



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Tuesday, April 5, 2022
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Attendance:	<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not present</u>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn	X	} via in person, Webex or phone
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Sara Guild	X	
	Rick Seefeldt.....	X	
	Bill Conway	X	
	Allen Drabek.....	X	
	Randy Ffrick	X	
	Dave Oberbeck	X	
	Marilyn Bhend	X	
	Rodney Roskopf.....	X	

Also present via Webex, phone or in person: Laurie Miskimins, Shad Harvey, Andrew Lynch, Jeff Pritchard, Peter Fromm Wade, Nicole Delonay, Paul Daigle, Dave Decker – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Kurt Gibbs, Timothy Davis, Larry Lang and Jean Kopplin

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Chair Langenhahn at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Public Comment** – None.
3. **Approval of March 1, 2022 Committee minutes**

Motion / second by Drabek/ Seefeldt to approve of the March 1, 2022, Environmental Resources Committee minutes as distributed.

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. Larry J. and Patricia K. Lang – G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential & G-A General Agriculture to R-E Rural Estate – Town of Spencer

Discussion: Harvey was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Harvey reviewed the rezone request acres shown as Lot 1 & 2 of the Preliminary Certified Survey Map (CSM) submitted with the petition. Harvey additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why 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. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:15 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion /** second by Ffrick/ Roskopf to recommend approval to County Board, of the Larry J. & Patricia K. Lang 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 plan and is not located in the Farmland Preservation Zoning District. 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. Timothy and Amy Davis – L-D-R Low Density Residential to R-R Rural Residential & G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential – Town of Spencer

Discussion: Harvey noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Harvey informed the committee that the date of the staff report should read April 5th, 2022 instead

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of March 1st, 2022. Harvey reviewed the rezone request of acres shown as lot 1 on the preliminary Certified Survey Map (CSM) that was submitted with the petition. Harvey 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. Guild questioned why the parcel was considered in violation. Harvey stated the parcel was created in a non-conforming manor, and the rezone would correct the violation.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:23 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ffrrick/ Oberbeck to recommend approval to County Board, of Timothy & Amy Davis 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 plan and is not located in the Farmland Preservation Zoning District. 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.) – None.

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

D. Review and Possible Action

1. Discussion: Decker discussed the details of the Red Parrot Final Plat.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ffrrick/ Drabek to approve the Red Parrot Final Plat located in the Town of Knowlton. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Approval by County Board is not required.

5. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion

A. Department Updates: Conservation, Planning and Zoning (CPZ), Solid Waste, Parks, Recreation and Forestry (PRF)

1. MS4- Annual Stormwater Report

Discussion: Jeff Pritchard discussed The Annual Stormwater Report to the Wisconsin DNR.

Langenhahn questioned the requirement of the Stormwater Report. Oberbeck questioned the effect of the brine and salt being applied to Marathon County roads and the potential environmental impact. Discussion took place regarding possible additional analysis or study regarding the use of salt versus brine. These types of analysis or study would be outside the scope of the Annual Stormwater Report but could be future efforts the County may want to consider.

2. Update on Fenwood Creek funding request

Discussion: Paul Daigle informed the Committee that an application for County ARPA Funds has been submitted by CPZ on behalf of the ERC for funding for the Fenwood Creek Project.

3. Metallic Mining Updates – New Information

Discussion: Laurie Miskimins discussed the recent information that came forward regarding the Reef deposit within Marathon County. CPZ has been contacted by a company by the name of Green Light Inc, who requested an exploration permit application from the DNR and CPZ. CPZ distributed an application to the company, but we have not received an application back at this time. If the application is submitted, CPZ will notify the ERC and Metallic Mining Committees, as stated in our Chapter 17 Ordinance. An exploration permit is not a conditional use permit process in Marathon County. Langenhahn reminded the committee of the efforts undertaken a few years back to establish mining permit and review processes, and that there are several steps of

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increasing review and time before a company could actually conduct mining.

Bhend stated she was contacted by a Green Light representative regarding a meeting that will be held. Langenhahn stated he will be attending the meeting with Green Light Inc. Oberbeck was also contacted and questioned the status of the Metallic Mining operation. Langenhahn suggested the option of bringing forward some education for the Board regarding Metallic Mining.

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

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

Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 2022 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

- a. Metallic Mining
- b. Solid Waste Fund

B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

Miskimins announced that today's meeting would be the final ERC meeting for Paul Daigle. He will be retiring on April 15th after 31 years with Marathon County. Thank you for your service to Marathon County.

Langenhahn thanked the current ERC for their service and efforts on the committee, as the make-up will change in May.

8. **Adjourn** – **Motion** Seefeldt/ Oberbeck second by to **adjourn** at 3:50 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Laurie Miskimins, CPZ Director

For Jacob Langenhahn, Chair

cc: (via email/web site) ERC members; County Clerk

LM/nd