

AGENDA
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 7, 2024

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse – Room 114

1. Call meeting to order
2. Declaration of Quorum
3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
4. Review Correspondence.
5. Consent Agenda.
 - a. Approve minutes of previous meetings
 - b. Approve bills
 - c. Receive staff activity reports
 - d. Receive committee reports
6. Review items, if any, pulled from Consent Agenda.
7. Risk and Injury Report
8. Extension
 - a. Natural Resources Groundwater Educator update
 - b. Community Health Navigator position update
9. Land & Water Conservation Department
 - a. Discuss and possible action on Golden Sands RC&D 2024 membership dues
 - b. WI Land+Water Conservation Conference (March 6-8, 2024 in Green Bay)
 - c. ARPA proposal update
10. Private Sewage
11. Land Records
12. County Surveyor
13. Planning & Zoning
14. Economic Development
 - a. Consider release of REDI implementation funds to apply towards the Wood County Housing Summit.
 - b. Consider release of REDI implementation funds to apply towards broadband infrastructure initiatives.
 - c. Update on Wood County Housing Summit.
 - d. Uniquely Wisconsin update.
 - e. Discuss Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Idle Sites grant application for a Vesper housing project.
 - f. Review proposed grant application materials for 2025 Wood County economic development grant requests.
 - g. Discuss Wood County's role in economic development.
15. Requests for per diem for meeting attendants
16. Schedule next regular committee meeting
17. Agenda items for next meeting
18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
19. Adjourn

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Meeting number (access code): 2482 161 1617

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?>

[MTID=m668eb97e838e6d83a48d1702835e5540](https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m668eb97e838e6d83a48d1702835e5540)

Meeting number (access code): 2482 161 1617

Meeting password: 020724

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 3, 2024

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 114

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Dave LaFontaine, Laura Valenstein, Jake Hahn, Tom Buttke, Joe Behlen

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present. Leichtnam welcomed Behlen to the committee.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by LaFontaine/Buttke to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by LaFontaine/Buttke to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Wucherpennig reported the Wisconsin Land & Water Association annual conference is coming up, a county core value award was recently awarded to a LWCD staff member, and that he is reviewing his APRA proposal for a drone for the department.
6. Grueneberg requested that a portion of the REDI grant funding be used to conduct a housing survey in conjunction with the work being done for our housing plan by North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Motion by Buttke/Hahn to approve the amount, not to exceed \$1,000, to fund the housing survey. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Rombalski reviewed the actions of the REDI Roundtable for 2023, including the number and types of meetings held. A calendar of 2024 meetings was included. Motion by LaFontaine/Hahn to approve the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
8. The economic grant funding process was discussed in depth and at length. A number of proposals came forward, including having the grant applications tie into the REDI plan better, making sure the committee has a dollar amount to spend before the process, possible scoring of applications prior to any award meeting, matching fund requirement, and cap the number of times an applicant can apply. Staff will work on an application form and bring back to the committee for review.
9. Solin provided an Extension office update:

- a. Space designers have been working with Extension to come up with additional space for offices for the new educators.
 - b. Final interviews coming up for the Natural Resources Groundwater Educator position.
 - c. Upcoming presentation to committee on services to the Hmong population.
10. Leichtnam requested per diem to attend the interview for the Natural Resources Groundwater Educator position. Motion by LaFontaine/Buttke to approve the per diem and attendance. Motion carried unanimously.
 11. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 7th at 9:00 AM.
 12. Chairman Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Extension Wood County

For the period of: January 2024

For the range of vouchers: 30230168 - 30230169 30240001 - 30240014

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30230168	AWARDS 'N MORE	4H Recognition Award	01/16/2024	\$30.00	P
30230169	US BANK	Jan Credit Card Bill - 2023	01/23/2024	\$578.88	P
30240001	MARSHFIELD PARKS & RECREATION DEPT	4H PDD Facility Rental	01/02/2024	\$800.00	P
30240002	4-H AMERICAN SPIRIT	4H Experience - 8 Delegates	01/16/2024	\$15,200.00	P
30240003	WACAA	2024 Dues - M. Lippert	01/16/2024	\$150.00	P
30240004	US BANK	January Credit Card Bill	01/23/2024	\$94.76	P
30240005	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	01/23/2024	\$119.99	P
30240006	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	01/23/2024	\$108.98	P
30240007	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	01/23/2024	\$8.99	P
30240008	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	Office Supplies	01/23/2024	\$85.87	P
30240009	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	Office Supplies	01/23/2024	\$26.56	P
30240010	WEAFCS	2024 Membership Dues - JC	01/30/2024	\$160.00	
30240011	CARBAJAL JASMINE	January Expenses	01/30/2024	\$246.56	
30240012	CARBAJAL JASMINE	January Expenses - Juntos	01/30/2024	\$44.22	
30240013	JAMES ANNA M	January Expenses	01/30/2024	\$31.22	
30240014	WEHR JANELL	January Expenses	01/30/2024	\$187.02	
Grand Total:				\$17,873.05	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Land & Water Conservation

For the period of: December 2023 (2)

For the range of vouchers: 18230208 - 18230210

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18230208	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Supplies - wire marking flags	12/27/2023	\$97.24	P
18230209	MENARDS-MARSHFIELD	DEPT SUPPLIES	12/20/2023	\$148.70	P
18230210	US BANK	CCA Renewal, Office Supplies	01/17/2024	\$155.49	P
Grand Total:				\$401.43	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Land & Water Conservation

For the period of: January 2024

For the range of vouchers: 18240001 - 18240003

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18240001	WI LAND + WATER CONSERVATION	2024 WI Land+Water Dues	01/03/2024	\$1,675.90	P
18240002	US BANK	CAFO Workshop, Office Supplies	01/17/2024	\$95.22	P
18240003	NORTH CENTRAL LAND & WATER CONSERVATION	NCLWCA Area Assoc Dues	01/22/2024	\$200.00	P
Grand Total:				\$1,971.12	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: December 2023

For the range of vouchers: 22230094 - 22230098 38230032 - 38230033

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22230094	SEPTIC GAL THE	PL-Prof Services Other	01/01/2024	\$2,750.00	P
22230095	INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION	PS-Dec Sanitary Permits	01/01/2024	\$900.00	P
22230096	QUEST CIVIL ENGINEERS LLC	SU-R/M Service-Other	12/18/2023	\$24,000.00	P
22230097	BADGER-LAND SURVEYING INC	SU-R/M Service-Other	12/12/2023	\$8,400.00	P
22230098	US BANK	LR-Credit Card Charges	01/17/2024	\$7.19	P
38230032	GRUENEBERG JASON	ED-Mileage	12/21/2023	\$16.46	P
38230033	MARYANN LIPPERT CONSULTANT LLC	ED-REDI Funding	12/27/2023	\$585.00	P
Grand Total:				\$36,658.65	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: January 2024

For the range of vouchers: 38240001 - 38240001 22240001 - 22240006

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22240001	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Prof Svcs-Other	01/01/2024	\$833.00	P
22240002	WCCA (COUNTY CODE ADMINISTRATORS)	PS-Dues	01/01/2024	\$70.00	P
22240003	CARMODY SOFTWARE INC	PS-Prof Serv-Other	01/04/2024	\$3,588.00	P
22240004	AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION	PL-Dues	01/08/2024	\$383.00	P
22240005	WISCONSIN COUNTY SURVEYOR ASSOCIATION INC	SU-Dues	01/04/2024	\$100.00	P
22240006	WISCONSIN LAND INFORMATION ASSC	LR-Dues	01/06/2024	\$250.00	P
38240001	NORTH CENTRAL WI REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION	ED-Prof Serv-Other	01/03/2024	\$40,400.00	P
Grand Total:				\$45,624.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

