

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, August 2, 2023

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 114

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

EXCUSED: Carmen Good

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.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Correspondence included introduction of LWCD summer intern, update on Discover Wisconsin MediaWorks filming in Wood County, and a request for more people to do the broadband speed test. Leichtnam shared a request from an economic development grant applicant requesting the total amount awarded. Committee consensus is to share this information with the caveat that it is not finalized until the county budget process is complete.
4. Motion by LaFontaine/Buttke to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by LaFontaine/Hahn to approve the vouchers and staff reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Melinda Osterberg from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. discussed the county's recent "distressed" rating, which was attributed to the layoffs at Sonoco and the Marshfield Clinic. She also highlighted various grants available through that organization.
7. Richard Larsen from the Village of Rudolph presented an update on their Park Initiative. They expect completion by late fall. Motion by LaFontaine/Valenstein to release \$4,250 in Economic Grant funds to the Village of Rudolph. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Ben Martinson from the Village of Port Edwards shared an update on the kayak put in project. At this time only one, out of the three that was proposed in their economic development grant, has been completed. To date, \$5,000 of the \$15,000 allotment has been released to the village. Motion by Buttke/Hahn to deny the remainder of the request for now. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Wucherpennig shared the bids for the Weiler waste storage facility closure. Motion by Buttke/LaFontaine to accept the low bid of \$15,800 from the landowner, Alan Weiler, for the basis of cost sharing. Motion carried unanimously.
10. The committee reviewed and discussed the various definitions of what economic development includes and how it fits into the Wood County Economic Development plan, and how to better incorporate those definitions into the economic grant process. Further discussion will be held on this topic at future meetings.
11. Solin and Rombalski presented a pilot project to enable the county to conduct 2 clean sweeps in 2024 using existing Extension funds already in place and to study future viability of doing 2 collections per year. Rombalski provided an estimate of what the costs and collection weights might be. The consensus of the committee was to move forward with this pilot project.
12. Solin discussed the preliminary 2024 Extension budget with more information to follow.
13. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6th at 9:00 AM.
14. Motion by Buttke/LaFontaine to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 10:38 AM.

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

CEED Committee
August 2, 2023

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Clendinning	WCB #15
Angele W. Ditchhead	Centerway, Inc
Jeff Perzkan	WCB #11
Victoria Wilson	P52
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - #14
RICHARD LARSEN	VILLAGE OF RUDOLPH
Shane Wicherding	LWCD
Clinton Sabers	LWCD
Melinda Ogleburg	WEDC
Jeremy Sohi	Extension
Kayla Rombalski	Extension
Ben Martinsen	Post Edwards
Jason Grueneberg	Pv3
Barb Peeters - LWCD	WebEx
Lance Plind - CB Chair	WebEx