



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Thursday, April 4, 2019
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Attendance:	<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not present</u>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn.....	X (arrived at 3:27 p.m.)	
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Randy Fifrick.....		X (excused)
	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, Dominique Swangstu, Matt Repking, Cindy Kraeger – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Jamie Polley, Tom Lovlien – Park Recreation and Forestry (PRF); Brad Karger – County Administrator; Craig McEwen – County Board Supervisor; Peter Weinschenk – Record Review ,Mike Leischner, Rod Melbinger, Michael Altmann.

1. **Call to order** – In the absence of Chair Langenhahn and Vice Chair Fifrick, Langenhahn appointed Guild as Chair pro tempore. Called to order by Chair pro tempore at 3:02 p.m. at 500 Forest Street – Assembly Room, Wausau, WI.
2. **Public Comment** – None.
3. **Approval of March 7, 2019 Environmental Resources Committee (ERC) minutes with clarifications.**

Motion / second by King / Lange to approve of the March 7, 2019 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. Michael G. and Sandra J. Altmann – L-D-R Low Density Residential to R-R Rural Residential – Town of Spencer

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in, and reviewed the staff report, noting the decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet. The request to rezone is to allow the applicant to construct a larger accessory structure than allowed in the current L-D-R district. The Town of Spencer has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

Altmann was sworn in and had no additional details regarding the rezone request.

Melbinger was sworn in and explained the rezone request for the above mentioned use.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:20 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion /** second by King / Lange to recommend approval to County Board, of the Michael G. and Sandra J. Altmann rezone request. Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans, and is not in the Farmland Preservation Plan. 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.

To accommodate staff schedules the Committee moved to Agenda Item 5B.

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

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

Discussion:

CPZ- Daigle provided an update:

- Administration is working with MCDEVCO on the Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

(POWTS) failing system revolving loan program. The local program will be based on the current Wisconsin Fund Program.

- Uniform Addressing installation of the address signs in the last 12 towns on the west side of the county.
- New requests and expansions of nonmetallic mines requests are up this spring.

PRF – Polley provided an update:

- The Park Recreation survey was mailed out and the PRF department realizes the importance and benefits of parks, forest units, trail and recreational facilities meeting the needs of its residents and visitors.

Solid Waste – No report.

Langenhahn arrives and resumes Chair position.

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

1. Policy position paper (current situation, opportunity for new approach, proposed changes etc.)
2. Draft Language

Discussion: Daigle introduce Matt Repking – Conservation Analyst for CPZ and reviewed the powerpoint that was included in the meeting packet, giving an overview of the position paper. Discussion occurred regarding higher levels of responsibility and having provisions for emergencies and engaging farmers and stakeholders.

Action: None.

Follow through: Staff directed to bring back to ERC as a policy agenda item.

C. Referral from Metallic Mining Committee to review Metallic Mining matrix and education documents

Discussion: Frisch reviewed the matrix that was included in the meeting packet. The matrix provides key information from the ordinance and facts about Metallic Mining.

Action: None, for informational purposes only.

Follow through: CPZ staff will finalize the matrix.

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

A. Proposed amendments to the Marathon County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 16, County Forests & Chapter 19 Parks and Recreation

Discussion: Lovlien discussed the text amendment changes to Chapter 16, County Forests to provide clarity to the ordinance. Polley discussed the text amendment changes to Chapter 19 Parks and Recreation to mirror the City Ordinance which is now adopted on the county side.

Action: **Motion** / second by King / Seefeldt to approve the text amendment revisions to the Marathon County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 16 County Forests and Chapter 19 Parks and Recreation
Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

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

B. Legislative and Budget Report: current and future legislative initiatives

Discussion: Daigle reviewed the legislative report that was included in the agenda packet. The State Legislature continues to work on the biennial budget. The Executive Committee recommends that ERC decides on the top two topics that would be represented on behalf of Marathon County.

Action: **Motion** / second by Guild / Opall to recommend to the Executive Committee the priorities for the 2021 State Budget Topic: County Conservation Staffing and Cost Sharing; and Soil and Water Resource Management Bond Authority and Cost Share Grants.

Motion **carried** by voice vote 7 yes, 1 no (King).

Follow through: Committee recommendations will be forwarded on to the Executive Committee.

C. Review and discussion of Objective 5.2 Promote sound land use decisions that conserve and preserve natural resources in decisions with economic development and growth and Objective 6.3 Protect and enhance the quantity and quality of potable groundwater and potable surface water supplies 2018 - 2022 Strategic Plan (Craig McEwen)

Discussion: McEwen reviewed the Lead Standing Committee assignments and objectives 5.2 and 6.3 from the Strategic Plan. Discussion occurred regarding reporting results and outcomes to County Board of progress in achieving goals.

Action: None

Follow through: CPZ to coordinate, with Solid Waste, along with Parks, Recreation and Forestry, the development a report on the progress of these objectives.

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

Thursday, May 2, 2019 3:00 p.m. Courthouse Assembly Room 500 Forest Street, Wausau

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

- Update on POWTS failing system revolving loan program update
- Under policy issues and discussion: Should Marathon County develop more restrictive standards for the application of manure during high risk times for farms licensed by the County?
- Place Strategic plan goals 5.2 and 6.3 at the top of each meeting agenda.
- Review Strategic Plan Goals and report out on progress
- Discuss Priority based budgeting for Quartile 3 and 4 programs.

B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

North Central Health Care (NCHC) Expansion details will be discussed tonight at NCHC.

8. **Adjourn – Motion** / second by King / Drabek to **adjourn** at 5:10 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