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Committee Member:

Extension Wood County staff led, delivered, planned or collaborated on all of the following activities:

4-H POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Laura Huber, 4-H Program Educator

Jasmine Carbajal, 4-H Associate Educator (Marathon & Wood Counties)

Malina Carattini, 4-H Americorps member

- A program for Wood County 4-H Discovery Days, where participants learned plant selection and container gardening skills. This effort is designed to support science literacy in youth.
- An educational and active activity for Wood county 4-H cloverbuds in grades K-2nd. The goal of the activity was for youth to learn about MyPlate guidelines and be active by playing a game to reinforce information learned.
 - *The Wood County 4-H Club, Golden Glow, invited Bilingual 4-H educator, Jasmine Carbajal, to lead an activity with the club's cloverbuds. Cloverbuds are youth in grades K-2nd and their focus for the month of January was wellness. The cloverbuds learned about the main five MyPlate food group guidelines. Then, they were active by running around identifying which group a food belonged to. Playing the identification game, gave the cloverbuds an opportunity to exercise and reinforce knowledge that they learned from the lesson. Finally, they made a healthy snack that consisted of a rice cake with peanut butter, cheerios, apple and banana slices, and blueberries. They made their snack look like an owl to make it extra fun and they all verbally expressed they loved it!*



AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

- A presentation on methods of preventing the incidence and severity of milk fever was presented to producer group so that they may improve herd health and make better choices about managing this challenging metabolic disorder.
 - *This event was hosted by a facility managed by the plain faith community. Most of the members of the community are both crop and livestock producers and this topic stresses the importance of integrating both cropping systems and livestock feeding and management practices to improve forage productivity and animal health. Discussion highlighted that producers increased awareness of soil fertility practices that both improve forage production and reduce metabolic disorders greatly affecting dairy profitability and sustainability.*
- A presentation for the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MACCI) Agriculture Business committee, where members of the committee learned best practices for effective and accessible social media. This effort was designed to increase capacity to address community needs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- Planning for a basic grant proposal workshop for local government, businesses, and organization members and staff. The goal of this effort is for people to learn how to find, write and apply for grants so that they can carry out the activities of their organization, business, or government unit.
- Facilitation of a Wood County Broadband / Digital Equity Solutions Team meeting during which plans for TDS' expansion of services in Wood County through E-ACAM were discussed, as well as details reviewed for the Wood County Broadband Plan and Wood County Community Area Network (CAN) Plan. The outcome of this meeting is continuing to make progress on goals related to broadband infrastructure in Wood County.
- Coordinated the submission of a Thrive Rural Wisconsin grant application through the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation's Office of Rural Prosperity for the City of Pittsville, in partnership with Wood County Planning & Zoning. This effort, characterized by intensive collaboration and a tight timeline, aims to significantly advance the Community Economic Analysis for Rural Wisconsin Communities plan for Pittsville, enhancing its economic development potential.
- Planning for the Wood County Housing Summit, a focused event on housing challenges in Wood County bringing together residents, housing industry representatives, government/non-profit partners, legislators and more to discuss solutions. This event will be held March 7 and is being planned in partnership with the Wood County Housing Task Force. The outcome of the Housing Summit is to involve key stakeholders in brainstorming housing solutions.
- Planning for a revised Economic Development granting process for the CEED Committee in which the application is modified and a scoring rubric is created to serve the CEED Committee's needs and provide clear expectations on funding allocations to interested entities. The impact of this effort is to streamline the granting process at each step, making the administration of the grant easier for all involved. These Economic Development grants are a unique feature of Wood County government and provide a great resource to grantees.
- Development of a Wood County Economic Development year-end report for the CEED Committee and other stakeholders where a summary of 2023 REDI implementation activities is provided. Through this summary the work of the REDI implementation teams is quantified, and provided as quantitative data. This data (outputs) will be combined in 2024 to show outcomes for REDI implementation in Wood County, which contributes to the County's economic vitality.

CRANBERRIES

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

- Hosted Wisconsin Cranberry School, for 336 attendees, featuring results of research throughout the year
- Administered Pesticide Applicator Training session and tests for 62 participants



- Received President's Award from Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association
- Developed 3 Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program studies with 3 cranberry growers to submit DATCP grants this cycle
- Planned nutrient management training

FOODWISE

Hannah Wendels, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator

- A partnership with United Way/Hunger Coalition, FOCUS Food Pantry, and the Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids that provides "Stockboxes for Seniors", a monthly food box service where low-income seniors can receive around 25-30 pounds of nutritious foods to stock their pantry with. The goal of this partnership is to promote the boxes with community partners with the overall goal to improve food security.
 - *Each month, FoodWise partners with United Way of South Wood/Adams County and the Hunger Coalition at FOCUS Food Pantry to provide a free "Stockbox" pickup of commodity food from the Hunger Relief Federation. The Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids delivers the boxes to home-bound individuals. The program happens once per month and provides a free box of food to 60+ seniors and continues to grow each month.*
- A nutrition education class for Jefferson Elementary School families, where parents learned about the importance of providing children with healthy foods to choose from. Families also received healthy snack/meal strategies and created a snack together to encourage them to make healthier meals at home.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Mead Elementary School, where they learn about the importance of eating five food groups, introduce label reading, and the importance of food and physical activity. This effort was designed to make healthy eating a positive experience which will help with making healthier food choices in the future.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Howe Elementary School, where they learn about the importance of eating five food groups, introduce label reading, and the importance of food and physical activity. This effort was designed to make healthy eating a positive experience which will help with making healthier food choices in the future.
- A Healthy Living series for teens (grades 9-12) at the alternative high school (River Cities), where students learn basic life skills such as food preparation and cooking skills, budgeting and finance skills, and mindfulness activities to better prepare them for their future and living on their own.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for fifth grade classrooms at Grove Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, making healthy food and beverage choices, and about being physically active to help them to be healthier in school and at home.

- Working with partners in Clark, Marathon, Portage and Wood Counties to build a new platform that directly focuses on food access mapping for those with limited incomes. The goal of this effort is to provide current, reliable food access information for all community stakeholders in Central Wisconsin and the state.

HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- Developing informal learning communities utilizing the Horticulture Program's social media for all Wisconsin gardeners, including underserved populations. The goal of this effort is to provide accurate, practical and up-to-date information to the public primarily through the topic hub in order to foster engagement and bolster educational outreach efforts in support of addressing the Horticulture Program objectives.
- A diagnostic service for the general public, where Marathon and Wood County residents' horticultural inquiries are answered through evidence-based resources. This effort is designed to reduce pollution through horticultural product (pesticides and fertilizers) misuse.
- A presentation for the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MACCI) Agriculture Business committee, where members of the committee learned best practices for effective and accessible social media. This effort was designed to increase capacity to address community needs.
- A program for Wood County 4 H Discovery Days, where participants learned plant selection and container gardening skills. This effort is designed to support science literacy in youth.
 - *In "#BestBuds4Life" Wood County 4-H club participants learned about plant propagation. Participants first learned the conditions necessary for African violets to thrive by learning about their native habitat. Next, participants learned about plant anatomy and physiology, and the requirements for leaf propagation. Finally, participants practiced propagation skills, starting their own plants to take home and grow. If successful, participants have the opportunity of showing their grown plants at the Wood County Fair in 2024.*

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS

Jackie Carattini, Human Development and Relationships Educator

- A 6-session wellness series (WeCOPE) for child care providers where they learned different strategies that support awareness of mind-body connection. The goal of this effort is to offer skills to decrease stress and increase positive emotions of participants.
- A Healthy Living series for teens (grades 9-12) at the alternative high school (River Cities), where students learn basic life skills such as food preparation and cooking skills, budgeting and finance skills, and mindfulness activities to better prepare them for their future and living on their own.
- A 7-session course, Planning AHEAD that helps adults of all ages to make end-of-life financial, healthcare, and final wishes decisions in order to reduce the stress experienced by survivors and to ensure that their wishes are honored.
- Planning with the Central Wisconsin Partnership for Recovery Safe and Sober Housing initiative to determine which Extension curriculum to use to meet local housing needs and the pre-rental educational component for

their program. Two online workshops ("Rent Smart" in the Wood County Jail) per month where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. This effort is designed to encourage safe and sober housing stability.

- A series of meetings with local financial coalition partners to learn about current community needs that will lead to the development of future financial programs in the Wisconsin Rapids area.
- A 3-session Rent Smart train-the-trainer event that prepares social service providers to lead this curriculum that helps participants find and keep safe and affordable housing. Rent Smart is a course for renters where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, homeless populations and those who have negative rental records are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Anna James, Natural Resources Educator

- A facilitated discussion for producers and conservation professionals in the Springbrook and Upper Eau Claire River watersheds where participants will learn about the Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant Program. The goal of this meeting is for producers to identify conservation related concerns, local stakeholders, and engagement/commitment in order to determine if forming a producer-led watershed protection group is in the best interest of the environment and community members.
- A collaborative planning effort between Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards (PACRS) to gather all citizen led water protection and restoration groups in the greater Wisconsin River basin area. The goal of this effort is to increase collaboration amongst the groups, identify goals and initiatives for improving water quality, and assessing community needs.
- A social indicator survey to better understand agricultural producer's awareness, attitudes, constraints, capacity, and behavior towards water quality and conservation practices. Results from this survey will provide conservation practitioners and educators with important information for planning, implementing, and evaluating conservation practices based on the needs of agricultural producers.
- A survey of agencies and organizations that support farmer-led watershed groups in Wisconsin was conducted to better understand how these groups are functioning and the nature of support they receive from their partners. Results of the survey will be used to inform decisions about what types of support are most beneficial and most needed by the farmer-led groups.



Wood County, Wisconsin LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Activities Report for Barb Peeters - January 2024

- Answered phones, replied to emails and processed incoming and outgoing LWCD mail.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to Jan. 11 & 25 payrolls.
- Reviewed payroll reports and payroll registers; requested retirement account be corrected.
- Worked with DATCP Conservation Grant Specialist to address questions regarding Wood County's Cost Share Extension Request for submission of required forms.
- Responded to numerous customer inquiries via phone & email regarding the tree/shrub/seed sale.
- Scheduled, attended and typed minutes for January 3rd staff meeting.
- Attended January 3rd CEED meeting via WebEx.
- Assisted customers who came to the office to complete tree order forms/drop off order/payments.
- Completed December sales tax report and forwarded to Finance.
- Placed Exotic Pet Surrender flyer on LWCD web page.
- Attended Wellness Committee meeting on Jan. 9th and shared updates with LWCD staff.
- Processed nonmetallic mining annual permit fees as received.
- Created 2024 spreadsheets and documents (payroll, voucher templates, truck mileage, etc.).
- Worked with I.T. to resolve issue with LWCD phone line down from 8pm on 1/10/24 through 11am on 1/11/24. Unable to make/receive calls during that time frame (incoming calls went to voicemail).
- Processed certified letter for an outstanding contract payment and tracked delivery.
- Updated/submitted annual government account authorized user forms for LWCD Menards accounts.
- Assisted County Conservationist with MDV data and printed reports for annual MDV plans.
- Reviewed DATCP's monthly report for Jan. 2024 & brought pertinent items to attention of LWCD staff.
- Worked with Human Services (HS) staff regarding interoffice mail delivery to courthouse as well as two separate checks sent in error to LWCD from the State of WI for HS records requests.
- Submitted journal entry to transfer nonmetallic mine (NMM) permit fees received in 2023 from the deferred liability account into the 2024 NMM budget.
- Processed certified letter for a waste transfer facility violation and tracked delivery.
- Assisted with judging posters and ordered prizes for the 2024 Conservation Poster Contest Winners.
- Assisted Human Services (HS) staff members with process & location of documents for HS Social Committee fundraiser (Valentine candy grams) which I chaired in previous HS position.
- Began compiling data for 2023 Audit (DATCP grant/cost sharing, MDV revenue/cost sharing, Mill Creek grant/cost sharing, DATCP staff & support grant, NMFE grant/cost sharing).
- Updated Non-Metallic Mining forms on LWCD website.
- Processed the LWCD Fixed Asset Inventory report and submitted to Finance.
- Worked with I.T. for over a week to resolve issues with tree program not sending receipts to customers.
- Processed 62 tree, shrub and wildflower order forms and deposited payments (as received).
- Processed wildflower/grass seed/food plot orders through Pheasants Forever for April sale.
- Finalized tree order and assisted Rod with submission of final count to Hramor Nursery. For the 2024 April tree/shrub sale, processed a total of 140 pre-orders for 12,655 trees/shrubs, 8 lbs. of tree gel and 158 tree shelters.
- Assisted Rod with mailing of wildlife enrollment forms.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for CEED packet.
- Organized County Board packet and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.

Activities Report for Emily Salvinski

-January 2024-

- **Wednesday, January 3.** Attended staff meeting. Worked on updating mailing list for Portage Co for a Friends of Mill Creek Meeting. Worked on Mill Creek reporting in DNR's BITS program.
- **Thursday, January 4.** Worked on updating mailing list for Portage Co. Finished preparing MDV shapefile with missing contract info and reductions to enter into BITS.
- **Tuesday, January 9.** Printed, folded, added to envelopes mailing for upcoming Nutrient Management Farmer Education classes.
- **Wednesday, January 10.** Finished mapping for cost-share work done in 2023 from our office. Mapped conservation work done by farmer group.
- **Thursday, January 11.** Mapped conservation work done by farmer group. Finished totaling total acres and reductions for work done in 2023.
- **Monday, January 15.** Combined individual cost-share folders into previous combined year shapefiles (MDV 2023 combined with MDV 2020-2022 and so on). Updated map and graph to go into no-till brochure.
- **Tuesday, January 16.** Reviewed a newly submitted nutrient management plan for farm that is receiving cost-sharing for nutrient management. Added map to new nutrient management 2024 shapefile. Cleared the NMP excel list for incoming plans.
- **Thursday, January 25.** Processed a submitted nutrient management plan. Tried different things in the new arc GIS pro.
- **Friday, January 26.** Worked on entering attachments into BITS, the DNR's reporting system.

