



**Marathon County  
Environmental Resources Committee Minutes  
Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b><u>Member</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Not present</u></b>	
<i>Chair</i>	Jacob Langenhahn .....	X		} Via in person, Webex Or phone
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Allen Drabek.....	X		
	Rick Seefeldt . .....	X		
	Dave Oberbeck .....	X		
	Andrew Venzke.....		X(excused)	
	Tony Sherfinski.....	X		
	Kim Ungerer .....	X		
	Mike Ritter .....	X		
	Marilyn Bhend.....	X		
	Rodney Roskopf.....	X		

Also present via Webex, phone or in person: Laurie Miskimins, Nicole Delonay, Shad Harvey, Garrett Pagel, Jeff Pritchard, Dave Decker – Conservation, Planning, and Zoning (CPZ); Jamie Polley – Parks Department, Michael Puerner – Corporation Counsel, Lance Leonhard – Administrator, Chris Holman – Deputy Administrator, Jean Maszk, Dave Willman, John Suchomski, Daniel Good, Fred Schindler, Larry Brubacker, Albert Martin

1. **Call to order** – Called to order by Chair Langenhahn at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Public Comment** – Fred Schindler – Clark County
4. **Approval of February 28, 2023, Committee minutes**  
**Motion** / second by Drabek/ Sherfinski to approve of the February 28, 2023, Environmental Resources Committee minutes.  
 Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.
5. **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. John Suchomski - HI Heavy Industrial to R-R Rural Residential -Town of Reid

**Discussion:** Pagel was sworn in and noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request shown on the Preliminary Certified Survey Map (CSM) that was submitted with the petition. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why Conservation Planning and Zoning (CPZ) staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. The Town Reid has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns or additional comments.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. 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 Seefeldt/Ritter to recommend approval to County Board, of the John Suchomski rezone request. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon



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County and Town comprehensive plans and is not located in the Farmland Preservation Zoning District. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Forward to County Board for action at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

2. Nathan Koss - G-A General Agriculture to R-R Rural Residential & G-A General Agriculture to R-E Rural Estate- Town of Knowlton

Discussion: Pagel noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request described as lot 1 preliminary CSM. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why CPZ staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. Pagel noted, The Town of Knowlton has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:37 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ritter/ Sherfinski to recommend approval to County Board, of the Nathan Koss rezone request. The ERC Committee recommends noting the town update their comprehensive plan to reflect this rezone. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans and is not located in the Farmland Preservation Zoning District. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Forward to County Board for action at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

3. David Willman on behalf of Travis and Troy Willman, trustees of Willman Family



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Legacy Trust - L-I Light Industrial to G-A General Agriculture - Town of Spencer

Discussion: Pagel noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request described as lot 1 preliminary CSM. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why CPZ staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. Pagel noted, The Town of Spencer has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

Dave Willman was sworn in and indicated he is present for any additional questions regarding the rezone.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:35 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: Motion / second by Seefeldt/Drabek to recommend approval to County Board, of the David Willman rezone request. The ERC Committee recommends noting the town update their comprehensive plan to reflect this rezone. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans and is not located in the Farmland Preservation Zoning District. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Forward to County Board for action at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

4. Larry J Scheuer, trustee on behalf of Scheuer Revocable Living Trust - G-A General Agriculture to F-P Farmland Preservation - Town of McMillan

Discussion: Pagel noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request described as lot 1 preliminary CSM. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why CPZ staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. Pagel noted, The Town of McMillan has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in



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person. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:43 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Drabek/ Roskopf to recommend approval to County Board, of the Larry J Scheuer rezone request. The ERC Committee recommends noting the town update their comprehensive plan to reflect this rezone. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Forward to County Board for action at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

5. Jason Pflieger on behalf of Merle and Ester Martin - F-P Farmland Preservation to N-C Neighborhood Commercial - Town of Hull

Discussion: Pagel noted the staff report and decision sheet had been included in the packet. Pagel reviewed the rezone request described as lot 1 preliminary CSM. Pagel additionally reviewed the reasoning behind why CPZ staff are recommending approval of the rezone request, citing the rezone standards, requirements, and pertinent site characteristics. Pagel noted, The Town of Hull has reviewed the application and recommends approval without any concerns.

There was no additional testimony in favor or opposed to this rezone request virtually or in person. Testimony portion of the hearing was closed at 3:49 p.m. Committee deliberated and applied the standards for this request by reviewing and completing the decision sheet.

Action: **Motion** / second by Ritter/ Sherfinski to recommend approval to County Board, of the Merle and Ester Martin rezone request. The ERC Committee recommends noting the town update their comprehensive plan to reflect this rezone. Noting the reasoning provided in the staff report and conclusions of law, the Committee determined the rezone is consistent with the Marathon County and Town comprehensive plans. Adequate facilities are present or will be provided and providing any necessary public facilities will not burden local government. Based on the proposed land division and existing land uses onsite the rezone should not result in any adverse effect on natural areas. The committee made their recommendation of approval based on the information, findings of fact, and conclusions of law as described in the CPZ staff report included in the ERC packet.

Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Follow through: Forward to County Board for action at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

B. Review and Possible Recommendation to County Board for its Consideration (Town



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Zoning changes pursuant to §60.62(3) Wis. Stats.)

1. Town of Stettin Rezone – A-3 to RR – 141726 Woodland Drive
2. Town of Stettin – A-3 to A-1 – 235100 N 136<sup>th</sup> Avenue
3. Town of Stettin – C-P to M2 – 917 S 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue
4. Town of Stettin – RR to R/S 1/40 – 145373 Stettin Drive

Discussion: Pagel discussed that Stettin is a town zoned town and the rezone petitions submitted were intended to change the zoning classification/districts. Harvey indicated that all the rezones have submitted all the required information necessary.

Action: **Motion** / second by Sherfinski/ Roskopf to approve all the Town of Stettin rezones proposed.

C. Review and Possible Recommendations to County Board for its Consideration – None.

D. Review and Possible Action

1. Royal View Estates 1<sup>st</sup> Additional Final Plat – Rib Mountain – REI Civil Environmental Engineering Surveying

Discussion: Decker discussed the Royal View Estates 1<sup>st</sup> Addition Final Plat submittal. Based on the information provided, CPZ staff recommend this approval.

**Motion** Oberbeck/Ritter carried by Voice vote, no dissent.

2. Updates to the Zoning and Land Division Fee Schedule

Discussion: Pagel brought forward the proposed updates to the zoning and land division fee schedules. Pagel went through the changes and indicated the reason for the update in fees. Questions arose regarding the navigability determination fee as to whether it was more beneficial to the individual property owner or the county as it relates to fee being paid by property owner or as part of the tax levy. Pagel reiterated that it directly benefits the property owner and helps staff determine which ordinances are creditable.

**Motion** Sherfinski/ Drabek approve the zoning and land division fees as proposed.

Motion **carried** by Voice vote, no dissent.

**6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports and Committee Discussion**

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

1. Update on Manure Incidents in Marathon County
2. Marathon Park Water Project

Discussion: Bids were returned and opened on March 28. The bidding consisted of the base bid to complete the watermain and laterals in the spring/summer of 2023. In addition, there were five alternates including the pavement work, cost of doing the work in the fall, looping the watermain to Stewart Ave, site restoration, and installing the lateral to the



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splashpad. The County received five bids. The budget approved for the work is \$950,000. Staff and our consultant are still finalizing the bid tab and will have the final information available at the committee meeting. Action will only be needed if additional funding is requested. At this time additional funding is not anticipated.

3. MS4 Annual Report

Discussion: Pritchard gave a brief update on the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Report. Marathon County does have a MS4 permit for management of our stormwater pollutant discharge on our facilities located here in the urban area. The permit is issued by WI DNR. The County must report annually on best management practices we undertake to reduce polluted stormwater runoff. This will also be presented to the Infrastructure Committee at a forthcoming meeting.

4. Overview of MS4/ Urban Stormwater Quality Management Plan

Discussion: Miskimins provided a brief overview of the grant that we received to create the Urban Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update. Miskimins mentioned that Strand Associates was the contractor hired to complete the plan. Strand will also provide a full briefing at the County Board at a forthcoming meeting.

5. Update on the POWTS Loan Program

Discussion: Miskimins provided a brief history of what the POWTS Loan Program was and provided an update on the Loan Program moving forward. Marathon County is ready to move forward for a 1-year pilot program with MCDEVCO, as directed by the 2018 resolution. Administrator Leonard gave an update on the administration process and costs associated with MCDEVCO and the procedure moving forward. The goal is to have this loan program available this construction season.

**7. Policy Issues Discussion and Committee Determination to the County Board for its Consideration** – None.

**8. Next meeting date, time & location, and future agenda items:**

**Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 3:00 p.m. Marathon County Courthouse, Assembly Room  
500 Forest Street Wausau WI**

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

B. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence

1. Request for ERC representation on the 12.04 Administrator's Group

Discussion: Miskimins indicated that the Administrator's Group for the Assemblies Ordinance is looking for a representative from the ERC Committee.

2. Request for ERC representation on the Groundwater Work Group

Discussion: Miskimins indicated they are looking for a group to assist with the groundwater rollout session. The first meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup>.

3. Upcoming Joint Finance Committee Hearing and Fenwood Testimony

Discussion: Miskimins provided an update to the Fenwood pilot and announced that an event was held, and a bill was created to create a Pilot.

4. Drabek made the request to look at the town



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5. Kurt Gibbs announced two seminars were held and the discussions can be viewed on WCA Website.

**9. Adjourn – Motion/** second by Drabek/Ritter to **adjourn** at 5:09 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Laurie Miskimins, CPZ Director  
For Jacob Langenhahn, Chair

cc: (via email/web site) ERC members; County Administrator; Corporation Counsel; County Clerk

LM/nd

DRAFT