

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, August 13, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

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

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

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. Under public comment, Supervisor Donna Rozar discussed her thoughts and recommendations of the criteria that, in her opinion, should be used in judging the merits of the applications going forward. Supervisor Clendenning was recognized and agreed with Rozar's comments.
3. The resolution recognizing the Citizens Water Group as an advisory subcommittee of the CEED committee was presented. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward it onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The request for economic development grant funding release from Main Street Marshfield was reviewed by the committee once again. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the release of \$18,875 to Main Street Marshfield for the Welcome Back grant. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Each of the applications were reviewed by the committee with the following motions being offered, noting that they still need to be approved by the entire county board during the budget process:
 - a. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to decline the request of Wood County Parks & Forestry for CERA Park signage. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to approve the amount of \$9,000 for the Remington Fire Dept. building addition. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
 - c. Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to deny the request from the Village of Vesper for Community Center revitalization. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
 - d. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the amount of \$20,000 to the City of Pittsville for their Housing Incentive portion of the application only. Motion carried unanimously.
 - e. Motion by Hovendick/Buttke to approve the amount of \$12,000 to the Columbus Catholic School for their fieldhouse. Motion carried unanimously.

- f. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the amount of \$13,000 for the Child Care Centers of Marshfield for childcare accessibility and affordability. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to deny the request from the Village of Rudolph for park improvements. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve \$5,000 for Centergy for the Central Wisconsin Industry Study, if Centergy can get two other counties to also provide funding. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to deny the request from Marshfield YMCA for childcare accessibility and affordability. Motion carried 3-2. Voting no were Leichtnam and Schulz.
- j. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to deny the request of the City of Marshfield for their historic district signage. Motion carried 3-2. Voting no were Buttke and Hovendick.
- k. Motion by Buttke/Leichtnam to deny the City of Marshfield building revitalization program funding request. Motion failed. Voting no were Buttke, Perlock, & Hovendick. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to grant \$8,000 to this request. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
- l. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to deny the request of Midstate Technical College for Workforce Safety Training. Motion carried unanimously.
- m. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to deny the request of Midstate Technical College for Production Process Improvement Training. Motion carried unanimously.
- n. Motion by Hovendick/Schulz to grant \$10,000 to the City of Nekoosa for the bike trail and Riverside Park rehabilitation. Motion carried unanimously.
- o. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to grant \$20,000 to the City of Wisconsin Rapids for Witter Park lighting. Motion carried unanimously.
- p. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to grant \$25,000 to the Village of Biron for a study on parcel of land for housing development. Motion carried unanimously.
- q. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to deny the request for Bike Share. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Leichtnam.
- r. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to grant \$4,000 for the City of Marshfield Farmers Market organizational start up funding. Motion failed 1-4. Voting no were Schulz, Buttke, Hovendick, & Perlock.
- s. Motion by Schulz/Leichtnam to grant \$20,000 for the Catch-a-Ride program. Motion carried 3-2. Voting no were Hovendick and Buttke.
- t. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to grant \$20,000 to Cran City Corner development in Pittsville. Motion carried unanimously.
- u. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to deny Main Street Marshfield Welcome Back project funding. Motion carried unanimously.
- v. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to grant \$5,000 to the Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids Convention & Visitors Bureau for trail maps. Motion carried unanimously.
- w. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to grant \$30,500 to the Village of Vesper for the Stemperosa Estates garage build. Motion failed 0-5 with all committee

members voting no. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to grant \$25,000 to the Village of Vesper Stemperosa Estates garage build. Motion carried unanimously.

- x. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve an additional \$5,500 to the City of Pittsville for their housing incentive project. Motion carried unanimously.
6. The committee will address further clarification on the economic development grant process at a future meeting.
7. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 12:09 PM.

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

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

August 13, 2025

NAME	REPRESENTING
Amanda Blashowski	Marshfield Area YmCA
Sarah Franken	Child Care Centers of Marshfield
Hannah Munnell Scott	Wood County Health Dept.
Jordan Munger	City of Marshfield
Jeremy Sickler	Alexander Field
Jan Brodman	RUFD
Bill Clendinning	WCB #15
Isabell Grethen	Main Street Marshfield
Jenna Hanson	"
Meredith Kleck	Wis Rapids Area CVB
Jake Klingforth	City of Wis. Rapids
David Eaton	Columbus Catholic Schools
Jason Gruenberg	P & Z
Angel Laidlaw	Centergy
Julie Marci	P & Z
Jon Evenson	Village of Bron
JEFF PERKOVER	WCB #11
Jake Hahn	WCB
Donna Roger	CB Dist 2
Via Web Ex:	
Brad Hamilton	CB Dist 18
Katie Kleyn	County Clerk
Kallee Ferk	C/Nekoosa
Scott Brachm	V/Vesper
Staci Kivi	Heart of Wisconsin
Julie Strenn	Gran City
Kristie Egge	Health Dept

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

August 13, 2025

[illegible]