



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, November 5, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

Employee Resources Conference Room C-149, Courthouse, 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		EX

Others Present: Lance Leonhard, Jason Hake, Kurt Gibbs, Toshia Ranallo, Mary Palmer

VIA WEB/Phone: Vicki, Resch, Jane Spencer, Craig McEwen, Jason Hausler, Ann Hamline, Lee Webster, Brian Kowalski, Ann Herda-Rapp

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:** Lee Webster, Wausau School District, regarding recent referendums from the Wausau School District.

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

MOTION BY ROSENBERG, SECOND BY LO, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2020, EXTENSION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

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

5. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:**

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Deliberating on its strategy for negotiating the sale or lease of property located at 615 Garfield Avenue (UW-Stevens Point, Wausau Campus Dormitory) in the City of Wausau.

- a) The Committee may, if appropriate, consider a motion (Roll Call Vote Recommended) to convene in closed session, pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(e), Wis. Stats., for the purposes of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

2. **MOTION BY ROSENBERG, SECOND BY SEEFELDT TO RECONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION, PURSUANT TO S. 19.85(1)(E), WIS. STATS., FOR THE PURPOSES OF DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASE OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION**

ROLL CALL TAKEN:

Sara Guild, Chair	Y
Ka Lo, Vice Chair	Y
Gary Beastrom	Y
Becky Buch	Y
Tom Rosenberg	Y
Rick Seefeldt	Y
Chris Voll	n/a

Discussion:

Deliberating on its strategy for negotiating the sale or lease of property located at 615 Garfield Avenue (UW-Stevens Point, Wausau Campus Dormitory) in the City of Wausau

Action:

No action taken in closed session.

- a) Motion to return to open session (Roll call not necessary)

Action:

**MOTION BY ROSENBERG; SECOND BY BEASTROM TO MOVE BACK INTO OPEN SESSION.
MOTION CARRIED.**

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

- b) Possible Announcements or Action Resulting from Closed Session

Announcement: Information will be provided to the HR/Finance/Property committee to continue the discussion looking into any and all options for suitable housing for the future success of the campus.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB) Update

Discussion:

Part of our Strategic Plan says we should collaborate with the Workforce Development Board and identify areas where we can work together.

Jane Spencer, NCWWDB Director, presented on the Workforce Development Board and what they do. They offer employment and training services for adults, youth/young adults, and dislocated workers and assistance needed such as creating a resume. Some additional programs are Windows to Work – Offender Reentry Program; LifeWork\$-Summer Youth Employment Program; Support to Communities/Opioid Recovery Grant, and Employer Alliances.

Jane asked that if there is a need in the Marathon County community, please reach out to them. Or if you see something is being missed, let them know too.

If anyone has suggestions on how we can support each other, let Chair Guild know.

Jane also provided a current EMSI economic overview report. This can be updated anytime and Derrick is the person who can reach out to at NCWWDB.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

B. MCDEVCO Updates

1. Business Support Efforts During COVID
2. Broadband Expansion Support Opportunities

Discussion:

Vicki Resech, Executive Director, gave a presentation on Pivotal Moments – Navigating the Crossroads 2019- 2020 for MCDEVCO (Marathon County Development Corporation). The highlights of 2019-2020 were given throughout the county on many of the collaborations made.

MCDEVCO has a full staff and are ready to help with any projects such as possible assistance with funding related to broadband.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

C. Review of EEED Committee's Strategic Plan Objectives and Recent Activities

Discussion:

Vice-chair McEwen asked that the new tool be used to track accomplishments on the objectives assigned to this committee. He is looking for a consistent way for all standing committees to share information. We are about 2 ½ years through the strategic plan. Extension, Education & Economic Development has the lead on objectives: 8.7; 10.6; 10.8 and 10.10

There has been a lot of activity on these objectives. Review the updated strategic plan document also.

Follow Through:

- Vice Chair McEwen asked that the template be shared with the rest of the committee. Administrator Leonhard will send that out tonight.
- The partially completed form will be brought back at a future meeting.

D. Reports from Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations

1. UW Madison Division of Extension

Discussion:

Jason Hausler – Two months of written reports were in the packet. Please be sure to review them.

He mentioned the Rural Health Resolution going to County Board. Their division has been working on the rural health initiatives and will pursue this in the future through Health & Human Services and Extension, Education & Economic Development committees. He provided data points to Supervisor Cihlar.

212 River Drive – All three departments in that building are working together to do consolidation. Their Division will be shifting some staff to the main office and will have reuse for that space for veterans. The HUD program will come in a couple days a week. They are re-strategizing the use of the building.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

2. UW-Stevens Point Wausau

Discussion:

- Ann Herda-Rapp, Wausau Campus Executive – There are a number of new initiatives on campus: a grant with the Medical College of Wisconsin to feed the physician pipeline. they are working to identify students from underserved populations with more locally grown physicians.
- The Wausau campus will be the only campus for the Master's program. We are the hub and hope practicing social workers will go back for their master's degree.
- Assist students who lost jobs and are suffering significant hardships
- Enrollment is up – 10% new students; 8% continuing students (first time in 10 years)
- Covid – the campus will be a community testing site for covid. (407 tests given two days a week) at the fieldhouse. Free testing to members of the public. It is the antigen quick test. If positive or negative with symptoms, would be referred to other location for further testing.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

3. Marathon County Public Library

Discussion:

No report. Chair Guild has been forwarding e-mails on the Library Task Force to the committee.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:

A. Future committee calendar

- The next meeting will be Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Let Toshia Ranallo and/or Chair Sara Guild know if you are unable to attend.
- Announcement:

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION BY SEEFELDT, SECOND BY LO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:10 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes prepared
by Mary Palmer