Activities Report for Kyle Andreae – January, 2024

- January 1 – Holiday
- January 2 – Theil site visit, Shill communications
- January 3 – Pankratz design
- January 4 – Theil correspondence, Pankratz design
- January 5 – Theil correspondence, Pnakratz design
- January 8 – Theil as-built
- January 9 – Pankratz design
- January 10 – Gorst project correspondence, Pankratz design
- January 11 – Pankratz design
- January 12 – Vacation
- January 15 – Theil as-built, Pankratz design
- January 16 – Pankratz design
- January 17 – Pankratz design
- January 18 – Shill site visit, Pankratz design
- January 19 – Theil as-built
- January 22-24 – Sick
- January 25 – Theil as-built, Pankratz design
- January 26 – Tri-Star Dairy as-built review, Theil correspondence
- January 29 – Theil as-built, Tri-Star Dairy as-built review
- January 30 – CAFO Workshop
- January 31 – Pankratz design



Activities Report for Kendra Kundinger – January 2024

- Read and Reviewed Wisconsin State Legislature Chapter 33: Public Inland Waters.
- Created/finalized tracking documents needed for the 2024 Lake Monitoring and Protection Network grant program.
- Watched the Winter Water Talk “Can we Farm and Fish at the Same Time?” hosted by Water Action Volunteers and the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.
- Created aquatic invasive species fact sheets to put on the Wood County Land & Water website.
- Attended the DATCP nutrient management online training.
- Handed out flyers for the Exotic Pet Surrender Event to Wood County pet shops and feed stores.
 - The Exotic Pet Surrender Event is a regional event hosted by J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue where people can bring their exotic pets they can no longer care for – no questions asked – and the animals will be rehomed. This event keeps animals from being released into the wild, which could be harmful to the animal and the environment.
- Met with the chair of the Nepco Lake District twice to discuss plans moving forward and how the Land & Water Conservation Department may be of assistance.
 - Reviewed Lake District goals and provided feedback.
- Attended the webinar “Sulfur’s Emergence as the Fourth Essential Nutrient” hosted by the American Society of Agronomy.
- Attended the Aquatic Plant Management Annual Meeting hosted by DNR.
- Attended the “15th Annual Agroforestry Symposium: Silvopasture in Practice” hosted by the University of Missouri.
- Participated in the required Lake Monitoring and Protection Network grant planning meeting with the DNR AIS Biologist for Wood County.
- Attended the “Riparian Water Rights in Wisconsin” webinar hosted by Water Action Volunteers and the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.
- Attended the “Economics of Relay Cropping” webinar hosted by Soil Health Nexus.
- Assisted producers via phone on nutrient management plan questions.
- Attended the “International Invasive Species Conference” hosted by NAISMA.
- Created a printable version of the aquatic invasive fact sheets.
- Created an Invasive vs. Native Look-A-Like publication to be put on the Land & Water website in the near future.
- Began drafting the layout for the updated invasive species webpage on the Land & Water website.

Activities Report for Rod Mayer – JANUARY 2024

- Letter to Prevail to release financial assurance CD for Brand replacement ILOC.
- Reviewed Ertl FA updates – held in escrow. Update spreadsheet, software, & file.
- Correspondence with DNR and Shane regarding B&R site compliance. Reviewed training videos, multiple emails, discussed with Shane, etc. Completed and mailed stop work order on site, posted site with stop work order, updated DNR storm water with site and issues.
- Staff meeting.
- Reviewed Scheuneman, Igotowski, Doine, and Ibrandl financial assurances. Updated spreadsheets, software, and files.
- Reminder calls to permit holders for financial assurance updates and fees due – ongoing throughout January.
- Worked with Prevail bank for Brand changes – switch to new bank – replacement financial assurance. Letter to release with Associated Bank. Reviewed new – updated spreadsheet, software, and file.
- Correspondence with Wood Trust Bank for Wolosek FA update questions.
- Reviewed Becker financial assurance. Update spreadsheet, software, and file.
- Created 2023 wildlife damage spreadsheet – tracking harvest objectives and outcomes on enrollees. Sent to DNR.
- Contacts to wildlife damage enrollees for info if close to objectives. Looked up harvest dates on DNR spreadsheets. Put info together for meeting.
- Completed 2023 wildlife damage claims. Obtained signatures, sent to DNR.
- Reviewed Wolosek FA updates. Updated spreadsheet, created new FA, updated software, file.
- Meeting with Shane and Corp. Counsel to discuss CIM/Weiler mine site actions. Revisions to letter drafted by Corp. Counsel – sent to landowner.
- Sent W9 to Lindsey Locker for processing of deer donation payments.
- Completed Conservation Poster Judging – for grades 4-6 category (13 posters). Ordered trophy. Put together winner/prizes letter, created certificates for all participants – etc.
- Pond info sent to Gribble – met with landowner – assisted with pond exemption – reviewed and issued exemption for pond build.
- Research – contacts on info of potential Peat mine site in Wood County. DNR correspondence and landowner correspondence informing on regulations and needed for non-metallic mine site permitting.
- Reviewed Schneider FA ILOC and Dupee new account control agreement for FA. Worked with Corp. Counsel for advice – sig. page sent to bank. Updated spreadsheet, software, and file.
- Held DNR meeting of 3 with Shane and DNR wildlife biologist. Reviewed 19 enrollee’s objectives and harvests, 3 damage claims, etc. Four enrollees will sit out next year for not meeting objectives.
- Completed Raikowski and Knuth WM-40 enrollment (crop appraisals for damage with >\$1000 damage in 2023). New enrolled lands maps made, enrollment and shooting auth. Forms completed with crop owner signatures, updated DNR database, scans, sent to DNR for issuing of permits.
- Completed new maps for all enrolled lands on Marti farm for WM-40 enrollment – updated acres calcs – created forms. Delivered to farm for all landowner signatures. 1523 gross enrolled acres – 973 acres of crops.
- Reviewed Nikolai FA, Mid WI FA & power of attorney, Milestone FA (6 sites). Updated spreadsheet, software, and files.
- Looked into blasting complaint from Town of Dexter sent to DNR. Contacted mine site, DNR, and township.
- Stream dredging questions and correspondence to landowner.
- Reviewed tree sales with Barb – decided on extra numbers – Barb sent final order to nursery. Updated spreadsheet for numbers tracking.
- Reviewed Crist FA (sent prev. paperwork to bank), reviewed Ladick FA (4 sites). Updates.
- Processor contacts for needed paperwork to process payment for deer donation program. Picked up Pittsville Meats paperwork.



