. Overall, there was a slight increase of \$2,800 in the Budget Summary due to loss of revenue from a one-time grant.

Motion by Ken Curry to forward to the Executive Committee for approval of the proposed 2014 Planning and Zoning budgets as presented. Second by William Winch. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Land Conservation

- a. Golden Sands RC & D Council Meeting Update. Ruth Moody provided information concerning the Golden Sands RC & D Council membership and Treasurer's report. Amy Thorstenson, Executive Director, was present and provided information on the projects the Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. has been working on. One of the current projects is working with the DNR to educate land owners and farmers regarding the habitat for the prairie chicken. Their numbers are decreasing due to the shrinking usable land available for habitat.

Teal Fyksen, Grazing Specialist, has been with Golden Sands RC&D Council, Inc. for seven years. He works in a nine county area. He helps educate people regarding the benefits and profitability of grazing. He provides pasture walks on functioning grazing farms working with the idea of "farmers educating farmers." There is an Angus Beef Grazing Pasture Walk on August 14, 2013 in Auburndale at the John and Denise Hilgart farm. Contact Teal Fyksen at 715-321-2929 if you are interested.

- b. Discuss upcoming North Central Land & Water Conservation Association business meeting and summer tour. The meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2013. Bob Ashbeck and Jerry Storke usually attend. The deadline to register is August 15, 2013. Harvey Petersen expressed interest in attending. If anyone else wishes to attend, contact Jerry Storke by August 15, 2013 to make arrangements to travel together.
- c. Discuss Land Conservation Department fall conservation practices tour. Jerry Storke inquired about the interest in scheduling this tour. Attendance has been low for the last few years; and it was suggested that the tour not be scheduled as it takes a great deal of time to arrange tours of four facilities as well as schedule a bus. Jerry asked for ideas about this year's tour stops. Tentatively, it was suggested that a quarry, a stream bank restoration project, and a barnyard manure storage facility be considered for this year's tour. However, a date for the tour has not been set; September 18, 19, or 20 were mentioned as possibilities. Consult with Jerry Storke if you have ideas. Bill Winch suggested that the tour be scheduled and if there is not a minimum attendance by a certain date to cancel the tour.
- d. Mill Creek Non-Point Pollution Reduction Project. Teal Fyksen informed the Committee about a grant he wrote to obtain funds for the clean-up of Mill Creek Watershed which extends from Marshfield through Rudolph to Stevens Point. Mill Creek has been on the list of impaired waters for some time. The grant funds will be provided to help reduce the nutrients and sedimentation of surface water in the Mill Creek Watershed which, in turn, affects the downstream Petenwell/Castle Rock Flowages.

Amy Thorstenson informed the Committee that, as part of the Aquatic Invasive Species projects, there will be a work party at Nepco Lake to help control the Japanese Knotweed on August 28, 2013.

- e. Review 2013 SWRM grant staff & support reimbursement request. Jerry Storke presented the SWRM grant paperwork for signature. This is the biennial reimbursement request for staff salaries.
- f. Review and approve 2014 LCD budgets. Jerry Storke presented the 2014 Land Conservation, DATCP, Wildlife Damage & Abatement, Nonmetallic Mining, DNR and Trust

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- g. Fund budgets. He reviewed the budget summary with the committee and noted that the zero percent increase directive from the Executive Committee has been met.

Motion by Ruth Moody to forward to the Executive Committee the proposed 2014 Land Conservation, DATCP, Wildlife Damage & Abatement, Nonmetallic Mining, DNR and Trust Fund Budgets as presented. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Land Records Program. No report.

11. County Surveyor. No report.

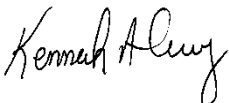
12. Schedule Next Meeting

- a. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.
- b. Future Discussion Items: Alternatives to Holding Tanks-currently used as a last resort.
- c. Reminder: September 3--CEED Budget Presentation to Executive Committee

13. Adjourn

Motion by William Winch to adjourn at 12:12 p.m. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Curry, Secretary
Minutes by Mary Spencer, UW Extension
Review for submittal to County Board by Kenneth Curry (approved 8-12-2013)