



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Tuesday, June 30, 2020
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 (in person)	} via WEBEX or phone
	Randy Fifrick.....	X	
	Arnold Schlei.....	X	
	Dave Oberbeck.....	X	
	Marilyn Bhend	X (in person)	
	Eric Vogel	X (in person)	

Also present via Webex or phone: Paul Daigle, Rebecca Frisch, Dominique Swangstu, Dave Decker, Lane Loveland, Brenda Iczkowski, Diane Hanson – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Tom Lovlien, Greg Freix – Park, Recreation, and Forestry (PRF), Meleesa Johnson – Solid Waste; Dan Bergs

Present in person: Donald Ruder, Gary Imhoff, Debbie Derfus, Patti Rahn, Josh Prentice, and Rosemary Bores

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 June 2, 2020 Committee minutes**

Motion / second by Seefeldt / Guild to approve of the June 2, 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. Tim Vreeland on behalf of Neil and Carol Daul – G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential Town of Green Valley

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in. Swangstu shared that CPZ staff was directed by the ERC chair and vice-chair to make some changes to the staff report in formatting to be more efficient. Swangstu noted the rezone for Neil and Carole Daul from a G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential and stated staff report and decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet. Swangstu reviewed the rezone request along with the reason CPZ staff is recommending approval of the rezone request.

The Town of Green Valley had reviewed the application and recommended approval without any concerns.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request. 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 Conway / Guild to recommend **approval** to County Board, of the Tim Vreeland on behalf of Neil and Carol Daul rezone request. 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 and providing public facilities will not burden local government. The rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas.

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

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

2. Dan and Mary Bergs on behalf of Kingdom Homes Storage LLC – R-R Rural Residential to N-C Neighborhood Commercial – Town of McMillan

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet for Dan and Mary Bergs on behalf of Kingdom Homes Storage LLC for a rezone from R-R Rural Residential to N-C Neighborhood Commercial. Swangstu reviewed the rezone request along with the reason CPZ staff are recommending approval of the rezone request. The rezone meets all the zoning district standards as it relates to size, frontage, access, and dimension. Swangstu answered additional questions of the committee in regards to the farmland preservation plan (15 year growth), the commercial uses allowed, town comp plan, and the approved resolution. The staff report included comments and recommendations related to the committees conclusions of law which support the staff recommendation of approval. Given the town had recommended approval and based on Goal #4 as well as other aspects of the towns comprehensive plan, staff recommended approval of the rezone although the future land use map in the town comprehensive plan shows the area in question as ‘potential residential’.

Dan Bergs was sworn in and is the owner of Rib Mountain Self-Storage in the Town of Rib Mountain and the applicant for this rezone. Bergs stated with the storage units in Rib Mountain they have had good feedback and the neighbors are satisfied. Bergs stated where the requested rezone is located has commercial property within 1/8 of a mile such as apartment buildings, Kwik Trip, commercial lots, church, and veterinary clinic.

Rosemary Bores was sworn in and is opposed of the rezone request. Bores adjoined to the north and west side and is currently farmland with 22.7 acres. Bores wants it to continue to be residential and doesn't want storage units next to her.

Donald Ruder was sworn in and is opposed of the rezone request. Ruder presented the committee with pictures of his shop and the rain water that overcomes his culverts. The concerns are the water is going to keep flooding his property. On the other land Mr. Ruder owns, there is wetlands. He doesn't think the area is a good fit for storage units.

Gary Imhoff was sworn in and is opposed of the proposed rezone. Imhoff stated they put 2 big culverts on County Highway E and where Mr. Ruder's shop, there is 3 culverts and there is so much water comes now and is flooded. If this place is built it will flood out worse than what it does. When Mr. Ruder farmed the area he had to do it in strips. There has been a big water problem for years.

