



**Marathon County
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes
Tuesday, July 2, 2019
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Attendance:	<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not present</u>
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn.....		X (<i>excused</i>)
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Randy Fifrick.....	X	
	Rick Seefeldt	X	
	Jim Bove	X	
	Allen Drabek	X	
	Ashley Lange.....	X (<i>arrived at 3:30</i>)	
	Sara Guild.....	X	
	Allen Opall		X
	Marilyn Bhend		X (<i>excused</i>)
	Kelly King	X	

Also present: Rebecca Frisch, Dominique Swangstu, Cindy Kraeger – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Tom Lovlien, Jamie Polley – Park Recreation and Forestry (PRF), Diane Bergs, Dennis Bergs, Gene Wadzinski, Craig Ostrowski, Don Aanonsen, Tim Vreeland.

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Vice Chair Fifrick at 3:00 p.m. at 500 Forest Street – Assembly Room, Wausau, WI.
2. **Public Comment** – None.
3. **Approval of June 6, 2019 Environmental Resources Committee (ERC) minutes**
Motion / second by Guild / Bove to approve of the June 6, 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. Dennis Tulpan – L-I Light Industrial to R-R Rural Residential – Town of Plover

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in, and reviewed the staff report, noting that the decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet. The request is to rezone an existing parcel listed as Lot#1 3.643 acres on Certified Survey Map Vol 77, Page 100 with a property address of 177281 Red Granite Road, Aniwa WI 54408. The town of Plover has reviewed the application and recommends 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 King / Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the Dennis Tulpan 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.

2. Tim Vreeland on behalf of Siegfried & Alice Sebastian - R-E Rural Estate to R-R Rural Residential- Town of McMillan

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in, and reviewed the staff report, noting that the decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet. The request to rezone is to allow the applicant to construct a single family home. Swangstu stated the City of Marshfield will review the Certified Survey Map for extraterritorial land division review after the approval of the rezone. The town of McMillan has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

Vreeland 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 3:21 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion /** second by Guild / Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the Tim Vreeland on behalf of Siegfried & Alice Sebastian 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.

3. Dennis & Diane Bergs – G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential – Town of Rib Falls

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in, and reviewed the staff report, noting that the decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet. The requested rezone is to allow the applicant to construct a single family home. The town of Rib Falls has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

Wadzinski 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 3:30 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by King / Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the Dennis & Diane Bergs 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.

4. Neal & Heidi Rueden – G-A General Agriculture and L-D-R Low Density Residential to R-R Rural Residential – Town of Frankfort

Discussion: Swangstu was sworn in and reviewed the staff report, noting that the decision sheet had been included in the meeting packet. It was also noted the newly created parcel will bring an existing non-conforming accessory structure into compliance as it relates to minimum side yard setback requirements. The request to rezone pertains to Lot #1 approximately 2.671 acres on the preliminary CSM which also describes outlot #1 on (approximately 18.645 acres). Outlot #1 being was proposed as an outlot due to the parcel not having adequate road access/frontage and shall be attached to adjacent lands (outlot #1 will remain General Agriculture). The town of Frankfort has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

Vreeland was sworn in and explained Neal Rueden is not a farmer and would like to clean up the zoning on the parcel.

There was no 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 Drabek / Lange to recommend approval to County Board, of the Neal & Heidi Rueden 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.

5. Reopen Tammy L. Miller (Kiedrowski) G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential – Town of Elderon - pulled from 6-20-19 County Board Agenda

Motion / second by Seefeldt / King to reopen public hearing.

Discussion: Frisch recapped the request by the Committee Chair to the County Board Chair to pull this item from the County Board agenda and direction from Corporation Counsel that it be placed back on the ERC agenda. Ms. Miller corresponded with the Town of Elderon in a letter dated June 25, 2019 requesting documentation from the town regarding their denial of the rezoning and requested to meet with the town board in July or August. Frisch recommended recessing the hearing and giving the applicant the ability to work with town to find a solution. Don Aanonsen, Chairman, Town of Elderon appeared in opposition and stated the land division ordinance with a minimum 5 acre limit was adopted September 8, 2004. No other appearances.

Action: **Motion** / second by King / Guild to recess the public hearing.

Follow through: Item will be placed on future agenda after applicant has met with the town.

