

# MINUTES

## CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025  
**TIME:** 9:00 AM  
**PLACE:** Courthouse – Conference Rm #302

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Tim Hovendick, Wayne Schulz, Russ Perlock, George Gilbertson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting was presented. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Jeff Gaier from the Marshfield Airport provided his yearly report to the committee as well as possible future plans. He is requesting the economic development grant funding be released. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the release of \$15,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to the Marshfield Airport. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Dale Christensen from the Central Wisconsin State Fair provided a report and highlighted the activities going on at the fair as well as future needs. He is requesting the release of economic development grant funding for the Junior Fair. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve the release of \$38,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to the Junior Fair. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Three Extension employees presented on the FoodWise program, the various entities, schools, and partnerships that work with the program, as well as the funding mechanism. This program is funded through the SNAP Program at the federal level, which is currently not going to be funded in the new federal budget that is now being looked at by Congress. If the current proposal passes, the funding will sunset by September 30, 2025.
7. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
8. County Conservationist Wucherpfennig presented a resolution amending the 2025 Land & Water Conservation Dept. budget for additional funding received and disbursed from the Surface Water Grant. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Wucherpfennig introduced the new summer intern, Nicolas Fuentes Branas to the committee.
10. Wucherpfennig received two bids for the Duckett waste storage facility closure, which were as follows:

- a. Kolo Trucking - \$12,760.
- b. Adrian Devoran - \$24,800.

Motion by Hovendick/Schulz to approve the low bid of \$12,760 as the basis for cost share dollars.  
Motion carried unanimously.

11. Wucherpennig updated the committee on the status of the nitrate testing project and the next steps involved with the disbursement of ARPA funding.
12. Wucherpennig reviewed the status of the two violations. Both have successfully been closed and are compliant at this time.
13. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg presented a resolution amending the Town of Auburndale zoning ordinance. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Grueneberg presented a resolution to close out the county CDBG Housing Grant Program and noted there will, however, be opportunities for this type of funding for residents through the state. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward it onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Leichtnam attended the Wood County Unit of the Wisconsin Towns Association meeting to highlight and promote the nitrate testing being done by the Land & Water Conservation Dept. and requested per diem for attendance. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the per diem request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
16. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:00 AM.
17. Chairman Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

