

**MINUTES**  
**CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday August 13, 2024

**TIME:** 8:30 AM

**PLACE:** Courthouse – Room 114

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Wayne Schulz, Tim Hovendick, Russ Perlock

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant-Planning & Zoning; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Leichtnam gave an update on the welfare of cows that are located at 3 of the 4 sites of manure violations reported to the committee by County Conservationist Wucherpennig. The cows look to have been milked recently and are not in danger.
4. Leichtnam discussed the process and expectations of today's economic development grant reviews.
5. Discussion took place on the way the economic development funds are distributed. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to remove the policy not to fund economic development requests by sectarian organizations. All nays. Motion failed. Motion by Hovendick/Schulz to re-word the policy for the next grant cycle and make discretionary to the committee whether to fund economic development requests by sectarian organizations. Motion carried 4-1 with Buttke voting no.
6. Director Grueneberg gave an overview of the Entrepreneur Pitch Contest on October 3, 2024. Motion Buttke/Perlock to release \$500 in REDI funding for this event.
7. Review of applications for Economic Development Grant requests took place. The following actions were taken:
  - a. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to fund \$1,750 for the C2 Makerspace-Equipment purchase grant request. Motion carried unanimously.
  - b. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to fund \$3,000 for the River Riders & Marshfield Bike Share grant request. Motion carried unanimously.
  - c. Motion by Buttke to deny the Auburndale Park Association, basketball hoops and donor sign grant request. Motion fails for lack of a second. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to fund \$4,000 for the Auburndale Park Association grant request. Motion by

Schulz/Hovendick to amend the motion to specify that the \$4,000 in grant funding be used specifically for basketball hoops and not the donor sign. Motion carried unanimously. Amended motion was called and carried unanimously.

- d. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to fund \$38,000 for the Central Wisconsin Junior Fair. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to fund \$25,000 for Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to fund \$25,000 for Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to fund \$15,000 for Marshfield Municipal Airport. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to fund \$15,000 for South Wood County Airport. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to fund \$30,000 for Saratoga Town Hall Restoration project. Motion carried unanimously.
- j. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to fund \$31,000 for Aqua Skiers/Wood County Parks dredging & shoreline restoration. Motion carried unanimously.
- k. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to fund \$50,000 for City of Pittsville property purchase and housing incentive. Motion carried unanimously.
- l. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to deny funding for Village of Hewitt, connector trail. Motion carried unanimously.
- m. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to fund \$20,000 for City of Marshfield, Braem Park. Motion carried unanimously.
- n. Motion by Perlock/Buttke to deny funding for Childcaring, shared services. Motion carried 3-2 with Leichtnam and Schulz voting no.
- o. Motion by Schulz/Leichtnam to fund \$10,000 for Village of Port Edwards, re-use and redevelopment plan. Motion carried unanimously.
- p. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to fund \$18,875 for City of Nekoosa, Jim Freeman boat landing. Motion carried unanimously.
- q. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to fund \$18,875 for City of Marshfield, Welcome Back project. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Chair Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 10:36 AM.

Minutes taken by Victoria Wilson, Planning & Zoning Program Assistant and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

**Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee  
August 13, 2024**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Chendermy	WCD #15
Ed Newton ✓	Finance
Dennis Polach	WEB- 14
Victoria Wilson	P+Z
Jason Greenberg	P+Z
Buss, Perlock	WEB #4
Tim Frank	WCD #5
Wayne Schutz	WEB #1
Gabe Plum	WCD
Peter Kastenholz	Corp. Counsel
Kayla Rombaliski	Extension