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION
DEPARTMENT

Activities Report for Shane Wucherpennig - January 2024

- January 1 – Holiday
- January 2 – Virtual meeting, BITS MDV Plans
- January 3 – CEED meeting, BITS MDV Plans
- January 4 – Database management, Field visits
- January 5 –, Field visits, BITS MDV Plans
- January 8 – BITS MDV Plans, Meeting with Nepco Lake District President
- January 9 – BITS MDV Plans
- January 10 – BITS MDV Plans, Database updates
- January 11 – BITS MDV Plans
- January 12 – BITS MDV Plans
- January 15 – Virtual meetings, Meeting with Nepco Lake District President
- January 16 – Discussion with Golden Sands RC&D ED about Counsel president position, Virtual meeting
- January 17 – Database management, meeting with DNR Wildlife Biologist about WLD Program goals
- January 18 – Golden Sands RC&D meetings at River Block
- January 19 – Field visits, PACRS Meeting in Necedah
- January 22 – CSGWCC meeting in Hancock
- January 23 – County ARPA meeting, Virtual meetings
- January 24 – Database updates, meeting with county cons.
- January 25 – Field visits, virtual meeting
- January 26 – BITS MDV Plans
- January 29 – MDV plans in BITS for 2024, Annual Work plan
- January 30– CAFO Workshop - Curtis WI
- January 31– Database updates, DNR/DATCP discussions, ArcGIS Projects



Wood County WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director
Emily Arndt, County Planner
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator
Vacant, Code Administrator
Brad Cook, Code Technician
Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant
Kayla Rautio, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for February 7, 2023

1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)

Central Wisconsin Economic Development (CWED) Fund – On January 17th I participated in the CWED Board of Directors' meeting. Agenda items included increasing the amount for micro loans, consideration of offering a First-Year fund loan, loan committee updates, finance committee updates, and administrator update.

Tax Incremental District No. 5 (Mill Creek Business Park) Incentive Fund - Wood County currently oversees incentive funds for TID No. 5 in the city of Marshfield. The fund started with \$400,000 on March 17th of 2015, and the current fund balance is \$139,120. Marshfield will be closing TID No. 5 in March and the remaining funds will be distributed to the overlying taxing districts. I am working with the city of Marshfield to determine the process to close out the TID and distribute the remaining funds.

Community Area Network (CAN) Planning – On January 11th I met with NCWRPC staff and IT staff to talk about development of a future CAN in Wood County. The purpose of this discussion was so that we could include information regarding the proposed CAN in the Wood County Broadband Plan that is being developed.

Vesper Housing Grant – I have been working with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and the owner of the closed Vesper Elementary School to apply for an Idle Sites Grant. The grant would provide funding for conversion of the building to 11 senior housing units.

REDI Implementation/Task Force Meeting – In the past month I participated in a variety of REDI implementation and task force meetings. Agendas and links for those meetings can be found on the REDI Dashboard.

Thrive Rural Wisconsin Initiative – The Wisconsin Office of Rural Prosperity provides grant funding for projects that meet at least one of their focus areas.

1. Community-based economic development
2. Small business development
3. Rural housing
4. Community facilities
5. Sustainable energy projects

6. Organizational and financial management

As the County economic development organization, we submitted a grant application in cooperation with the city of Pittsville.

Wood County Housing Summit – The Wood County Housing Task Force has a Housing Summit scheduled for March 7, 2024. The agenda as well as registration information for the event is attached to this report.

Heart of Wisconsin Leadership Class – On February 8th Wood County will be hosting the Heart of Wisconsin Leadership Class to learn about government services. As day chair I have been working on the agenda for the day and scheduling speakers, panel participants and tours.

Alliant Wind Energy Proposal – In the past month I have been in contact with staff of the UW-Madison Real Estate Division. I have talked with them about the Alliant Energy wind energy project in Marathon County that is proposed in the area of the UWEX Agricultural station of which Wood County owns 143 acres. Although I shared general information about the project I encouraged them to talk directly with Alliant Energy to better understand the project. I will circle back and talk to UWEX Real Estate Division staff after they have talked with Alliant Energy.

2. Planning & Zoning (Emily Arndt)

1. Attended the Education and Workforce Day for the Heart of Wisconsin Community Leadership Program
2. Continued correspondence with Town of Cameron and Town of Rock
3. Continued planning the organization of future Comprehensive Plans
4. Working through review and approval of CSMs and Condo Plats
5. Continued working with staff to ensure that questions are answered in a proficient manner

3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- Custom Map Requests – Property Owner, Parks/Forestry, Planning/Zoning
- NG911 Data Preparation – Uploading data to AT&T system
- Emergency Service Atlas – working with local fire departments & DNR
- Presenting ARPA funding request to the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee

4. Code Administrator (Vacant)

5. Code Technician (Brad Cook)

12-20-2023- Study for certified soil tester exam

12-21-2023- Study for certified soil tester exam

12-22-2023- Holiday

12-25-2023- Holiday

12-26-2023- Vacation

12-27-2023- (1) new conventional inspection TN 07, (4) well permits reviewed and issued

12-28-2023- (1) conventional inspection TN: 13, study for CST exam

12-29-2023- Holiday

1-1-2024- Holiday

1-2-2024- Study for CST exam

1-3-2024- (1) new conventional inspection TN:07, study for CST exam

1-4-2024- Study for CST exam, review sanitary permits

1-5-2024- (1) new conventional inspection TN:18, study for CST exam

1-8-2024- Study for CST exam

1-9-2024- Study for CST exam

1-10-2024- (1) mound inspection, tanks TN:21, study for CST exam

1-11-2024- Study for CST exam, review sanitary permits

1-12-2024- Study for CST exam, review sanitary permits

1-15-2024- Study for CST exam, review sanitary permits

1-16-2024- Study for CST exam

1-17-2024- Study for CST exam

1-18-2024- (1) conventional inspection TN:18, study for CST exam

1-19-2024- Study for CST exam

1-22-2024- (1) conventional inspection TN:18, Study for CST exam

1-23-2024- CST Exam Appleton,WI

1-24-2024- (20) inspection reports written and reviewed

1-25-2024- (10) inspection reports written and reviewed

1-26-2026- (10) inspection reports written and reviewed, (4) well permits reviewed and issued

1-29-2024- (13) inspection reports written and reviewed

1-30-2024- (32) inspection reports written and reviewed

6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Kayla Rautio)

- a. Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity – There were 9 sanitary permits and 5 well permits issued in January 2024.
- b. POWTS Program Audit – The state audit paperwork has been completed and sent to the State for review. The next step will be the Wastewater Specialist from the State visiting the office to complete their portion of the audit.
- c. ArcGIS Pro Software Project – Victoria continues to assist Paul with Point of Interest projects. Kayla continues to assist Paul with various GIS mapping projects.
- d. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
 - i. January 3rd CEED meeting (VW)
 - ii. January 9th Staff meeting (VW & KR)
 - iii. January 15th Citizen's Water Group (KR)
 - iv. January 29th Staff meeting (VW & KR)



DATE: Monday January 15, 2024

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Teleconference via WebEx

Present (In person or via WebEx): Bill Leichtnam, Shane Wucherpennig, Joe Ancel, Lance Pliml, Ben Jeffrey, Dave Joosten, Ken Winters, Gordy Gottbeheit, Rhonda Carrell, Bruce Dimick, Cecile Stelzer-Johnson, and Bill Clendenning

