

MINUTES
 CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014
 WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #115, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

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

Member Excused: Kenneth Curry

Staff Present: Land Conservation Staff - Jerry Storke, Lori Ruess, Tracy Arnold; Planning & Zoning Staff - Jason Grueneberg, UW Extension Staff - Peter Manley, Jodi Friday, Sarah Siegel

Others Present: Dennis Polach, District #14 Supervisor; William Clendenning, District #15 Supervisor; Lance Pliml, Wood County Board Chairperson District #16 Supervisor; Kathy Rash, Wisconsin Rapids Ward 1 Cleanup Coordinator; Joe Ancel, Clean-Green Group; Don & Joan Stoner, Landowners; Jason Angell, City of Marshfield Director of Planning & Economic Development; Shannon Rohde, Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group Project Manager

1. **Call CEED Committee Meeting to Order.** Chairperson Hilde Henkel called the CEED meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. **Public Comment.**

- a. Don & Joan Stoner Town of Arpin expressed their concerns with how the correspondence and communication was handled by the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Department regarding their failing septic system. Don & Joan stated that the weather conditions since the fall of 2012 had delayed replacement, and that the Planning and Zoning Department acted more like a law enforcement agency in this situation. They would have preferred having the Code Administrator stop in and talk with them. Don & Joan added they are willing to work with P&Z and want to get their new system installed.

Jason Grueneberg explained that personnel and policy changes are currently taking place in the Planning & Zoning Department. He added that in the Stoner's case the plumber or landowner should have called the office last spring to inform the office of the delay and the deadline would have been extended.

Chairperson Henkel thanked the Stoners for coming to the meeting and expressing their concerns. She added that the best way for landowners to work through concerns is to contact and work with the Department before bringing it to the CEED.

- b. Bill Clendenning stated he had public comment on agenda item 6B, but would wait for that agenda item to be discussed.

3. **Review Correspondence.** Peter Manley stated that he checked with Matt Glewen, Wisconsin Farm Technology Days General Manager, on dates to come talk to Wood County about what it means to apply for a Farm Technology Days site. The dates Matt gave Peter are April 24, April 25, or April 28. Chairperson Henkel recommended going with Thursday, April 24.

Robert Ashbeck shared an article that was in the Marshfield News Herald on the new USDA program to improve honeybee health in Wisconsin and the Midwest. Corn, soybean and other farmers can qualify for funding to plant cover crops which help improve soil health or grow bee-friendly forage in borders and field edges. Funding will be provided through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). March 21st is the deadline to sign-up for this new USDA program.

4. **Consent Agenda**

The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the February 5, 2014 CEED meeting, 2) bills from Land Conservation, Planning & Zoning, and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports.

- a. Minutes of the February 5, 2014 CEED Meeting. No additions or corrections needed.
- b. Department Bills. Department Claim Sheets were distributed for approval and signature. Chairperson Henkel asked how soil samples were taken in January as indicated on the UWEX "Report of Claims". Peter Manley explained that two to three months of invoices could have been bunched together and paid at one time, or it could be manure or forage samples as they would also fall under soil samples.
- c. Staff Activity Reports. William Winch commented on the phosphorus information in Jerry Storke's report and added that a proposed phosphorus bill would put restrictions on towns and municipalities.

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

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

Item 7A was moved up on the agenda: Windshed Report.

Shannon Rohde, Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group Project Manager gave an update on the Windshed Project. He summarized the projects installed in 2013 and stated that in a normal year their goal is to install 15 to 15 ½ miles of windbreaks. In 2013 they installed about 11 ½ miles. Each project includes a three-year maintenance agreement and last year approximately 5,000 trees were replanted due to the drought in 2012. He is looking forward to 2014 and has approximately 15 to 16 miles to plant; currently no projects in Wood County.

Bill Clendenning commended Shannon on the exceptional and professional job that he does on the windshed projects.

6. University Extension

- a. WACEC Regional Meeting, Storm Delay. Peter Manley reported due to inclement weather on Friday, February 21, the WACEC Regional Meeting was postponed and rescheduled for Monday, April 21, in Rothschild. Robert Ashbeck will attend.
- b. Clean Sweep Proposal. Peter Manley gave a short presentation on the results of the 2013 Wood County Clean Sweep. Wood County partnered with Marathon County for the 2013 grant and received \$33,000 in grant money. Marshfield Utility donated \$5,100 and Wood County Extension budgeted \$20,000. The actual cost for the 2013 Clean Sweep was \$16,400. The donated money from Marshfield Utility was returned to them and the budgeted money in the UWEX budget was not used.

