



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Tuesday, June 2, 2020
212 River Drive, Room 5, Wausau WI**

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

} via Webex or phone

Also present via Webex or phone: Paul Daigle, Rebecca Frisch, Dominique Swangstu, Dave Decker, Lane Loveland, Jared Mader, Jeff Pritchard, Matt Repking, Diane Hanson and Cindy Kraeger– Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Meleesa Johnson – Solid Waste; Kurt Gibbs – County Board Chair; Eric Greening, Steve Boe – Wisconsin Farm Bureau; Supervisor-Tom Seubert, Matthew Oehmichen, David Hannemann, Joe Kaiser, Paula Wendorf, Norbert & Christine Guden, Rodney Roskopf.

Present in person: James Juedes, Jerry Fitzgerald, Josh Prentice, Randel Wokatsch, Paul Krautkramer and Wayne Gajewski.

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Chair Langenhahn at 3:00 p.m. via WEBEX.
2. **The Public Comment portion of the agenda has been temporarily suspended, pursuant to Marathon County Resolution # R-29-20, dated April 21, 2020, because the technology necessary to afford the public the opportunity to address the County Board, or its subgroups, during public Comment is difficult to guarantee, if a large number of individuals have elected to call in.**
3. **Approval of May 5, 2020 Committee minutes**
Motion / second by Drabek / Conway to approve of the May 5, 2020 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. Eric Greening on behalf of David & Melissa Jellings F-P Farmland Preservation to G-A General Agriculture – Town of Marathon
Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Swangstu reviewed the rezone request along with the reason CPZ staff are recommending approval of the rezone request. The Town of Marathon has reviewed the application and recommends denial of the rezone request, stating that the Town of Marathon has a long history of protecting the rural character of the township reflected in their town plan and that the rezone request would not be consistent with the town plan.
Eric Greening was sworn in and is the owner of the parcel as of May 29, 2020. Greening's initial intent was to divide the property into two lots to sell off for financial reasons if needed at a later date.
Paula Wendorf was sworn in and is opposed to the rezone request. Wendorf was speaking on behalf of her father whom lives across the street. They do not want to see the property split off and sold as lots for homes. They enjoy the rural character of the area.
There was not additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:40 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrick / Vogel to deny the rezone request of Eric Greening on behalf of David & Melissa Jellings and change the Conclusions of Law within the staff report to state the towns comprehensive plan has goals of maintaining rural character which would be inconsistent with this rezone (#1) and there is no demonstrated need for land division at this time (#3).
Motion **carried** by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 2 No.

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

2. Re-open the public testimony on text amendment changes to the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 11.02 Animal Waste Management Ordinance

Discussion: Daigle was sworn in and briefly explained the changes related to the text updates to the Chapter 11.02 ordinance and reviewed the outreach to the citizens of Marathon County. The following people were sworn in to give testimony on the Marathon County Chapter 11.02 Animal Waste Ordinance.

In favor of the text amendments to the Marathon County Chapter 11.02 Animal Waste Ordinance

Matthew Oehmichen - Colby WI: In favor of the text amendments; Protecting clean water; need to be the best stewards of the land.

In opposition to the text amendments to the Marathon County Chapter 11.02 Animal Waste Ordinance

Wayne Gajewski – Athens WI: Not opposed to the overall ordinance; believes fees should be set by the County Board. Concerns with the lengthening of days for permit issuance from 15 days to 20 days; concerns with permit conditions in regards to maximum operating level (MOL). Staff need to consider weather conditions with enforcement

James Juedes – Ringle WI: Representing self and Marathon County Farm Bureau. Read the Marathon County Farm Bureau letter into the record (included in packet).

Randy Wokatsch – Marathon WI: Policy Chairperson for Marathon County Farm Bureau. Wokatsch had considerable input into the Marathon County Farm Bureau document that was read into the record. Not against doing this but questions the details within the document. Would like the final product to be the best it can be.

Joe Kaiser – Marathon WI: Neighbors were not informed of the proposed changes. This is happening too quick and too fast.

David Hannemann - Edgar WI: Concerned about the driving force behind this. Does want clean water. Questions on definitions on page 3. Points were discussed in the Marathon County Farm Bureau letter.

Rodney Roskopf – Edgar WI: Not against or for the ordinance. Stacking concerns; will there be cost sharing involved. Will the Amish and Mennonites be omitted from these laws.

Paul Daigle read the following letters that were received via email/mail into the record:

Jeremy Haas - Colby WI: Supports the ordinance changes.