1. Chair Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Carrell/Winters to approve the minutes from December 11th, 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Correspondence/Updates/Handouts/Reports on Meetings Attended
 - Leichtnam shared a temporary poster to promote the upcoming March presentation. He further shared a flyer from the Central Sands Groundwater Collaborative that is trying to promote the effort of the six counties, including Juneau, Adams, Waushara, Wood, Portage, and Marquette. The flyer highlights the mission and goals of the collaborative.
 - EPA to Minnesota: Take action to protect people from polluted wells in eight counties. A coalition of groups had asked the EPA to declare a public health emergency. Leichtnam shared part of the following article in regard to this situation:
<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2024/01/05/lawmaker-raise-fertilizer-fees-to-help-pay-cost-of-nitrate-pollution>
 - Stelzer-Johnson shared an article from the WI DNR about the REINS act. **2017 Wisconsin Act 57**, known as the **Wisconsin Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act**, is a REINS-style state law signed by Governor [Scott Walker](#) (R) on August 9, 2017, that requires state legislative authorization of administrative rules that carry compliance and implementation costs of \$10 million or more over a two-year period. The law was modeled on a [proposed federal law with the same name](#).^{[1][2][3]}
5. Report of CWG Subcommittee on preparations for panel/presentation
 - March 18th at 6:00 p.m. is the official time of the meeting.
 - The meeting will be at the McMillan Library Fine Arts center.
 - Speakers have been secured. They are Dr. George Kraft, Meleesa Johnson, Ben Jeffrey, and Mayor, City of Wausau, Katie Rosenberg.
6. Continuing planning for Off-site Panel discussion in March, 2024
 - Publicity will be need to be discussed at the next subcommittee meeting which will be held on Monday January 22nd at 2:00 p.m. at McMillan Library.
 - Discussion took place about the design of the meeting poster.

- Further discussion took place on which high-level state officials should be invited and which media outlets to contact.
7. Upcoming local and regional events to be aware of. None
 8. Agenda items for next meeting (next agenda comes out on week prior)- None
 9. Next meeting – February 19th @ 2:00 p.m. & schedule next subcommittee meeting
 - Events Subcommittee will meet in the McCourt room at McMillan Library on Monday January 22nd at 2:00 p.m.
 10. Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Notes by Victoria Wilson, Planning & Zoning Office

2023 Annual Report - Plat Review



TRENDS FROM THE PAST YEAR

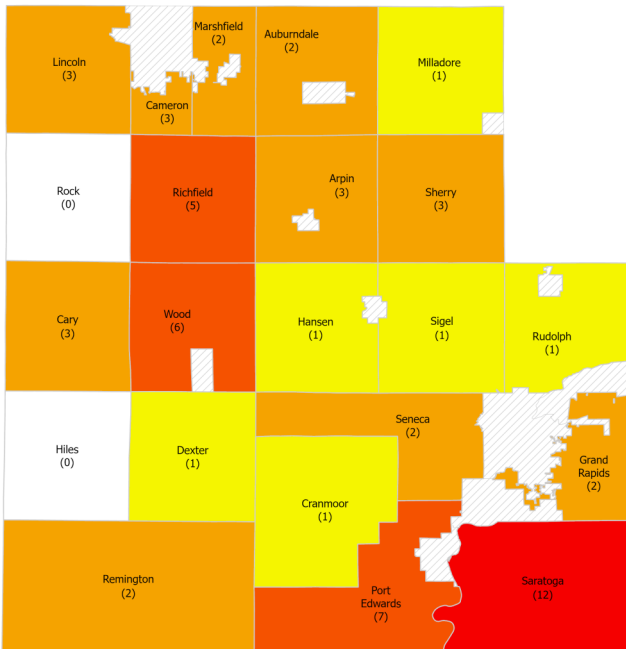
- Three new subdivision plats.
- Town of Saratoga had the most land divisions.
- Five new condo plats.

PURPOSE

The Wood County Land Subdivision Ordinance is administered county-wide within the unincorporated areas of the county. This ordinance regulates procedures and standards for dividing a parcel of land into smaller parcels.

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the public health, safety and general welfare; to further the orderly layout and use of land; to prevent the overcrowding of land; to lessen congestion in the streets and highways; to facilitate adequate provisions for water, sewage and other public requirements; to provide for proper ingress and egress; to promote proper monumenting of subdivided land and conveyancing by accurate legal description; and to provide safe and orderly subdivision layouts.

2023 Plat Review Summary		
	Total	# of Lots
Certified Survey Map (CSM)	62	99
Preliminary Subdivision Plat	3	27
Final Subdivision Plat	1	10
Condo Plat	5	8



CSMs By Town	
Town	Total
ARPIN	3
AUBURNDALE	2
CAMERON	3
CARY	1
CRANMOOR	1
DEXTER	1
GRAND RAPIDS	2
HANSEN	1
HILES	-
LINCOLN	3
MARSHFIELD	2
MILLADORE	1
PORT EDWARDS	7
REMINGTON	2
RICHFIELD	5
ROCK	-
RUDOLPH	1
SARATOGA	12
SENECA	2
SHERRY	3
SIGEL	1
WOOD	6

STAFF

Emily Arndt - County Planner

Telephone: 715-421-8568

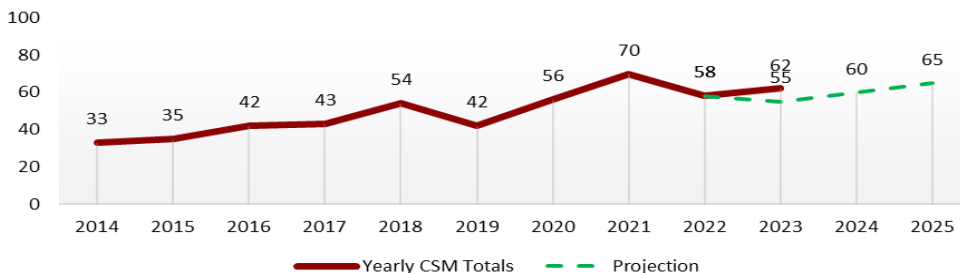
Email: emily.arndt@woodcountyi.gov

Kevin Boyer - County Surveyor

Telephone: 715-421-8466

Email: kevin.boyer@woodcountyi.gov

CSM Historical Data & Projections For Future



LEARN MORE

[Wood County - Plat Review](#)



2023

Annual Report : Well-Water Systems



127

OF NEW WELLS PROPERLY LOCATED & PERMITTED

48

OF UNSAFE, UNUSED OR NONCOMPLYING WELLS FILLED & SEALED

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Wood County Private Well-Water Systems Program is to protect Wood County's drinking water and groundwater resources through regulating new private well location and well filling and sealing.

Well Construction Type	
	Total
Drilled	126
Driven Point/Jetted	1



This program provides the opportunity to protect public health and the environment as well as provide for the protection and safety of county citizens by inspecting new and existing well installations, discovering old wells that should be filled and sealed, and learning more about groundwater and soil conditions within the county. The program is administered countywide by the Planning and Zoning Department.