Peter stated that rules for the 2015 Clean Sweep are being changed and have not been finalized. With approval from the CEED he would complete a resolution for \$20,000 to be added to the 2015 Extension budget for clean sweep and submit a 2015 Clean Sweep Grant application. If state funds were not received, the \$20,000 would not be used. Based on past grant applications it is positive to have funds committed at the County level to incorporate in the grant. The 2013 Clean Sweep was held in Marshfield; the 2015 would probably be held in south Wood County.

Bill Clendenning and Joe Ancel from the Clean Green Group (a local grassroots group dedicated to creating a sustainable community through education, recycling & conservation) stated their group was willing to help with the clean sweep. The Wisconsin Towns Association would also like to get involved. Ruth Moody added that Golden Sands RC&D had discussed possibly donating to Wood County for clean sweep. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Robert Ashbeck to introduce a County Board resolution in the amount of \$20,000 for a clean sweep to be held in 2015. Seconded by Ruth Moody. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Checking Accounts Approval. Peter Manley updated the CEED on the Wisconsin Cranberry School and UWEX Pesticide Application checking accounts; these two accounts are not run through the County. He presented an Authorization Form for County Extension Office Checking Accounts for Chairperson Henkel to sign. The signed form will be forwarded to the UW-Extension Cooperative Extension office in Madison.
- d. Shop and Chop. Sarah Siegel, UWEX Family Living Educator and Jodi Friday, UWEX NMP Nutrition Educator gave a brief presentation on the Shop and Chop Workshop they taught at Lincoln High School. The four-week course focused on teaching participants basic cooking and shopping skills. Community partnership included Lincoln High School – use of kitchen and volunteer group for child care, United Way – funding, Wal-Mart Store – tour and \$10 gift certificate, and Women's Leadership Council – cookbook.

Sarah and Jodi are planning to offer another Shop and Chop Workshop in fall of 2014 and will be applying for an Innovations Grant through UWEX and funding through United Way.

Peter Manley reported that the Wood County Board's Proclamation in Support of Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development that was included in the CEED packet will be discussed at the April CEED meeting.

7. Land Conservation

- a. Windshed Report: Moved to first item on the agenda.
- b. NCLWCA Spring Planning Meeting. Tracy Arnold gave a brief report on the North Central Land and Water Conservation Association Spring Planning Meeting that she attended on February 24 in Wausau. The Area Poster and Speaking Contests were also held that day prior to the business meeting. Participants from Wood and Oneida County competed in the Speaking Contest. Wood County's elementary division speaker and senior division speaker will advance to the State Speaking Contest which will be held in Appleton at the Paper Valley Inn on Monday, March 10. Tracy also gave a copy of the NCLWCA 2014 Schedule of Events to the CEED. The Spring Conference and Meeting will be held on May 29 at the Antigo VFW Hall. Langlade County will host the summer tour; the date has yet to be announced.

8. Planning & Zoning

- a. Update on Department Staffing. Jason Grueneberg reported the GIS Specialist Job Description has been revised to include Land Records Coordinator responsibilities, which will allow the Planner position to focus more on County planning projects as well as local planning assistance. Updated Job Description Questionnaires (JDQ's) have been completed for both positions and reviewed by Carlson-Dettman. Due to the additional responsibilities the GIS Specialist position is now the Land Records Coordinator/GIS Specialist, which resulted in a grade reclassification and salary adjustment. The Planner position is in the process of being posted.

9. Economic Development

- a. Marshfield Economic Development Board Update. Jason Angell handed out the Marshfield Economic Development 2013 Annual Report for the Committee to review. He also handed out a flyer on the Downtown Marshfield 200 Block Redevelopment Request for Proposal (the old Marshfield News Herald site). One proposal for the site was received by the February 28th deadline.

Jason informed the Committee of the need for housing in Marshfield area and stated he will be working with MSA Professionals, bankers, and realtors to fill the needs of the community. He gave an update on ongoing projects and added as they continue to move forward on projects he will share the progress with Jason Grueneberg. One of Jason Grueneberg's goals is to work more with the City of Marshfield on economic development.

10. Schedule Next Meeting.

- a. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.
- b. MACCI update.
- c. Clean Sweep Resolution.
- d. Wood County Board's Proclamation in Support of Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development.

11. Adjourn.

Motion by Robert Ashbeck to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Second by Harvey Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Hilde Henkel, Acting Secretary
Minutes by Lori Ruess, Land Conservation Department
Review for submittal to County Board by Hilde Henkel (03-10-2014)