Ronald Zimmerman – Aniwa WI: In opposition. Wants ordinance to include language acknowledging landowner rights.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to the text amendment changes to the General Code of Ordinance for Marathon County Chapter 11.02 Animal Waste Management Ordinance. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 5:05 p.m. and the Committee deliberated.

Daigle explained the responses to the Marathon County Farm Bureau letter which was included in the meeting packet.

Discussion occurred related to the response time from 15 days to 20 days. Daigle stated the 20 days is consistent with other ordinances and plans reviewed by CPZ. Stated that these are

complex engineered plans and require an engineer to review them on behalf of the county. Repking stated Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection thought the 20 days is too short of a turnaround time. Maps would show the suitable spots on the farm to stack manure and if there is a financial burden cost sharing would be involved.

Seefeldt was excused from the meeting at 5:25 p.m. and commented about the farmers knowing about this ordinance revision in January 2020.

Drabek questioned the covering of the animal waste piles and Daigle replied there is nothing in the ordinance about covering the piles. Drabek questioned the maximum allowed size of animal waste stacking piles that is proposed at 175 ft³ in volume. Daigle explained the amount is about the size of a small manure spreader. The committee can consider other volumes but cannot be stricter than the 175 ft³ in volume.

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrick / Guild to approve the text amendment changes to the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 11.02 Animal Waste Management Ordinance and move to County Board.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek / Vogel to amend the motion to increase the quantity of an animal waste pile from 175 ft³ in volume to 350 ft³ in volume.

Discussion occurred regarding the size of a smaller load to a larger load. The recommendation is to remain consistent with state statutes.

Action: **Vote** on the motion to amend the increase the quantity of an animal waste pile from 175 ft³ in volume to 350 ft³ in volume. **Passed** by roll call vote 6 yes; 2 no.

Schlei is concerned to get feedback from the Marathon County Farm Bureau regarding CPZ staff answers to the questions stated in their letter. Discussion occurred regarding the possibility to postpone to the June 30 ERC meeting since the public hearing was closed.

Fifrick called the question. Is there an objection to the question being called and to end the debate?

Action: **Motion** by Fifrick second by Guild to end debate to the question being called. Passed by roll call vote 7 yes; 1 no.

Action: **Vote** on original motion: carried by roll call vote 6 yes 2 no.

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. Siewert Park Preliminary Plat Town of Stettin

Discussion: Decker discussed the details of the Siewert Park Preliminary Plat. CPZ received approval of the soil evaluation plan therefore no conditions are placed on the preliminary plat.

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrick / Drabek to approve the Siewert Park Preliminary Plat located in the Town of Stettin. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: The final plat will be submitted for approval at a later date for future committee action. Approval by County Board is not required.

2. Cory Hasting Certified Survey Map – Town of Bevent – Darren Krzanowski, Surveyor, Central Staking Inc.

Discussion: Decker discussed the proposed Certified Survey Map which crossed the exterior boundary of “Wadley Shores” a recorded subdivision. State statute requires any CSM that crosses the exterior boundary of a recorded subdivision must be approved by the Committee.

Action: **Motion** / second by Fifrick / Drabek to approve the Cory Hasting proposed Certified Survey Map located in the Town of Bevent.

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

Follow through: CPZ will continue to process the Certified Survey Map.

5. **Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion**

A. Accomplishments of the Environmental Resources Committee: Strategic Plan

Discussion: Chair Langenhahn would like this put on the agenda next month with Chair McEwen being able to speak on this.

Action: **None.**

B. Educational Presentations on Land Division and Rezone Processes

Discussion: Loveland discussed the links that the Committee members requested regarding the zoning and land division presentation videos. Any further questions can be directed to Dominique Swangstu and Dave Decker. Guild complimented the staff for the videos.

Action: **None.**

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

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

A. Land and Water Resource Management Plan

1. Review of land goals and discussion of Goal #2

Discussion: Daigle discussed the second goal of the Land and Water Plan with the Committee. The objective would be to present new goals every month with finalization at the August meeting. The goals will be included in the Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Discussion can take place next month on any of these goals. Proposed track changes were added by the Technical Advisory Committee to Goal 1. Goals 3 and 4 will be presented at the June 30th ERC meeting.

Action: **None.**

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

Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:00 p.m. 212 River Drive Room 5 Wausau WI

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

B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

9. **Adjourn – Motion** / second by Conway / Fifrick to **adjourn** at 6:30 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Rebecca Frisch, CPZ Director

For Jacob Langenhahn, Chair

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

RF/cek