



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.

COURTHOUSE Assembly Room (B-105), 500 Forest St, Wausau WI

Attendance:	Present	Absent
Sara Guild, Chair	X	
Romey Wagner, Vice Chair	X	
Gary Beastro	X	
Alyson Leahy	X	
Rick Seefeldt	X	
Ka Lo	X	
Loren White		X

Others Present: Brad Karger, Lee Webster, Brian Kowalski, Melinda Osterberg, Jason Hausler, Ann Herda Rapp, Connie Heidemann, Johanna Nelson

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Public Comment: None

Lee Webster was introduced as a liaison to the committee from the Wausau School District. Mr. Webster said that this initiative is an effort of the school district to be more connected to the community.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 21, 2019 and June 18, 2019, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee Meetings.

Discussion: Chair Guild asked that the minutes be added to clarify that the Pride Month vote was a split vote, 5-2.

Action:

MOTION BY LEAHY, SECOND BY SEEFELDT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 21, 2019 MEETING WITH THE ADDITION SUGGESTED BY THE CHAIR and THE JUNE 18, 2019 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination: None

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

A. Consideration whether to approve the forwarding the Capital Improvement Project requests from UW Stevens Point – Wausau Campus to the Capital Improvement Project Committee for ranking.

1. Feasibility Study – Auditorium, Kitchen, Student Union

2. Flooring Replacement

3. Roof Replacements with Estimates

Discussion:

Ann Herda Rapp reviewed each of the capital improvement requests and described the needs that each were targeted to correct.

Action:

MOTION BY WAGNER, SECOND BY LEAHY TO APPROVE ALL OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY UWSP-WAUSAU AND FORWARD THEM TO THE CIP COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER EVALUATION AND RANKING. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow through:

Brad Karger was asked to notify the people who support the CIP Committee of committee action.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. UW-Madison Division of Extension

1. Update on efforts of local educators, including broadband feasibility study

Discussion:

Jason Hausler briefed the committee on a number of projects recently completed or currently underway including:

- Food Wise nutrition educational series
- “Share the Harvest” initiative with the Farmer’s Market
- Annual Farm Tour
- 4-H fair activities
- Horticulture series for people at Corner Clubhouse
- Beginning of a process to fill the soon to be vacant Horticulture position
- Community meetings to better understand broadband needs

Action:

None requested or taken.

Follow through:

None requested

B. Discussion of costs/benefits of the recent consolidation of the EEED Committee for provision to Rules Review Committee

Discussion:

Chair Guild asked if there were any concerns about the committee’s functioning. Gary Beastro said he had a concern that Extension should involve an independent functioning committee. But as time developed Gary is satisfied with the amount of attention that Extension has been given.

Action:

None requested

Follow through:

Sarah Guild said she would share the committee discussion with the Chair of the Rules Review Committee.

C. Request of McLit for committee support of County funding to support literacy education in Marathon County

Discussion:

Connie Heineman, Executive Director of McLit made a power point presentation about McLit: <https://mclitofwausau.org/>

- 501(c)(3) Non-Profit
- All services are free of charge
- 8,000 Marathon County residents are estimated to be illiterate

- 40% of people with low literacy live in poverty
- More than just reading literacy. Math, Financial, Computer, ESL
- If the County would fund \$45,000 that same amount will be matched by a private foundation

Action:

MOTION BY LEAHY, SECOND BY SEEFELDT TO ASK THE LIBRARY BOARD TO WEIGH IN ON THE REQUEST OF MCLIT FOR \$45,000 IN COUNTY FUNDS IN THE 2020 BUDGET AND REPORT BACK THEIR RECOMMENDATION IN AUGUST. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow Through:

Connie Heineman said she would contact Ralph Illick to get on a Library Board Meeting Agenda.

7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:

- A. Future committee calendar
1. August 20, 2019

8. Adjourn

MOTION BY LEAHY, SECOND BY SEEFELDT, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared
by Brad Karger on July 22, 2019.