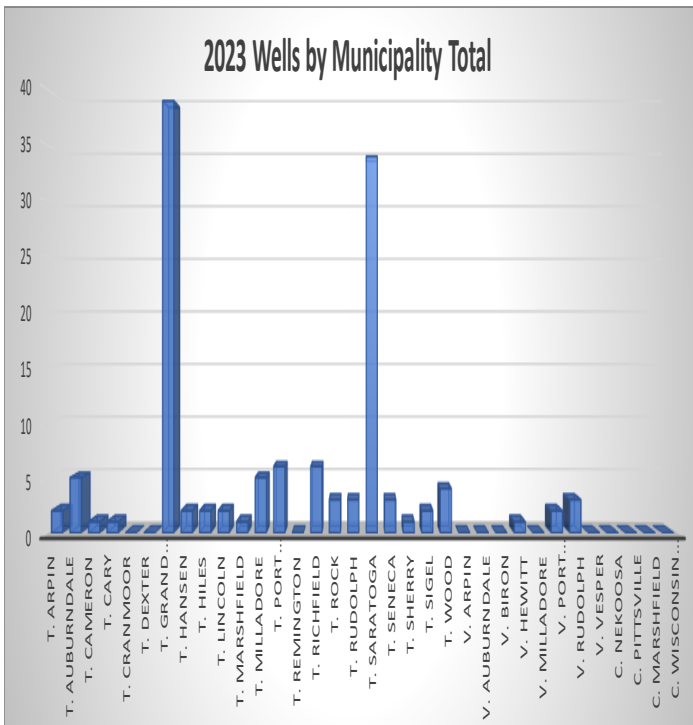
50%

Grand Rapids and Saratoga accounted for roughly half of all 2023 well constructions

Wells by Municipality

Local Municipality	Total
T. ARPIN	2
T. AUBURNDALE	5
T. CAMERON	1
T. CARY	1
T. CRANMOOR	0
T. DEXTER	0
T. GRAND RAPIDS	38
T. HANSEN	2
T. HILES	2
T. LINCOLN	2
T. MARSHFIELD	1
T. MILLADORE	5
T. PORT EDWARDS	6
T. REMINGTON	0
T. RICHFIELD	6
T. ROCK	3
T. RUDOLPH	3
T. SARATOGA	34
T. SENECA	3
T. SHERRY	1
T. SIGEL	2
T. WOOD	4
V. ARPIN	0
V. AUBURNDALE	0
V. BIRON	0
V. HEWITT	1
V. MILLADORE	0
V. PORT EDWARDS	2
V. RUDOLPH	3
V. VESPER	0
C. NEKOOSA	0
C. PITTSVILLE	0
C. MARSHFIELD	0
C. WISCONSIN RAPIDS	0

2023 Wells by Municipality Total



STAFF

Brad Cook - Code Technician

Telephone: 715-421-8471

Email: scott.custer@woodcountywi.gov

Vacant - Code Administrator

LEARN MORE

[Wood County - Well Program](#)





2023 Annual Report Private Sewage Onsite Wastewater & Zoning Permits

PURPOSE

The Wood County Private Sewage Ordinance is to promote and protect the public health, safety, general welfare and natural resources of the county by assuring:

1. The proper siting, design, installation, inspection, maintenance, and management of POWTS and non-plumbing sanitation systems.
2. Timely repair or replacement of failing POWTS and non-plumbing sanitation systems.
3. Prevention and control of surface water and groundwater pollution.

STAFF

Vacant—Code Administrator

Brad Cook—Code Technician

Email: bradley.cook@woodcountywi.gov

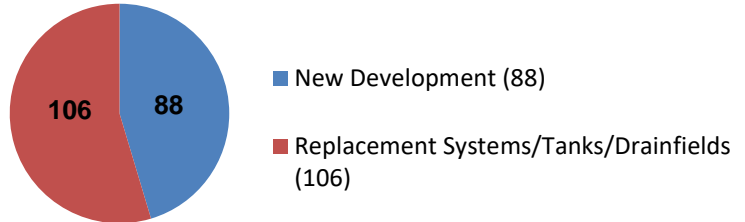
Telephone: 715-421-8466

LEARN MORE

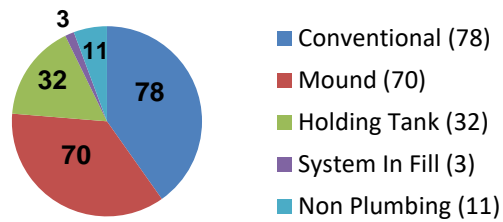
<http://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/PZ/SanitaryProgram.aspx>



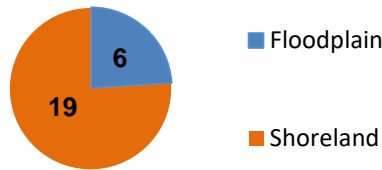
Sanitary Permits



System Type



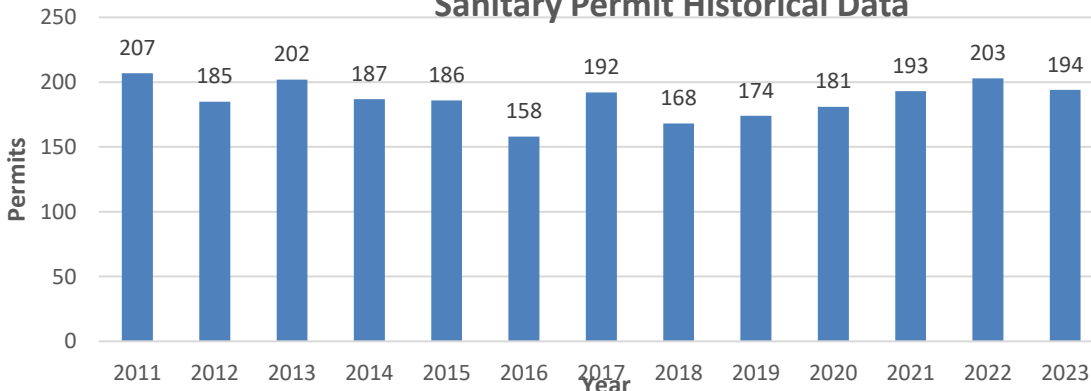
Zoning Permits



Sanitary Permits By Town

Town	Total
ARPIN	10
AUBURNDALE	8
CAMERON	4
CARY	4
CRANMOOR	1
DEXTER	2
GRAND RAPIDS	34
HANSEN	5
HILES	1
LINCOLN	4
MARSHFIELD	7
MILLADORE	9
PORT EDWARDS	7
REMINGTON	0
RICHFIELD	14
ROCK	3
RUDOLPH	5
SARATOGA	49
SENECA	7
SHERRY	4
SIGEL	7
WOOD	6
VILLAGES	3

Sanitary Permit Historical Data



Wood County Housing Summit

Finding solutions to the affordable housing crisis.

Save The Date

7 March
2024



**9:30 AM–
3:30 PM**



**Mid-State
Technical College
Wisconsin Rapids**

Event details and registration:

<https://bit.ly/WoodCoHousingSummit>



Wood County Housing Summit Agenda

March 7, 2024 | 9:30AM – 3:30PM

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 9:00 – 9:30AM | Registration & Networking |
| 9:30 – 10:00AM | Welcome |
| 10:00 – 11:00AM | Keynote |
| 11:00 – 11:15AM | Break |
| 11:15AM – 12:15PM | Enlighten Us
Three local communities share their success with addressing housing issues. |
| 12:15 – 1:00PM | Lunch & Networking |
| 1:00 – 2:00PM | Legislative Panel
Hear an update from local legislators and have an opportunity to ask questions. |
| 2:00 – 2:15PM | Break |
| 2:15 – 3:15PM | Creating Context for Action
Participate in a facilitated process within a group to create a shared vision for next steps. Results will be collected and used to create change in Wood County. |
| 3:15 – 3:30PM | Closing & Next Steps |





Uniquely Wisconsin Wood County Segments (2023)

[Behind the Aqua Skiers : Show Ski Capital of the World](#)

The Wisconsin Water Ski Tournament is a thrilling showcase of skill, precision, and sheer athleticism, drawing both seasoned professionals and budding talent to the pristine waters of the Wisconsin River. Athletes from all corners of the country converge on this charming town to participate in a three-day extravaganza of water ski competitions that includes slalom, trick skiing, and jump events.



