



**Marathon County**  
**Environmental Resources Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 3, 2019**  
**212 River Drive, Wausau WI**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not present</b>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn.....	X (arrived at 3:25 pm)	
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Randy Fifrick .....	X (arrived at 4:20 pm)	
	Rick Seefeldt .....	X	
	Jim Bove .....	X	
	Allen Drabek.....	X	
	Ashley Lange .....	X	
	Sara Guild.....		X
	Allen Opall .....	X	
	Marilyn Bhend .....		X
	Kelly King .....	X	

Also present: Rebecca Frisch, Paul Daigle, Chris Fieri, Jeff Pritchard, Dominique Swangstu, Cindy Kraeger – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Kurt Gibbs – County Board Chair; Brian Kowalski, Peter Weinschenk.

1. **Call to order** – in the absence of Chair Langenhahn and Vice Chair Fifrick, **Motion** / second King / Drabek to appoint Opall as Chair pro tempore. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent. Called to order by Chair pro tempore at 3:00 p.m. at 212 River Drive – Room 5, Wausau, WI.

2. **Public Comment** – None.

3. **Approval of December 6, 2018 Environmental Resources Committee minutes with clarifications.**

**Motion** / second by King / Bove to approve of the December 6, 2018 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)

B. Review and Possible Recommendation to the County Board for its Consideration (Town Zoning changes pursuant to §60.62(3) Wis. Stats.)

1. Town of Wausau Text Amendments

Discussion: Swangstu presented that the Town of Wausau is independently zoned and submitted text amendment changes to amend Chapter 17 Zoning Ordinance, Article III Districts and Maps. The text amendments were approved at a joint meeting of the town board and planning commission on November 5, 2018. Although the town is independently zoned, County Board approval is still needed.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek / Seefeldt to recommend approval to County Board, of the Town of Wausau text amendments. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

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

2. Town of Weston Zone Change

Discussion: Swangstu presented the Town of Weston is independently zoned and submitted a request to rezone property with a property address of 164017 Kersten Road, Weston. The zone change was approved at a joint meeting of the town board and planning commission on December 18, 2018. Although the town is independently zoned, County Board approval is still needed.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek / King to forward to County Board, of the Town of Weston request for zone change. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

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

C. Review and Possible Action

1. Certified Survey Map (CSM) Approval – Town of Easton – Change of subdivision plat boundary (Fieri)

Discussion: Fieri discussed the CSM subdivision plat located in the Town of Easton that is changing the exterior boundaries of a subdivision which requires committee action.

Action: **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Drabek to approve the Town of Easton Certified Survey map. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Final Certified Map to be submitted and signed by Committee Chair.

5. **Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports**

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

Discussion: CPZ

- Frisch informed the committee that Dominique Swangstu has been appointed to the Zoning Administrator position.

Environmental Resources Committee Minutes  
January 3, 2019

- Daigle shared a report on the progress within the Fenwood Watershed Project, with a staff grant from B.A. and Esther Greenheck Foundation, working with landowners to implement best management practices.

PRF – None.

Solid Waste Department – None.

*Langenhahn arrives and resumes Chair position.*

B. Planned updates to the Private Sewage System Ordinance Chapter 15 and need for public hearing in February 2019

Discussion: Daigle discussed minor changes in the Wisconsin State Law that will need to be updated in Marathon County Chapter 15 Private Sewage System Ordinance and a public hearing to be held in February.

Action: Committee agreed to hold a public hearing.

Follow through: Public hearing will be held on February 7, 2019 at 3pm Room 5.

C. Review of topics relating to revisions to Land Division Code, Chapter 18, for future policy discussion

Discussion: Frisch distributed the memo that was included in the packet. Fieri and Pritchard are leading the process of updating and enhancing the Marathon County Land Division and Surveying Ordinance, Chapter 18. Committee discussion related to the revisions to the code language is needed to better address several priority issues.

- Subdivision Plat Review Process
- Certified Survey Map (CSM) Review
- Minimum Lot Size
- Differentiating Access

Action: CPZ staff to continue to draft language and hold public hearing in the upcoming months.

Follow through: Committee to discuss priority issues at February 7, 2019 meeting.

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

A. Should Marathon County develop more restrictive standards for the application of manure during high risk times for farms licensed by the County?

Next Steps:

1. Policy position paper (background, current situation, opportunity for a new approach, proposed changes)
2. Seek guidance and authority from DNR and/or DATCP to exceed State Performance Standard
3. Engage community stakeholders

Discussion: Daigle discussed the next steps he is prepared to present to the committee in February to begin the policy question. He inquired if this is sufficient information, what might be missing, and what else might the committee for information to have this discussion. Committee discussed some possible needs and decided to reconsider if the policy discussion should be held at this point.

Action: **Motion** / second Ffrrick / Bove to allow CPZ staff to develop more restrictive standards for the application of manure during high risk times for farms licensed by the County - next steps: Policy position paper (background, current situation, opportunity for a new approach, proposed changes; Seek guidance and authority from DNR and/or DATCP to exceed State Performance Standard; Engage community stakeholders. Langenhahn asked for roll call vote. Motion **failed** by roll call vote 4-4 as follows:

Aye: Opall, Ffrrick, Lange, Bove

Nay: Seefeldt, Drabek, King, Langenhahn

**Motion** / second by King / Drabek for CPZ staff to provide more information for February in regards to licensed facilities. Committee requested staff to provide the following information:

1. What is currently done to work with farmers when a runoff event occurs from winter spreading.
2. Provide list of the number of animals on each licensed dairy.
3. Provide a map of the county showing where each facility is located and where the farm drains.
4. What are other counties doing that have more restrictive requirements.
5. What other options does the county have to reduce phosphorus runoff.

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

Follow through: Daigle will provide information at the February meeting.

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

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

- Zoning text amendments: Fence requirements for public and self-storage facilities
- Solid Waste – Environmental Repair Fund Update

Environmental Resources Committee Minutes  
January 3, 2019

- Environmental Impact Fund – Funding for POWTS loan program

B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

8. **Adjourn – Motion** / second by King / Opall to **adjourn** at 4:55 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