



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Friday, January 5, 2024
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Attendance:	<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not present</u>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn.....	X	
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Allen Drabek.....	X	
	Rick Seefeldt.....	X	
	Dave Oberbeck.....		X
	Andrew Venzke.....		X
	Tony Sherfinski.....	X	
	Kim Ungerer.....		X (excused)
	Mike Ritter.....	X	
	Marilyn Bhend.....		X(excused)

Via in person, Webex Or phone

MEETING RECORDING

Also present via Webex, phone or in person: Laurie Miskimins, Shad Harvey, Kirstie Heidenreich, Nicole Delonay, Garrett Pagel, Andy Shep, Kirk Langfoss, & Jeff Prichard - Conservation Planning and Zoning; Dale Grosskurth –Health Department, Jamie Polley – Parks Department, Chris Holman – Deputy Administrator, Melvin Meguire, & Carrie Simonis

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Chair Langenhahn at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Public Comment** – None.
Approval of December 5, 2023, Committee minutes (Part 1 - 0:01)
Motion / second by Ritter/ Sherfinski to approve of the December 5, 2023, Environmental Resources Committee minutes.
 Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.
4. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution**
 - A. **Public Hearings, Review, Possible Actions, and Possible Recommendations to the County Board for its Consideration (County Zoning changes)**
 1. Tim Vreeland on behalf of Steven Banks – L-D-R Low Density Residential and G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential and G-A General Agriculture – Town of Spencer (Part 1 - 0:04)

Discussion: Pagel was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request shown on the Preliminary Certified Survey Map (CSM) that was submitted with the petition. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ) staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. The Town Spencer has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns or additional comments.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. The testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 1:10 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the



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decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Sherfinski/Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the Steve Banks rezone request. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Forward to County Board for action at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

2. Keith Baxter on behalf of Clara Miller to R-R Rural Residential– Town of Green Valley (Part 1 - 0:09)

Discussion: Pagel noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request shown on the Preliminary Certified Survey Map (CSM) that was submitted with the petition. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ) staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. The Town Green Valley has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns or additional comments.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. The testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 1:13 p.m.

Hearing was reopened at 1:15 pm. Mitchell Meguire was sworn in and provided testimony on the behalf of the town of Green Valley.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. The testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 1:20 p.m.

Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt/Sherfinski to recommend approval to County Board, of the Baxter/Miller rezone request. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.



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- B. Review and Possible Recommendation to County Board for its Consideration (Town Zoning changes pursuant to §60.62(3) Wis. Stats.) – None.
- C. Review and Possible Recommendations to County Board for its Consideration
1. Tim Vreeland on behalf of Paul and Carrie Simonis – G-A General Agriculture and R-R Rural Residential – Town of Guenther (Part 1 - 0:20)
- The meeting was Recessed at 1:30pm until 1:45pm. (Part 1 - 0:25)
- Action: **Motion**/Second by Ritter/ Sherfinski to forward to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. (Part 2- 0:03)
2. Amendments to Chapter 19 of the Marathon County General Code (Parks) (Part 2 - 0:04)
Action: **Motion**/ Second by Seefeldt/Sherfinski to forward three of the chapter 19 proposed code amendments ((Sec. 19.03(10) Golf Carts., Sec. 19.07(5)(c), Sec 19.10(2)(c)) as presented to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. Follow up at a later ERC meeting with more information regarding 19.03 (9)(a-c) Alcohol Consumption. and invite a representative from the Wausau Police Department for clarification.
- D. Review and Possible Action
1. Animal Waste Ordinance Update: Possible Agreement with the Village of Maine (CPZ) (Part 2 – 0:43)
Action: No action.
5. **Educational Presentations/ Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion**
- A. Department Updates: Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ), Parks Recreation and Forestry (PRF), Solid Waste –
1. Farmland Preservation Plan: Update on Draft Plan and Outreach (CPZ) (Part 2 - 0:48)
 2. Groundwater Plan Update (CPZ) (Part 2 - 1:00)
 3. Forthcoming petition from the Town of Plover: Text amendment to the Marathon County Code of Ordinance Chapter 17.401.B(1) (CPZ) (Part 2- 1:24)
 4. Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (POWTS) Maintenance Program and POWTS Funding Updates (CPZ) (Part 2 - 1:33)
6. **Policy Issues Discussion and Committee Determination to the County Board for its Consideration** -None
7. **Next meeting date, time & location, and future agenda items:**
**Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 3:00 p.m. Marathon County Courthouse, Assembly Room
500 Forest Street Wausau WI**
- A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion.
 - B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence
8. **Adjourn** – **Motion**/ second by Seefeldt/Ritter to **adjourn** at 3:30 p.m.
- Laurie Miskimins, CPZ Director
For Jacob Langenhahn, Chair
- cc: (via email/web site) ERC members; County Administrator; Corporation Counsel; County Clerk

LM/nd