



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Tuesday, May 4, 2021
210 River Drive, Wausau WI**

Attendance:	<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not present</u>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn.....	X	
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Sara Guild.....	X	
	Rick Seefeldt	X	
	Bill Conway	X	
	Allen Drabek	X	
	Randy Ffrick.....	X	
	Arnold Schlei		X (<i>excused</i>)
	Dave Oberbeck.....	X	
	Marilyn Bhend		X (<i>excused</i>)
	Eric Vogel		X (<i>excused</i>)

} via Webex or phone

Also present via Webex, phone or in Room 5: Paul Daigle, Laurie Miskimins, Dominique Swangstu, Lane Loveland, Jeff Pritchard and Cindy Kraeger – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Jean Kopplin – City-County IT, Jamie Polley, Tom Lovlien – Park, Recreation and Forestry (PRF); John Peralta – Solid Waste; Lance Leonhard – County Administrator; Barbara Miller, Joseph Wagner, Tom Vanderboom, Dustin Vreeland, Jesse Richardson Jean Maszk and Peter Weinschenk – Record Review

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

2. **Public Comment** – None.

3. **Approval of March 30, 2021 and April 8, 2021 Committee minutes**

Motion / second by Conway / Drabek to approve of the March 30, 2021 and April 8, 2021 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. Jesse Richardson on behalf of Richard Miller – G-A General Agriculture to R-E Rural Estate – Town of Green Valley

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Swangstu reviewed the rezone request 5.153 acres shown as Lot 2 of the Preliminary Certified Survey Map (CSM) submitted with the petition. Swangstu 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 Green Valley has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns. The town did note on the resolution regarding a recommendation of a culvert installed to ensure there isn't any drainage/spillway issues. Swangstu stated the ERC committee or County Board cannot place any conditions on a rezone approval per state statute.

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 3:19 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ffrick / Seefeldt to recommend approval to County Board, of the Jesse Richardson on behalf of Richard 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, 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. Tim Vreeland on behalf of Rita Blenker – F-P Farmland Preservation to R-R Rural Residential - Town of McMillan

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Swangstu reviewed the rezone request of 55.413 acres total shown on the plat of survey that was submitted with the petition. The area in question was designated as a non-farmland preservation area in the F-P Plan yet was inadvertently zoned FP in 2015. The proposed rezone would fix an error in the mapping when the Town adopted F-P Zoning in 2015. The Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) recommends the rezone be approved given the parcel in question was not designated as a farmland preservation area in the farmland preservation plan. Other parcels that are zoned F-P that were not designated as F-P areas in the plan will be addressed when the Town updates their Comprehensive Plan as well as propose to revise their Town Zoning District Map to reflect the proposed changes and the F-P requirements. The Town of McMillan is currently in the process of updating their comprehensive plan including their land use maps. Swangstu reviewed the staff report and reasoning's why CPZ is recommending approval of the rezone in question. Swangstu also noted that CPZ has not received a Preliminary plat application yet, and ERC will see and take action on both the Preliminary Plat as well as the Final Plat prior to approval. It was also noted an error in checking a box of the application which was amended by Tim Vreeland the proposed change is to facilitate the use of the land for a residential subdivision.

The Town of McMillan has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any additional concerns.

Dustin Vreeland was sworn in and will answer any questions from the Committee. The wetlands have been delineated by Star Environmental and will not be disturbed.

Joe Wagner was sworn in and owns property to the north of the parcel and is concerned about the protection of the wetlands and the water runoff will be managed properly and not affect his property.

Tom Vanderboom was sworn in and is concerned with the flowage of the water runoff and is inquiring on how to be involved with the stormwater management permit. Swangstu stated this public hearing is specifically for the proposed rezone of the property which does not establish new lot lines or approve a specific use onsite but, if approved, only allows for all the permitted and conditionally approved uses within that district. Other regulatory processes are in place to ensure any development onsite is consistent with all Federal, State, and Local regulations. Prior to the subdivision/final plat approval there is the requirement to hold public hearings, therefore any questions regarding the plat, parcel configurations, and/or stormwater management could be addressed at that time. Swangstu stated he is not aware of any authority to require or allow a resident from the general public to be involved on the technical side of the stormwater permit and design given Stormwater Management Permits are issued, reviewed, and regulated by the DNR and would need to be included in the proposed plat.

