



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

Courthouse Assembly Room, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Attendance:	Present	Absent
Sara Guild, Chair	W	
Ka Lo, Vice Chair	W	
Gary Beastron	W	
Becky Buch	W	
Tom Rosenberg	X	
Rick Seefeldt	W	
Chris Voll	W	

Others Present: Lance Leonhard, Mary Palmer, Scott Corbett, Jason Hausler (W), Vicki Resech, Ann Herda-Rapp (W), Becky Frisch (W), Brian Kowalski (W), Ralph Illick (W), Michelle Van Krey (W)

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

The Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Guild.

2. **Public Comment:** The Public Comment portion of the agenda has been temporarily suspended, pursuant to Marathon County Resolution # R-18-20, dated March 17, 2020.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** of the February 18, 2020, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee (EEED) Meeting.

Action:

MOTION BY LO, SECOND BY SEEFELDT, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2020, EXTENSION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Guild asked each member to give a brief introduction and their background.

4. **Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination:** None

5. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:** None

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to HR, Finance & Property Committee for Consideration

1. UWSP Wausau Campus – Security Camera Project

Discussion:

Ann Herda-Rapp, Campus Executive in Wausau, The County owns all the UWSP Wausau Campus buildings and the programming and interior furnishings are UWSP Wausau's. This proposal is on security cameras because of an incident (that ended up being non-threatening) at the Marshfield Campus. They are asking Marathon County to either pay for phase 1 purchase of \$38,920 or phase 2 which would be \$6,620 per year. The system would be owned and maintained by UWSP. They are looking at hiring someone internally to do the wiring to save money. The money UWSP is allocating must be spent by June 30 when their fiscal year ends.

Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) has given a gloomy forecast for counties. At HR/Finance next week the 2020 and 2021 budget deficits will be discussed. The County's deficits will be approximately \$4 million in 2020 and \$7 million in 2021. If we would go with phase 1 a budget amendment would

need to be done through HR/Finance and then to County Board. Do we believe that it is in alignment of the goals and mission of our committee and the county to move this forward?

A walk through of the facility was done and the 32 cameras would be placed in key areas both inside and outside the buildings. All universities are planning for face-to-face, total virtual or a combination in the Fall. Hopefully early summer a decision will be made. UWSP Wausau was on track to have a higher enrollment this Fall. The cameras would be tied into the main campus video system. Possibly do a memorandum of understanding.

Law enforcement input was requested so HR/Finance can make a more informed decision.

Action:

MOTION BY LO; SECOND BY VOLL TO CONSIDER PHASE 1 FOR \$38,920 FOR AN ESTIMATED ONETIME COST APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME, TO MOVE THIS REQUEST TO HR/FINANCE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION WITH INPUT FROM LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND POSSIBLY SEND TO COUNTY BOARD FOR FINAL APPROVAL. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow Through:

Send to HR/Finance for further consideration with law enforcement input.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. Committee Role and Responsibilities – Guild / Leonhard

1. Committee Overview – Mission, Purpose, & History
2. Operational Decision-Making – Common Committee Operational Functions
3. Reporting Relationships – Departments and Subcommittees Reporting to this Committee (see [Rule 2.04\(1\) of Marathon County Code of Ordinances](#))

Discussion:

Chair Guild went through this committee's roles and responsibilities as stated in the current Board rules. The role of this committee is varied but County Board rule 2.04(1)(f)(5) "Serve as the initial contact point for individual and/or organizations who wish to influence County Board policy regarding County education and economic development" sums up the major roles.

Administrator Leonhard gave a brief history of former committees and how the EEED committee came to be. Most frequent operational items you will see are Capital Improvement Project (CIP) requests from UWSP Wausau.

Follow Through:

None needed at this time.

B. Reports from Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations

1. UW Madison Division of Extension Update
2. UW-Stevens Point Wausau
3. MCDEVCO
4. Marathon County Library Board

Discussion:

- Jason Hausler – UW Madison Division of Extension – All but one employee are educators. The budget is split 50/50 between the University and the County. He gave a background of the extension and the partnership between the university and the county.
- Ann Herda-Rapp – UW-Stevens Point Wausau – The University and the county have a remarkable relationship. Currently there are seven buildings. Traditionally Wausau had been a two year campus, but have also added three bachelor's degree programs. See 5.A.1 above for more information. The student dorms is an area that will be discussed in the future.
- Vicki Resech, Marathon County Development Corporation (MCDEVCO) – It's a public/private entity. Four county board supervisors sits on their Board. They provide GAP financing, administrators for the Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS) loans, economic development education for small business owners, have 35 business mentors, these are several of the many programs MCDEVCO has to offer. Business and workforce development. A great resource for small business throughout the County. Targeting small business with 10 or less employees who cannot get federal or state funding during Covid-19.

MCDEVCO is one of the non-profits who we allocate funding to but it is being reduced.

- Ralph Illick, Marathon County Public Library – Gave an update on what the Library and staff have been doing since closing on March 17th to the public. This past Monday, May 4, started drive by/pick up service. Making amazing process on the facility. Will be working closely with the Department of Public Instruction when things move forward. Have a task force that are looking at memberships in library systems and see where we fit best. The Library is part of the County team. Friends of the Library raises about \$25,000 per year to help with programming.

Chair Guild thanked everyone for their attendance and updates.

Follow Through:

None needed.

- C. Activities & Priorities – Discussion of Committee’s actions during the recent session and potential priorities for the next session in light of Marathon County’s [Strategic Plan](#) and [Comprehensive Plan \(Executive Summary\)](#)

Discussion:

Chair Guild went through the [attachment](#) relating to the Strategic Plan Objectives (8.7, 10.7, 10.8 and 10.10) and the summary of 2018-2020 activities.

Suggestions to be worked on forwarded from the prior committee:

- Broadband/Infrastructure (stay involved with facilities and infrastructure as it relates to broadband)
- Workforce (UWSP-Wausau and North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB))
- Development and redevelopment of employment center (Public and Private Partnerships)
- Entrepreneurial (Fair Board and MCDEVCO)

Thank about the role of this committee and what we can do to make a difference.

Follow Through:

Contact Chair Guild with any issues you would like this committee to consider.

7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:

- A. Future committee calendar

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

No announcements.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION BY VOLL, SECOND BY LO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes prepared
by Mary Palmer