Debbie Derfus was sworn in and is opposed of the proposed rezone. Derfus is the chairman for the Town of McMillan. The comp plan doesn't comply with this rezone and the future plan doesn't look like it will be changing the zoning but keeping it Rural Residential. Derfus explained the veterinary clinic is in the Rural Residential but has a Conditional Use Permit. The town has had a few complaints. Derfus clarified the apartments and Kwik Trip are in the City of Marshfield not the Town of McMillan. Derfus stated the biggest issue is the rezone doesn't fit the Town of McMillan's comp plan at this time nor does she believe it will fit it in the future. Derfus answered questions that the committee had in regard to the storage units and rezone. It was stated that the new members don't know what they are doing and that is why the resolution was approved from the Planning Commission.

Daigle asked Chair Langenhahn for Derfus to give clarification if she is presenting as town chair or on her own behalf. Derfus stated she is there as town chair.

Vogel has a concern for the town chairman. He stated he is having an issue making a decision since the town is at odds and was wondering if other committee members feel the same way and is questioning moving forward.

Langenhahn asked Derfus what the discussion was at the planning commission meeting and was any of it concerning the town comprehensive plan. Derfus stated they knew it didn't fit and said the one member has been on the commission for 2 months and is the one who made the motion to pass this. The bottom line is they don't know what they are doing. The senior member who was

absent said there is no way she would have voted for this. Langenhahn asked again Derfus is speaking as Town Chairman and Derfus responded yes, she is.

Oberbeck asked if the application should be brought back to the town board for discussion.

The Town of McMillan had reviewed the application and recommended approval to the ERC committee with a note explaining Planning Commission recommended approval as advisory to Board with contingency. Town Board vote 3 in favor 2 to rezone.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed or as interested to this rezone request. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 4:03 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Schlei / Seefeldt to recommend **denial** of the rezone request of the Dan and Mary Bergs on behalf of Kingdom Homes Storage LLC as it does not comply with the Town of McMillan Comprehensive Plan and the amount of answers that weren't agreeable on the checklist. Committee determined the rezone is not consistent with the Town comprehensive plan. Motion **carried** by roll call vote 8 yes 0 no.

Follow through: Forward **denial** 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 Action to County Board for its Consideration – None.

D. Review and Possible Action

1. Siewert Park Final Plat – Town of Stettin

Discussion: Decker reviewed the Siewert Final plat with the Committee. The preliminary plat was reviewed with the Committee previously and no substantial changes from the preliminary plat to the final plat has occurred.

Action: **Motion** / second by Guild / Seefeldt to recommend approval of the Siewert Park Final Plat Map as presented. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Committee Chair to sign Final Plat.

5. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion

A. Accomplishments of the Environmental Resources Committee: Strategic Plan

Discussion: With the absence of Craig McEwen, this item will be added to next the meeting agenda.

Action: None.

Follow through: This item will be discussed at the next ERC meeting.

B. Educational Presentations Update of committee rezone decision form

Discussion: Swangstu informed the committee the staff report will look similar to the current report and will try to be more efficient than and as short as possible.

Action: None.

Follow through: For informational purposes only.

C. Review of Proposed Policy Revisions to Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan Chapters 1000 – 2000

Discussion: Lovlien discussed Chapters 1000-2000 of the Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The revised plan will be ready for the required thirty day public comment period which will begin July 13 and end on August 14 with a public listening session accepting comments on August 4, 2020 at the regular monthly Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. After the public review period, the Plan will be sent to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for a 30 day review. The DNR sends the plan back, final revisions are made, then presented at the Forestry/Recreation and Environmental Resources Committee meetings on November 3, 2020 and then the County Board will be asked to approve the plan at their November 12, 2020 meeting.

Action: None.