For the community of Wisconsin Rapids, this tournament is more than just a sporting event; it's a cherished tradition that fosters a deep sense of local pride. The tournament serves as a significant economic boon for the region, bringing in thousands of spectators, competitors, and their families each year. Local businesses flourish during the event, from hotels and restaurants to shops selling water sports equipment, creating a substantial boost to the local economy.

The tournament's importance transcends its economic impact. It embodies the spirit of camaraderie and unity within the community, as volunteers and organizers work tirelessly to ensure its success. Local schools, community groups, and civic organizations come together to offer their support and assistance, creating a sense of togetherness that strengthens the bonds of the community.

[Bridging Education to the Next Generation : C2 Makerspace](#)

C2 Makerspace in Marshfield, Wisconsin, is a groundbreaking project that was created to provide students with access to cutting-edge technology; it was also about partnering with K-12 education. It offers students a unique chance to discover their passions and potential careers in an environment that encourages hands-on learning, collaboration, and exploration.



This endeavor is more than just a makerspace; it's a catalyst for economic development in the Marshfield area. By nurturing creativity, fostering skills, and instilling a spirit of exploration, C2 Makerspace strives to contribute to the growth of a vibrant local economy driven by technology, innovation, and expertise.

[Passion Behind Powers Bluff : The Bluff to Bluff Race](#)

Sharon and Ralph Bredl are dairy farmers at work, but cyclists at heart. They are committed to promoting fitness in their community, which is why they started the Bluff to Bluff Road Race on Powers Bluff in Marshfield. Alongside the Bredls' efforts, Joshua Sampson, volunteer coach of the Marshfield High School Biking Club, has been instrumental in the development of the new, 7-mile Powers Bluff mountain bike trails. Watch the heartwarming story of how biking has changed the lives of the Bredls, Joshua Sampson and the lives of many other bikers in Wood County.





**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Application Instructions & Grant Information

The Wood County CEED (Conservation, Education, and Economic Development) Committee and the Board of Supervisors have made available a limited amount of economic development funds to be awarded each year to projects or proposals that seek to enhance the economic vitality of Wood County. This includes projects or proposals to encourage business growth and development, promote tourism and recreational opportunities, develop workforce retention or attraction strategies, and more.

To be successful proposals should be clear and concise with a detailed description of the project's scope, program, or activity, timeline, and 1:1 match funding. A successful proposal will -

1. **Align to REDI Plan Goals:** Wood County's economic development strategy ([The Rural Economic Development Initiative \(REDI\) Plan](#)) outlines strategic goals in key focus areas. Proposals should align with one of these strategic goals -
 - Supporting **Entrepreneurship**
 - Offering collaborative **Economic Development Networking**
 - Ensuring robust **Technology Infrastructure**
 - Addressing **Housing** needs throughout the County
 - Engaging in solutions for **Child Care** Accessibility & Affordability
 - Supporting **Asset-Based Branding & Tourism**
 - Developing combined county-wide **Recreational Mapping** to increase use and attract tourism
2. **Provide an ROI to Wood County:** Proposals should provide a detailed ROI (Return on Investment) description for the funds invested.
3. **Be Completed in One Year:** These economic development grant funds are not ongoing. Successful proposals will have a clear timeline and be completed within the 2025 calendar year.
4. **Include a 1:1 Match:** Proposals should include at least a 1:1 match. The match can be monetary or in-kind contributions. A description of the match must be included in the grant application.

Who Can Apply? Applications are welcome from local municipalities or units of government, non-profit/community organizations, or project-based teams. Proposals should have a Wood County focus.

Funds Available & Grant Size: A total of \$400,000 is available in this fund for the 2025 grant cycle. There is no cap in place for these requests, but keep in mind there is a 1:1 match requirement. If an applicant requests \$100,000, a match of \$100,000 is required.

What we do not generally fund: Annual campaigns, Operating expenses or losses, Debt retirement, Endowments, Direct support of individuals, Lobbying, Sectarian causes

Process: All applications are due by 4:30pm on Friday, July 5, 2024. Come in to provide an update for release of funds. Applications are reviewed in August, approved by the County Board in November and grantees will be notified following November approval at the County Board budget hearing.

Questions/More Information: Contact Jason or Victoria in Wood County Planning & Zoning with questions. 715-421-8466, jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov, victoria.wilson@woodcountywi.gov.



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

2025 Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Request

Proposal Title:

Applicant Organization:

Website:

Mailing Address:

Street Address: (if different)

Contact Name & Title:

Phone:

Email:

Proposal Narrative

1. REDI Alignment (select one)

If selected other, please describe:

2. Please provide a summary of your proposal. Explain how it is consistent with and supports the Wood County REDI (Rural Economic Development Initiative) Plan.

3. Have you received funds through this grant in the past? (if yes, check box)

Have you applied in the past? (if yes, check box)

If yes, in which years did you receive funds and in which years did you apply?



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Phone: 715-421-8466

- 4. Describe the timeline for this proposal.** Note this grant requires the funding recipient to complete work on the proposal/project within one calendar year (2025).

- 5. Explain how this proposal will provide a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.** Please be as specific as possible. E.g. County funding will allow us to conduct 25 business prospects leading to the establishment of 2 new local businesses creating 10 full time jobs; County funding contributed to funding an entrepreneurial boot camp that led to the development of 12 business plans and the creation of 2 businesses employing 6 people.

- 6. Describe the match for this proposal.** A 1:1 match is required. E.g. For a \$5,000 grant award, the grantee must provide \$5,000 of in-kind or financial match. The match must occur within the calendar year (2025) the funds are awarded for.



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**
 400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
 Phone: 715-421-8466

Funding Considerations/Request Summary
 (provide separate spreadsheet/budget if needed)

Budget Summary		Budget Detail	
Total Organization Budget	\$	Revenue/Income	
Total Proposal Cost	\$		\$
Total Amount Requested	\$		\$
Total Match *	\$	Total Revenue/Income	\$
* Please provide a match explanation in question 6.		Expenses	
			\$
			\$
			\$
		Total Expense	\$

Project Reporting Requirement

As a reporting requirement of receiving an Economic Development Grant, a one-page summary program/project report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met.

Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

Applicant

<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Date</i>

Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Date</i>



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**
 Courthouse - 400 Market Street
 P.O. Box 8095
 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8095
 Phone: 715-421-8466

2025 Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Request Scoring Rubric

Proposal Title:			
Criteria	Points Possible	Points Awarded	Comments
Program is clearly described.	10		
Program demonstrates alignment to REDI category.	10		
Program provides a clear ROI for Wood County	10		
Program includes at least a 1:1 match. Match is clearly described, especially if in-kind.	10		
Program can be completed in one year.	10		
Program is a first-time applicant.	5 bonus points		
Total	50		

Scoring/Points Awarded Explanation

- 1-10 points possible for each of five criteria. 5 bonus points awarded.
 - 1 (lowest score) = Very little detail provided, does not meet criteria at all, does not have a match, can not be completed in one year
 - 5 (average) = Limited details provided, has some detail, match explanation not clear, project alignment questionable, not clearly defined.
 - 10 (highest score) = Meets all criteria, strong ROI, clearly defined, match that meets or exceeds 1:1 expectation