



# MARATHON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Courthouse Assembly Room/WebEx, B-105, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Members	Present/Web-Phone	Absent
Chair Kurt Gibbs	X	
Vice Chair Craig McEwen	W	
Matt Bootz	W	
Tim Buttke	W	
Sara Guild	W	
Jacob Langenhahn	Phone	
Alyson Leahy	W	
John Robinson	X	
EJ Stark	W	
Randy Fifrick	W	

Also present: Lance Leonhard, Jason Hake, Gerald Klein, Lisa Ort-Sondergard, Bruce Grau, Cynthia Schaefer, Christine Salm-Little, Valerie Carrillo, Meg Ellefson and Toshia Ranallo.

WebEx/Phone: Brent Jacobson, Jean Maszk, Sandy Cihlar, Ka Lo, Michelle Van Krey, Kim Trueblood, Brian Kowalski, Mike Puerner, Patricia Hornung, Paul Daigle, Peter Weinschenk, Margaret Pagoria, and one unidentified caller.

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kurt Gibbs at 4:00 p.m.

**Public Comment (15 Minutes)** – The three following people preregistered and spoke in support of the *Community for All Resolution* and encouraged County Board members to pass the resolution.

1. Bruce Grau, 1115 N 10<sup>th</sup> St, Wausau, WI
2. Christine Salm-Little, 3312 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St, Wausau, WI
3. Margaret Pagoria, 1810 Woodland Ridge Rd, Wausau, WI

### 2. MOTION BY LANGENHAHN; SECOND BY FIFRICK TO APPROVE THE MARCH 11 AND MARCH 18, 2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

### 3. Policy Issues for Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Phosphorus Management - Fenwood Creek Watershed Pilot Project – Recommendation by Environmental Resource Committee that the County Seek State Funding for the Project through 2021-2023 State Budget

#### Discussion:

Land and Water Program Director Paul Daigle explained this topic was discussed at the Environmental Resource Committee and it was decided by formal action to forward it on to this committee. He gave a presentation on a Pay for Performance approach, and is requesting additional funds to meet the strategic plan objectives and water quality improvement goals. This approach is to encourage farmers to improve their land management performance beyond the minimum state standards. It will provide ecosystem services incentives for implementing superior management systems on all sizes of farms. The full presentation can be accessed in the [packet here](#).

Daigle indicated that resources for these types of programs have not been proposed in the Governor’s Budget. Administrator Leonard pointed out the Governor’s budget provides \$7 million in bonding for grants to counties for implementation of land and water resource management plans, including cost-share grants to landowners through the Soil and Water Resource Management. He suggests checking to see if these funds could be reallocated for this type of project. Daigle clarified that Marathon County already submits annual staffing and cost-share grants from these bonding funds, but they have been underfunded by approximately \$700,000 in bond requests, and \$300,000 in segregated funds. He further explained these funding sources are very descriptive and restrictive and do not address this type of Pilot Project. Chair Gibbs mentioned the Joint Finance Committee Public Hearing will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> in which he will give testimony on behalf of Marathon County as far as the priorities indicated by each Standing Committee.

#### Action:

**ROBINSON MADE A MOTION; SECOND BY BUTTKE TO SUPPORT THE PILOT PROJECT AND DIRECT ADMINISTRATION AND CPZ STAFF TO LOOK FOR FUNDING SOURCES AND DEVELOP A PROPOSAL TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Follow up:**

Staff to discuss concerns and suggestions raised by the committee and further investigate American Rescue Dollars as another possible funding source.

**B. Review of Standing Committee Meeting Recording Options**

**Discussion:**

Administrator Leonhard presented advantages and disadvantages for the following two options to record all Standing Committee meetings. He indicated there have been recent discussions and a survey conducted on this same issue throughout the counties in state.

1. Extend Public Access
  - Outsource
  - Record meetings available in real time
  - High quality
  - Transfer to county YouTube Channel
  - All Standing Committee meetings to be held in the Courthouse Assembly Room
  - Estimated yearly cost - \$8640.00
  - Possible additional court security cost for ERC committee meetings
  - ADA rule compliance
2. Record WebEx meetings
  - Internal staff to record WebEx meetings and transfer to YouTube channel
  - Staff training and consistency
  - Low quality
  - WebEx meetings may not continue long term (Rules and Review Committee to discuss)
  - Estimated yearly cost - \$2376.00
  - ADA rule compliance

**Action:**

**MOTION BY ROBINSON, SECOND BY MCEWEN, TO DIRECT HR, FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE TO IDENTIFY A FUNDING SOURCE FOR RECORDING STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS USING PUBLIC ACCESS MEDIA AND DIRECT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION TO AMEND THE CONTRACT AS NECESSARY.**

**MOTION TO AMEND BY STARK, SECOND BY ROBINSON, TO AMEND THE MOTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE RECORDING OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS BE DONE ON A TRIAL BASIS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2021 AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EVALUATE AT ITS OCTOBER MEETING WHETHER TO RECOMMEND CONTINUING THE PRACTICE IN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**

**ORIGINAL MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED.** (ROLL CALL VOTE PERFORMED – Gibbs yes, McEwen No, Buttke yes, Guild yes, Langenhahn No, Leahy yes, Robinson yes, Stark yes. (6 yes, 2 no))

**Follow up:**

Forward to HR Finance Committee.

**C. State Budget Priorities from each Standing Committee**

**Discussion:**

Chair Gibbs requested the Standing Committee Chairs' to identify their number one priority proposed in the Governor's Budget:

1. Environmental Resources Committee
  - County conservation staffing grants
2. Extension, Education and Economic Development Committee
  - Broadband Expansion
3. HR Finance Committee
  - General Transportation Aid
4. Health & Human Services
  - Increase funding for Child Protective Services
5. Infrastructure Committee
  - General Transportation Aid
6. Public Safety Committee
  - District Attorney Office Funding

**Follow up:**

Chair Gibbs to give testimony on these priorities to the Joint Finance Committee Public Hearing on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution – None**

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

- A. Overview of revised City-County Information Technology Commission Intergovernmental and Operating Agreements

**Discussion:**

CCIT Director Gerald Klein explained the CCIT Commission recommends the following changes to the agreements to become active in 2022.

- Decrease citizen board membership from one to two
- Operating Agreement focusing on a collaborated cyber breach insurance liability

The CCIT Commission is currently seeking to fill a vacancy for a citizen member position. This position will need to be approved by the Marathon County Board, Wausau City Counsel, and NCHC Board. Chair Gibbs extended gratitude to the current citizen members for their years of service.

**Follow up:**

No follow up at this time.

**6. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location, Announcements and Future Agenda Items:**

- A. Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.**

**7. Adjournment**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MOTION BY LANGENHAHN; SECOND BY BUTTKE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:10 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Toshia Ranallo