B. Review and Possible Action

1. Oriole Heights Final Plat – Town of Rib Mountain

Discussion: Frisch reviewed the Oriole Heights Preliminary Plat with the Committee. The preliminary plat was reviewed with the Committee previously and no substantial change from the preliminary plat to the final plat has occurred. The condition of submittal of a stormwater management plan has been met.

Action: **Motion /** second by Seefeldt / King to recommend approval of the Oriole Heights Final Plat Map located in the Town of Rib Mountain. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: The Town of Rib Mountain needs to finalize their review and then signatures will be needed prior to recording the Oriole Heights Final Plat.

C. Review and Possible Recommendation and Possible Action to Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee

1. Purchase of Kerswill Property for County Forest

Discussion: Lovlien discussed the 199.84 acre Kerswill parcel land acquisition in the Town of Hewitt. Lovlien recommended forwarding the resolution to Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee. Currently, the number one priority to acquire more land for recreation. In the most recent County Strategic Plan one of the goals is to acquire 320 acres per year for parks and forests. There is good opportunity through the end of 2020 to receive Knowles Nelson stewardship funding through the State which is typically a 50% grant. However, if the State Joint Committee on Finance allows the match property value that was donated by the Wausau and Marathon County Parks Foundation the grant funding would increase.

Action: **Motion /** second by Seefeldt / Bove to approve the purchase of the Kerswill Property for County forest. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: The resolution will be forwarded to Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee and then onto County Board for their consideration at the July or August meeting.

2. Approve an application to acquire state funding through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Program

Discussion: Lovlien recommended forwarding the resolution to County Board for its consideration. It will allow the County to apply for a State Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant that would fund up to 50% of the purchase of 40 acres in the Village of Kronenwetter.

Motion: **Motion /** second by Guild / Seefeldt to recommend approve the application to acquire State funding through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant program. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: The resolution will be forwarded to the Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee and then onto County Board for its consideration at the July or August meeting.

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

A. Wind generation and solar energy (conversion systems) on agriculture land

Discussion: Swangstu discussed the memo, included in the meeting packet, which was intended to educate the committee of the future proposed text amendments regarding wind and energy systems specifically the regulations, processes, and standards regarding "large scale" systems. Swangstu stated more educational information and presentations will be provided to the committee in the following months prior to the public hearing required for the text amendment. It was noted there will be a similar memo that will be sent to the towns to inform them of the situation and potential amendments to Chapter 17 Zoning Code. Swangstu stated CPZ is in the process of evaluating to what extent the amendments will be inserted into the ordinance (Chapter 17) either as new a full section(s) with all state standards spelled out or by adopting an ordinance "by reference" consistent with Wisconsin State Statutes 66.0401 and PSC 128. No specifics were given regarding the proposed amendments other than the fact the amendments would update Chapter 17 Zoning Code of Ordinances to Wisconsin state standards to adequately process and regulate "large scale" renewable energy systems.

Action: None.

Follow through: Staff will develop a draft ordinance which will be submitted at a future meeting.

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

1. County Forest Tour – September 12, 2019

Discussion: The County Forest Tour will include a logging job, invasive species site and other forest highlights.

Action: **None**, for informational purposes only.

CPZ

1. Memo update – July 2, 2019

Discussion: Frisch discussed the memo that was included in the packet regarding the various policy issues/ordinances that will be forthcoming in the next couple of months.

Action: None.

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

A. New position requests 2020

1. PRF – PT Motorized Recreational Coordinator

Discussion: Polley reviewed the new position request which was included in the packet. This position administers and coordinates snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and utility terrain vehicle (UTV) trail maintenance and development of private and public land.

Action: **Motion** / second by Guild / King to accept and forward the PRF PT Motorized Recreation Administrator position to Human Resources and Finance as required.

Follow through: PRF will forward to Human Resources and Finance for their consideration.

Lange was dismissed at 4:30

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

Discussion: Frisch distributed the legislative report. The State Legislature has focused on the budget; no new report on other legislative actions at this time. Staff is tracking nonmetallic mining zoning language that was inserted into the budget with the transportation funding requests.

Action: **None**, for informational purposes only.

Follow through: CPZ will continue to monitor legislative actions.

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

Thursday, July 11, 2019 meeting **cancelled**

Thursday, August 1, 2019 3:00 p.m. 212 River Drive, Room 5 Wausau WI

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

- Review 2010 Land and Water Plan – goals, objectives and accomplishments

B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence – None.

8. **Adjourn** – **Motion** / second by King / Seefeldt to **adjourn** at 4:48 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