



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Tuesday, October 1, 2024
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not present</u>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn.....	X	
<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, Nicole Delonay, and Garrett Pagel, Kirk Langfoss, and Matt Repking- Conservation Planning and Zoning; Lance Leonhard – Administrator, Chris Holman - Deputy Administrator, Dejan Adzic -Corporation Counsel; Dave Hagenbucher - Solid Waste Department, Jamie Polley – Parks and Recreation, Kurt Gibbs – County Board Chair, John Robinson, Shane Vanderwaal, Lee Turonie, Al Christiansen, Chris Kielman, Jessica Tlusty, Mike Dombek, Diane Wolff, Paula Zynda, Henry Blandl, Mitchell Gumz

1. Call to order – Called to order by Chair Langenhahn at 3:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Public Comment - None.

4. Approval of September 3, 2024, Committee minutes (0:01)

Motion / second by Drabek/Seefeldt to approve of the September 3, 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. The petition of Tim Vreeland on behalf of Mitch Gumz - F-P Farmland Preservation to L-D-R Low Density Residential - Town of Hull- (0:06)

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 3:08 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Kroll/Ritter to recommend approval to County Board, of the Gumz 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



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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. The petition of Tim Vreeland on behalf of Nancy Fenske - G-A General Agriculture to R-E Rural Estate - Town of Elderon (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 of Elderon 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 3:12 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt/ DeBroux to recommend approval to County Board, of the Fenske 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. ~~The petition of Tim Vreeland on behalf of Heidi Peskie - R-E Rural Estate to R-R Rural Residential - Town of McMillan~~
4. The petition of Kristopher Schumacher on behalf of Leonard and Karen Riehle - F-P Farmland Preservation to R-R Rural Residential - Town of Hull (0:13)

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 3:16 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek/Ritter to recommend approval to County Board, of the Riehle 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. The petition of Laurie Miskimins, Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ) Director, to consider



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amending specific areas of the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2016 necessary to meeting Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) requirements for incorporating the updated 2024-2033 Marathon County Farmland Preservation Plan. (0:16)

Discussion: Miskimins was sworn in and noted the information provided in the packet. Miskimins additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ) staff are recommending approval of the request.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this request virtually or in person. The testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:21 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request and decision.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ritter/ Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2024 Amendment with the changes documented in the memo prepared by CPZ and in the draft document available online and circulated throughout the County, noting the reasoning provided by staff.

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

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

6. Marathon County's Request to Zone Town of Ringle Parcel as H-I Heavy Industrial or, in the Alternative as a Special Use Zoning District for processing of Landfill Gas - Town of Ringle (0:20)

Discussion: Harvey was sworn in and noted the staff report that has been included in the packet. Harvey reviewed the rezone request shown on the Plat of Survey that was submitted with the petition. Harvey additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ) staff are recommending approval as outlined in Wis. Stat. 59.69 (9) a.

The following individuals were sworn in and provided testimony:

Al Christensen – Town of Ringle

Christopher Gilman – Town of Ringle

Jessica Tlusty – Town of Ringle

Mike Dombeck – Town of Ringle

Lee Turonie – Town of Ringle

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 3:52 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** by Kroll/ no second, to recommend Marathon County's request to zone Town of Ringle Parcel as H-I Heavy industrial to the County Board and request that staff alternatively provide a Special Use Zoning District for processing of Landfill Gas within the Town of Ringle. The motion was not passed.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt/Kroll to recommend Marathon County's request to zone Town of Ringle Parcel as H-I Heavy industrial to the County Board.

Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County comprehensive plans. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the existing land uses onsite, and the existing County contract with Vriddi that provides oversight of their use on the parcel, 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 roll call vote: Ritter – Yes, Seefeldt – Yes, Kroll – Yes, Schoenborn – No, Drabek – Yes, DeBroux – Yes, Langenhahn – Yes

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



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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. Approving Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide Park Services for City of Wausau Parks (01:22)

Action: Motion/ second by Seefeldt/Ritter to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide Park Services for City of Wausau Parks to the County Board.

2. Consideration of Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Maintenance Program Special Assessment Fee (1:25)

Discussion and follow through: Bring back to ERC in mid-2025 for further consideration.

6. Educational Presentations/ Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion

A. Department Updates: Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ), Parks Recreation and Forestry (PRF), Solid Waste – None.

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

A. Big Eau Pleine Next Steps (1:52)

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

Tuesday, November 5th, 2024, 3:00 p.m. Marathon County Courthouse, Assembly Room 500 Forest Street Wausau WI

B. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion.

C. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

1. 2025 ERC Dates

9. Adjourn – Motion/ second by Seefeldt/Ritter to adjourn at 4:56 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