



**Marathon County  
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes  
Tuesday, September 3, 2024  
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

| <b>Attendance:</b> | <b><u>Member</u></b>  | <b><u>Present</u></b> | <b><u>Not present</u></b> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Chair</i>       | Jacob Langenhahn..... |                       | X(Excused)                |
| <i>Vice-Chair</i>  | Mike Ritter.....      | X                     |                           |
|                    | Randy DeBroux.....    | X                     |                           |
|                    | Al Drabek.....        | X                     |                           |
|                    | John Kroll.....       | X                     |                           |
|                    | Jay Schoenborn.....   | X                     |                           |
|                    | Kim Ungerer.....      | X                     |                           |
|                    | Rick Seefeldt.....    | X                     |                           |
|                    | Marilyn Bhend .....   | X                     |                           |
|                    | Tom Mueller.....      | X                     |                           |

Via in person, Webex Or phone

[MEETING RECORDING](#)

Also present via Webex, phone or in person: Laurie Miskimins, Kirstie Heidenrich, Jared Mader, Matt Repking, Kirk Langfoss, Nicole Delonay, Jeff Pritchard, and Garrett Pagel- Conservation Planning and Zoning; Lance Leonhard – Administrator, Chris Holman - Deputy Administrator, Michael Puerner -Corporation Counsel; Dave Hagenbucher - Solid Waste Department, Kurt Gibbs – County Board Chair, Kelly King, Kurt Frome, Mitchell Myszka, Anne Lemmer, Cole Yach.

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Vice-Chair Ritter at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Approval of July 30, 2024, Committee minutes** (0:01)  
**Motion / second** by Ungerer/ Schoenborn to approve of the July 30, 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. Cole Yach on behalf of Todd Eckers - G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential - Town of Reid- (0:05)

**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 of Reid 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 3:11 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

**Action: Motion / second** by Seefeldt/Kroll to recommend approval to County Board, of the Eckers rezone request with clarification from the Town of Reid regarding the answer for question #10 on the town resolution. 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.



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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. Kurt & Lori Frome on the behalf of Linda Brehm - F-P Farmland Preservation to R-R Rural Residential - Town of Hull (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 of Hull 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 3:17 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek/ DeBroux to recommend approval to County Board, of the Brehm 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.

3. Tim Vreeland on behalf of Russel Giese – G-A General Agriculture to U-R Urban Residential - Town of Frankfort (0:17)

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 of Frankfort 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/ Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the Giese 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



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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.

4. The petition of Tim Vreeland on behalf of Kevin and Peggy Miller- N-C Neighborhood Commercial to R-R Rural Residential and L-D-R Low Density Residential - Town of Spencer (0:21)

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 of 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 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/Ungerer to recommend approval to County Board, of the 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.

5. Mitchell and Whitney Myszka - R-R Rural Residential and G-A General Agriculture to R-E Rural Estate - Town of Wien (0:25)

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 of Wien 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 3:29 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek/ DeBroux to recommend approval to County Board, of the Myszka 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.



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6. Leonard Martin - F-P Farm Preservation and R-R Rural Residential to R-E Rural Estate – Town of Hull (0:29)

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 of Hull 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 3:34 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

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

- 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 – None.

**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. Big Eau Pleine Reservoir: Discussion on Next Efforts (0:36)
  2. Comprehensive Plan 2024 Amendment: Overview of Draft and Comment Opportunities (1:17)

**7. Policy Issues Discussion and Committee Determination to the County Board for its Consideration**

- A. 2025 Annual Budget Development
1. Discussion of Departments Rates and Fees Increases for 2025 (1:20)
  2. Consideration of New Position Request and Reclassification in Connection with Development of 2025 Budget
    - Solid Waste Department – 1.0 FTE Environmental Management Specialist Position (1:48)

Action: **Motion**/Second Drabek/Mueller to direct to Administration to include this position in the 2025 Annual Budget.

- Conservation, Planning & Zoning Administrative Restructuring (1:57)

Action: **Motion**/ Second Seefeldt/Drabek to direct to Administration to proceed with the proposed restructuring as set forth by CPZ and include it in the 2025 Annual Budget.

**8. Next meeting date, time & location, and future agenda items:**

**Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 3:00 p.m. Marathon County Courthouse, Assembly Room 500 Forest Street Wausau WI (see below)**



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- A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion.
- B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

**9. Adjourn – Motion/** second by Seefeldt/ Drabek to **adjourn** at 5:04 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

DRAFT