

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023
WOOD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM #114, WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI

Members Present: Bill Leichtnam, Dave LaFontaine (via WebEx), Tom Buttke, Jake Hahn, Laura Valenstein

Members Excused: Carmen Good

Staff Present:

Planning & Zoning Staff: Jason Grueneberg, Adam DeKleyn (via WebEx) Victoria Wilson and Jeff Brewbaker (for part of meeting)

Land & Water Conservation Staff: Shane Wucherpennig

UW Extension Staff: Jason Hausler (via WebEx), Jeremy Solin

Health Department: Ben Jeffrey & Susan Smith (via WebEx)

Others Present (for part or all of the meeting): Dennis Polach, Jeff Penzkover, Bill Clendenning, Lance Pliml (via WebEx) and Angel Whitehead (via WebEx)

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Leichtnam called the CEED Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Declaration of Quorum.** Chairperson Leichtnam declared a quorum.
3. **Public Comment.** None.
4. **Review Correspondence.** Jason Grueneberg shared that Karoline Whitman has resigned her position with Planning & Zoning. The position has been posted and interviews will take place later in January. Shane Wucherpennig announced that forty-four year administrative assistant, Lori Ruess, will be retiring in March. Shane is hoping to have her replacement hired on before Lori leaves in order to do some training. Bill Leichtnam shared information about the availability of one million dollars in producer led watershed protection grants that DATCP is awarding. For more information: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/ProducerLedProjects.aspx. Chair Leichtnam also shared an article (Generational Conservation and an Educator's Lasting Impact-Portage County Success Story) that can be found by following this link: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/wisconsin/news/generational-conservation-and-an-educators>
5. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda included the following Items: 1) minutes of the December 7, 2022 CEED meeting, 2) bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension and 3) staff activity reports from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension offices. Chair Leichtnam pulled consent agenda items from 5c.
 - a. Approve minutes of previous meeting. No additions or corrections needed.
 - b. Approve bills. No additions or corrections needed.
 - c. Receive Staff Activity Reports. No additions or corrections needed.

Motion by Dave LaFontaine to approve and accept the December 7, 2022 CEED minutes, bills from Planning & Zoning, Land & Water Conservation and UW Extension, and staff activity reports as presented. Second by Tom Buttke. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Review items, if any, pulled from Consent Agenda.** Chair Leichtnam pulled items from consent agenda item 5c pages 9-23 for discussion. Bill mentioned on page nine of the packet that Matt Lippert indicated he will be attending the Mid-West Manure Summit. Matt will speak to the CEED committee on this summit in August of this year. Chair Leichtnam spoke about Anna James, the new Natural

Resource Educator from UW Extension. Anna will speak to the CEED committee at the February 1, 2023 regarding some of the items bulleted and the work she has highlighted in this meeting's packet. Chair Leichtnam mentioned Caleb Armstrong's staff report, which included information on Nutrient Management classes that will be starting after the holiday season and run into March. Shane gave detailed information on the classes. Chair Leichtnam mentioned Emily Salvinski's staff report on page 15 that mentioned Stream Flow Measurements. Shane shared that in collaboration with surrounding counties and the DNR that information on groundwater fed streams in the central sands region has been gathered for that last ten years in an effort to monitor true base flow conditions of these streams. This gives them a long-term record of base flow conditions which gives an idea of the local impacts. Chair Leichtnam mentioned Shane's staff report, which included a conversation with Kevin Masarik regarding groundwater testing protocols. Shane gave further information on this conversation.

7. Risk and Injury Report. None.

9. Private Sewage

With the approval of the committee, item #9 was moved up on the agenda.

Jeff Brewbaker, Wood County Planning & Zoning Code Administrator gave a brief presentation on the Private Sewage Maintenance and Triennial Program Fee. Jeff answered questions from the committee.

8. Land & Water Conservation Department

a. ARPA Funding Updates

This item was left on the agenda from last month. Lance Pliml gave an update on what is happening with ARPA funding. There will be an ARPA funding meeting coming up in January but the date has not been set yet.

b. Committee Reports:

i. Citizens Groundwater Group

Bill Leichtnam gave an overview of the CGG meeting on December 12, 2022. (Notes are included in the packet for this meeting.) Next meeting is Monday January 16, 2023 at 2:00pm in the Auditorium of the Riverblock Building.

ii. Health Committee report

There will be a final meeting with the Armenia Growers Coalition regarding the MOU on January 10, 2023 at 1:00pm.

iii. Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGWCC) committee report

Bill Leichtnam shared that the last meeting was held on Monday December 19th at the Hancock research station. A great deal of work took place putting together information from the gap analysis. The thirty to forty years of information from this analysis will be revealed on either March 2nd or 9th in the evening at Tri-County High School in Plainfield.

iv. Golden Sands RC&D report

The next meeting will be January 19th in the Riverblock Auditorium.

9. Private Sewage

Item #9 was moved up in the agenda.

10. Land Records

a. ARPA Funding Updates

Jason Grueneberg spoke on Paul Bernard's behalf on the LiDAR funding request. Paul would like to know if the committee would like him to contract with Ayres for impervious surfaces at the cost he has been quoted or to put out a Request For Proposal from other vendors. The original rough estimate quoted to Wood County by Ares was \$160,000. Paul has been able to work with Ayres

to get the cost down to \$110,000 to \$115,000. Discussion took place. This item will be on February's agenda.

11. County Surveyor-no update

12. Planning and Zoning

- a. Approve amendments to the Town of Marshfield Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance.
This item was inadvertently left on the agenda from last month.

13. Economic Development.

- a. Update on State Fair Booth for 2023.
Jason Grueneberg updated the committee to let them know the CVBs are struggling to staff the booth at the State Fair. Throughout the fair there are forty-four spots needed in order to have the booth fully staffed during the eleven days of the State Fair. If a solution is not found, likely there will be no booth in 2023. Discussion took place. The Committee directed Jason to pursue other County marketing efforts, including the possibility of working with ITBEC.

14. Extension.

- a. General Office Update
Jason Hausler announced that Karli Tomsyck has returned from maternity leave so the UW Extension office at Wood County is fully staffed. Jason also shared that the one page, written extension update previously supplied to county board supervisors on a monthly basis, is now being sent electronically. Jason mentioned that due to the noise and disruption of jail construction, he has advised UW Extension staff to work remotely when needed.
- b. Introduction of New Area Director
Jason introduced the new area director, Jeremy Solin. Jeremy gave the committee an overview of his background and his excitement to start in this role.
- c. Introduction of FoodWise Administrator
Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator was unable to attend today's meeting due to illness. She will introduce herself at the February 1, 2023 meeting.

15. Requests for per diem for meeting attendants. None.

16. Schedule next regular committee meeting.

Wednesday February 1, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

17. Agenda items for next meeting.

- a. LiDAR ARPA Funding Request update
b. Anna James presentation
c. Adam DeKleyn will speak on the Wood County Well Delegation program
d. Introduction of FoodWise Administrator, Mallory McGivern

18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary.

None

19. Adjourn

Chair Bill Leichtnam declared the CEED Meeting adjourned @10:40 a.m.

Minutes by Victoria Wilson, Planning & Zoning Office and in draft form until approved at next meeting.