



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee
Minutes Tuesday, April 2, 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
	Mike Ritter.....	X	
	Marilyn Bhend.....	X	

Via in person,
Webex
Or phone

[MEETING RECORDING](#)

Also present via Webex, phone or in person: Laurie Miskimins, Shad Harvey, Nicole Delonay, Kirstie Heidenreich, and Garrett Pagel- Conservation Planning and Zoning; Lance Leonard - County Administrator, Michael Puerner -Corporation Counsel; Kurt Gibbs – County Board Supervisor; Valerie Parker; Lyo

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Chair Langenhahn at 3:10 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Public Comment**
 1. Lyonel Wisniewski – Town of Rietbrock – Wind Energy Ordinance (0:02)
4. **Approval of March 5, 2024, Committee minutes** (0:04)

Motion / second by Seefeldt/ Ritter to approve of the March 5, 2024, Environmental Resources Committee minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.
5. **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. Sean Janssen - R-R Rural Residential to C Commercial - Town of Plover (0:07)

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 Plover 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 3:20 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion / second** by Seefeldt/ Ritter to recommend approval to County Board, of the Janssen rezone request. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the



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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. Tim Vreeland on the behalf of Diane Leist - F-P Farmland Preservation to N-C Neighborhood Commercial and N-C Neighborhood Commercial to F-P Farmland Preservation - Town of Marathon (0:12)

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 Marathon 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 3:25 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt/Venzke to recommend approval to County Board, of the Leist. 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.

- B. Review and Possible Recommendation to County Board for its Consideration (Town Zoning changes pursuant to §60.62(3) Wis. Stats.)

1. Town of Weston – Rezone 4.20 Acres – AR to RR-2 (0:18)

Discussion: Pagel discussed this is a town zoned town and a petition to rezone land from AR to RR-2.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ritter/ Venzke to approve the Town of Weston rezone.

2. Town of Rietbrock – Wind Energy System Siting Ordinance (0:19)

Discussion: Committee is asking Corporation Counsel for further clarification on what the State Statute says regarding County approval of Town zoned text amendments.

Action: **Motion** / second by Venzke/Seefeldt to Postpone to the April 30th, 2024, Environmental Resources Committee meeting.

- C. Review and Possible Recommendations to County Board for its Consideration – None.

- D. Review and Possible Action



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1. Committee Approval of Final Draft of Farmland Preservation Plan for Review by Corporation Counsel (0:38)
<https://www.marathoncounty.gov/services/conservation/farmland-preservation>
Motion / second by Ritter/Drabek to move the Farmland Reservation Plan forward for review by Corporation Counsel.
Follow through: Forward to Corporation Counsel for review.
6. **Educational Presentations/ Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion**
 - A. Department Updates: Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ), Parks Recreation and Forestry (PRF), Solid Waste –
 1. Update on Town of Plover Proposed Text Amendment Changes Related to Shipping and Storage Containers (0:41)
7. **Policy Issues Discussion and Committee Determination to the County Board for its Consideration** -None.
8. **Next meeting date, time & location, and future agenda items:**
Tuesday, April 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
9. **Adjourn – Motion**/ second by Seefeldt/Venzke to **adjourn** at 3:55 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