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 3:45 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrick / Conway to recommend approval to County Board, of the Tim Vreeland on behalf of Rita Blenker rezone request. The Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans, and is 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. The rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of

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approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

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. Resolution: Consider County Land Exchange in the Town of Easton and Harrison

Discussion: Lovlien reviewed the land exchange summary which was included in the meeting packet. The Forestry /Recreation Committee recommends approval with the offer to purchase. The town chairs from the Town of Easton and Town of Harrison are in support of the land exchange.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Conway to recommend approval to Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee of the County Land Exchange in the Town of Easton and Harrison.

Follow through: Forward to Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

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

D. Review and Possible Action – None.

5. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion

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

CPZ

1. Submittal of annual reports for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits

Discussion: Pritchard discussed the municipal storm water permit requirements that municipalities, including Marathon County, are required to follow in order to be in compliance with permit regulations.

2. Applications for grants and projects

Discussion: Daigle provided an update on the grants CPZ is working on: Dairyland Grazing Apprenticeship; EPA grant for \$50,000 and the annual joint DNR Staffing and Cost Share grant.

3. Update on Fenwood Creek funding request

Discussion: Daigle discussed engaging the legislators for state funding for the six year pilot program Fenwood Creek Project.

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

A. Capital Improvement Project Requests

1. Solid Waste

- a. Phase 5B/6 expansion of Bluebird Ridge
- b. Expansion of Bluebird Ridge gas system
- c. Rear dual-wheel utility tractor

Discussion: Peralta discussed the CIP requests that were included in the meeting packet. Peralta reminded the committee that the Solid Waste department doesn't use county capital money rather uses the earnings as an enterprise fund to pay for their capital.

- Phase 5B/6 expansion of Bluebird Ridge reaching capacity – go taller and wider
- Expansion of Bluebird Ridge gas system – add 4 gas wells
- Rear dual-wheel utility tractor – upgrade for safety

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrick / Drabek to approve and forward to the Capital Improvement Program Committee for consideration the Solid Waste 2022 Capital Improvement requests; Phase 5B/6 Expansion of Bluebird Ridge; Expansion of Bluebird Ridge gas system; Rear dual-wheel utility tractor.

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

Follow through: The CIP requests will be forwarded according to the established procedures.

2. Parks, Recreation and Forestry (PRF)

- a. Playground Replacement

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- b. Restroom Replacement
- c. Big Eau Pleine Road Repairs
- d. Cattle Barn 1 & 2 Roof Replacement
- e. Mission Lake East Parking Lot Replacement
- f. Rolling Stock

Discussion: Polley reviewed the CIP requests that were included in the meeting packet.

- Playground Replacement – Cherokee and Mission Lake
- Restroom Replacement – Bluegill Bay, DC Everest Park
- Big Eau Pleine Road Repairs – Replacing sections each year
- Cattle Barn 1 & 2 Roof Replacement – Roofs are beyond the life and are deteriorating
- Mission Lake East Parking Lot Replacement – Replacing east parking lot
- Rolling Stock – Split between City and County; fleet is being stretched.

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrlick / Seefeldt to accept and forward to the Capital Improvement Program Committee for consideration the PRF 2022 Capital Improvement requests; Playground Replacement, Restroom Replacement, Big Eau Pleine Road Repairs, Cattle Barn 1 & 2 Roof Replacement, Mission Lake East Parking Lot Replacement, Rolling Stock.

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

Follow through: The CIP requests will be forwarded according to the established procedures.

B. Legislative and Budget Report: current and future legislative initiatives related to the 2021-22 State Budget

1. Parks, Recreation and Forestry (PRF)

Discussion: No updates.

2. Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ)

Discussion: No updates.

3. Solid Waste

Discussion: No updates

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

Tuesday, June 1, 2021 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

Introduction of new CPZ Director – Laurie Miskimins

- Lance Leonhard welcomed Laurie Miskimins to CPZ. Langenhahn welcomed Laurie to the Committee and looking forward to working with her in the future.

8. **Adjourn** – **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Fifrlick to **adjourn** at 4:37 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Paul Daigle, County Conservationist

For Jacob Langenhahn, Chair

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

PD/cek