

MINUTES
Iowa County Economic Development, Extension and Property
August 4, 2011

The EDEP committee met in the 2nd floor conference room of the county courthouse at 6:00PM on August 4, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Dan Oleson

1. Roll Call: Present, Dan Curran, Jim Griffiths, Jeremy Meek, Dan Nankee, Dan Oleson, Joe Thomas, Ryan Walmer and Ed Weaver. Others Present: County Board Supervisors Curt Peterson and Bob Bunker, County Treasurer Dixie Edge, County Administrator Curt Kephart, Planning and Zoning Administrator Scott Godfrey, Land Conservation Jim McCauley, UWEX Paul Ohlrogge, Deb Ivey and Melissa Doyle, as well as several members of the public.

Certification of the meeting by Curt Kephart

2. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Supervisor Nankee, 2nd Supervisor Curran, approved.

Motion by Supervisor Curran, 2nd by Supervisor Walmer to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2011. Approved.

3a. There was no public comment.

3b. Deb Ivey and Melissa Doyle provided the UW-Extension program update highlighting the 4-H Science Wednesday, the 4-H ambassador Team and the Junior Livestock Judging team.

Scott Godfrey provided the Planning and Development July Activity report.

4 Brad Glass and Linda Lynch presented a proposal by Prairie Enthusiasts to purchase the 99 acre Sylvan Lake property in Waldwick Township. The proposal included the funding of one half the appraised value which is to be determined (the previous appraisal was \$305,100) by a stewardship grant from the Wisconsin DNR and an in-kind donation of 1/2 the appraised property value by Iowa County. The proposal would also include an easement over the old railroad right-of-way to allow the Leonard farm neighbors access to their fields. Mary Rose Teves and Sandy Chancellor of the DNR explained that the DNR having provided 1/2 the site funding the DNR's position is that any sale be contingent on the continued maintaining of ecological habitat as well as public use requirements. Bill Moore of Ecological Woodland Management and John Kivikoski spoke of the unique mix of habitat with native species in concentration that make preservation & restoration important. Dave Ladd gave some insights into the history of county ownership including the county's failure to maintain the property. Ms. Leonard spoke of her family's continued use of the abandoned rail right-of way running through the property and fencing of property.

Motion by Curran, 2nd Weaver to retain the property and enter a management agreement with Prairie Enthusiasts to maintain. Motion failed 3 Aye, 5 Nay.
Motion by Curran to take no action until we receive offer from Prairie Enthusiasts. Motion failed for lack of a 2nd.

Motion by Thomas, 2nd by Meek to forward an offer by Prairie Enthusiasts to the county board for the purchase of the Sylvan Road property contingent upon the easement and legal language being approved by Corporation Counsel and that the offer arrive in time to be included in the County Board packet. Motion failed. 3 aye, 5 nay. Supervisors Meek, Thomas & Oleson voting yes.

Upon further discussion there was a committee consensus that rather than try to meet the DNR's September deadline for submitting a proposal the Prairie Enthusiasts will return with a proposal that could be presented to the DNR's February stewardship grants program.

5. Motion by Weaver, 2nd Walmer to forward UW extension Budget to the Administrative Services Committee. Approved

6. Motion by Nankee, 2nd Curran to forward Planning & Development GIS budget to the Administrative Services Committee with recommendation of 2.5%.
Approved.

Motion by Curran, 2nd Weaver to forward the Planning & Development budget to the Administrative Services Committee. Approved

7..Motion by Weaver, 2nd Curran to forward the Register of Deeds budget to the Administrative Services Committee. Approved.

8. Motion by Weaver, 2nd Nankee to forward the Land Conservation budget to the Administrative Services Committee.

9. There was a general discussion regarding making revisions to the Iowa County Facility Use Policies and Procedures. The only member of the public to speak was Sally Martin opposing use of by anyone other than county affiliated organizations. Supervisor Weaver presented the committee with letters from three county business's: The House on the Rock Properties, Deer Valley Lodge and Midway Lanes. These letters objected to the use of the facility as a public meeting facility or if used for that purpose objected to providing it at no charge to the user.

Motion by Meek, 2nd Griffiths that we recommend to the county board a zero fee structure for all facilities other than the HHS building. Failed. Griffiths and Meek voting yes.

Upon further discussion it was pointed out by Administrator Kephart that paragraph 3 related to use by groups associated with Iowa County government. Paragraph 4 related to non-profit groups. By removing paragraph 4 the policy

would limit use of any county facility to only groups associated with Iowa County government. Supervisor Griffiths expressed concern that the committee was not further defining which groups fell outside the term “associated with”.

Motion by Curran, 2nd Weaver to send the following change to the Facility Policy and Procedure to the county board:

Strike paragraph 4, Remove Definitions paragraph beginning “Non-profit citizen group” and eliminate fee structure. Approved. Thomas and Griffiths voting no.

10. There was no discussion on any pending proposal on 329 W. Chapel as no proposal(s) is ready..

11. Administrator Kephart discussed the actual and projections of the first six months utility expense at HHS center.

12 General discussion of warranty and punch list of HHS Center. Administrator Kephart has been meeting with contractors and they have handled nearly all the items of concern. The completion status and any next steps have been discussed and decided with County Chair Bauer and Building Committee Chair Meyers. All feel the contractor is very reliable. Administrator Kephart pointed out instances where Findorff has gone back to a construction site and corrected at their own cost items that were long out of warranty.

13. Motion to adjourn and set next meeting date for September 8, 2011 by Walmer, 2nd Weaver. Approved

Submitted Supervisor Griffiths