Follow through: Lovlien will bring the final plan to the Committee on November 3, 2020 for approval.
D. Department Updates: Parks, Recreation and Forestry (PRF), Conservation, Planning and Zoning (CPZ), and Solid Waste
Discussion: CPZ reported there were no updates, Johnson reported there were no updates for Solid Waste and Freix reported there were no updates for the PRF.
Action: **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 discussions of Goal #3 & 4

Discussion: Daigle discussed the goals of the Land and Water Plan with the Committee. The goals will be included in the Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Daigle reflected on goals, objectives, strategies and outcomes that were included in the meeting packet. Conway asked why the plan didn't include wildlife habitats. Daigle stated the wildlife is a domain of WDNR and is not a requirement. Drabek asked the about the waterways and recommends someone mows the grass next to the waterways. Daigle replied 1.1 of the plan is reduce soil loss on all land. The burden is on the farmer to be maintaining the waterways and mowing the grass. Conway asked about goal #4 He stated there doesn't seem to have an action point to standardize on communication with farmers. Could there be a point stating how to communicate with farmers so everyone knows. Daigle commented that under 4.1 strategy states access to information and educational material through various sources including websites, newsletters, videos, local newspaper, public hearing notices and social media. Daigle added any and all suggestions are encouraged and will be considered. Daigle stated discussion was given on having an off-site meeting at the UW-Marshfield Ag Research Station, with social distancing having some committee discussion but also tour the farm and see the options that are available to achieve water quality issues, which are critical to successful implementation of the goals of the land and water plan.

Action: **None.**

Follow Through: An offsite meeting will be scheduled in the future.

B. New or Expanded Position Requests

1. CPZ and Health Department – Shared Administrative Assistant: (Conversion of 2 CPZ casual positions and 1 Health Department 0.4 FTE position to 1.0 FTE shared position)

Discussion: Frisch reviewed the new position request which was included in the meeting packet. Costs for this consolidation and conversion will be funded through the elimination of existing casual positions, grant money, and increased revenue fees. No tax levy will be utilized for this position.

Action: **Motion** / second by Conway / Guild to approve the Shared Administrative Assistant: (Conversion of 2 CPZ casual positions and 1 Health Department 0.4 FTE position to 1.0 FTE shared position) and forward to Finance Department. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: CPZ will forward to the Finance Committee and then to County Board for their consideration.

C. Capital Improvement Project Requests

1. Solid Waste
a. New Bomag 1172 Compactor
b. Vehicle Scale

Discussion: Johnson reviewed the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) requests that were included in the meeting packet. Johnson 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.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Conway to approve and forward to the Capital Improvement Program Committee for consideration the Solid Waste 2021 Capital Improvement requests; New Bomag 1172 Compactor and Vehicle Scale.

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. Big Eau Pleine Road Repairs
 - b. Westside Master Plan
 - c. Rolling Stock form
 - d. Big Eau Pleine Horse Barn Replacement
 - e. Marathon Marquee
 - f. Playground Replacement
 - g. Park Restroom Replacement Project

Discussion: Freix reviewed the CIP requests that were included in the meeting packet by priority.

- Playground replacement – Approximately \$600,000 for 13 playgrounds with replacing 3 this year and 2 every year after.
- Big Eau Pleine Road Repairs - \$250,000 around 3 miles of road repair in the park.
- Westside Master Plan - \$50,000 to develop a master plan for Marathon Park, West Street, and UWSP- Wausau Campus area. City of Wausau is also interested and will be contributing \$30,000.
- Park Restroom Replacement Project – \$250,000 continuation project from the last 7 years, started with over 30 toilets in the county parks, down to needing to replace 10 yet.
- Big Eau Pleine Horse Barn Replacement – \$35,000 to replace the Maintenance shed in the Big Eau Pleine Park which is used for storage for equipment.
- Marathon Park Marquee- \$35,000 replacement of the Marquee
- Rolling Stock form - \$173,463 is shared with the City of Wausau to purchase the equipment.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Conway to accept and forward to the Capital Improvement Program Committee for consideration the PRF 2021 Capital Improvement requests; Big Eau Pleine Road Repairs; Westside Master Plan, Rolling Stock form; Big Eau Pleine Horse Barn Replacement; Marathon Marquee; Playground Replacement; Park Restroom Replacement Project.

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

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

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

Tuesday, August 4, 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

8. **Adjourn** – **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Schlei to **adjourn** at 5:30 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/bi