

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Planning, Development & Transportation Committee** was held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at the Duck Creek Center – Public Works Dept., 2198 Glendale Avenue, Village of Howard.

Present: Chair Dave Landwehr, Vice-Chair Ray Suennen, Supervisor Norb Dantine, Supervisor Tom Friberg, Supervisor Amanda Chu
Also Present: Extension Director Judy Knudsen, Airport Director Marty Piette, Director Port & Solid Waste Dean Haen, Director of Administration Chad Weininger, Planning Director Cole Runge; Supervisors Buckley & Coenen; Casey Hicks

I. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dave Landwehr at 6:10 pm.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. Approve/Modify Minutes of October 13, 2020.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Kaczmarek to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public None.

1. Review Minutes of:

- a. Harbor Commission (August 17, 2020).
- b. Planning Commission Board of Directors (September 2, 2020).
- c. Solid Waste Board (September 21, 2020).

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to suspend the rules to take Items 1a, b & c together. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to receive and place on file Items 1a, b & c. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Extension

2. Budget Status Financial Report for September & October 2020 – Unaudited.

Extension Director Judy Knudsen reported they were in good shape, more revenue than expenses.

Landwehr questioned the minimal change from September to October, Knudsen informed they were spending very little money.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Budget Adjustment Request (20-077): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.

Brown County Community Gardens has received \$500 from Cellcom Green Gifts as a donation for water tank cleaning. They have been having problems with algae growing in their water tanks this year. It most likely

won't hurt anyone but it would be good for the ones that are worse, to be cleaned as it's pretty pricey. They are going to then paint all their tanks black to reduce algae growth in the future. Discussion ensued with regard to possible solutions, Knudsen will look into it further.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Director's Report.

Knudsen handed out their monthly newsletter to committee members and highlighted what has been happening in the last month at the Extension.

Motion made by Supervisor Chu seconded by Supervisor Friberg to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Airport

5. Director's Report

a. September 2020 Unaudited Airport Financials.

Airport Director Marty Piette stated, other than the highlights noted, their operating expenses were about 10% below budget, personnel was about 6% below budget year-to-date. That was good news to see on the expense side. Revenue side, they were still seeing their passenger facility charge and other public charges tracking below budget but that was not unexpected with the COVID environment and reduced passengers. The gap between year-to-date budget and year-to-date actual has started to shrink quite a bit because of the CARES Act money coming in.

b. Open Position Report.

Piette informed they were in the process of interviewing for the Airfield Maintenance Mechanic and hoping to have it fill by Christmas. It was a critical position with snow removal and repair of snow removal equipment. Their Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Worker retired. That position has been vacant for a couple weeks, advertised and being evaluated again.

c. Projects Update.

All of their projects were complete except for their Exit Lane Breach Control project. They think the project will be complete and ready for testing by TSA the week of December 7th.

d. COVID-19 Update.

Piette has been sending out a couple different press releases via email the last couple of weeks, getting ahead of messaging to the public about Covid and traveling, especially with holiday travel. A lot of it was getting back to letting people know the steps they were taking from a safety standpoint, encouraging people to check with their airlines for their policies, the policies to where they are traveling to and planning ahead. There were still a lot of restaurants and gift shops not open or at odd times.

Motion made by Supervisor Landwehr, seconded by Supervisor Suennen to suspend the rules to take Items 5a, b, c & d together. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to receive and place on file Items 5a, b, c & d. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Port & Resource Recovery

6. Resolution Regarding Table of Organization Change for the Port & Resource Recovery Department – Resource Recovery Associate.

Port & Resource Recovery Director Dean Haen informed their department currently has four part-time associate positions. Attempts were unsuccessfully made to fill one part-time position. In an effort to increase the ability to hire and staff the associate position, the Department would like to consolidate two part-time associate positions into one full-time associate position.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Suennen to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Request for Approval of Bid for Project 2395 Recycling Center Push Wall Upgrade.

Haen informed this was for reinforcement of their push wall at their recycling facility. 10-12 years ago they did the main part of the wall, they always had a nook for overflow but they were finding that as their recycling facility in Outagamie ages and they have to do repairs, they are down more often and meet full capacity. They push the pile too big and have steel sheeting in the back and they keep pushing through it and have to fix it. This will bring concrete up higher, put steel plating above it but most importantly on the back side they will put 2x2 concrete columns to support the force of that front end when they're pushing on it so they don't break through to that wall.

Motion made by Supervisor Suennen, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to approve awarding the bid to MJI Building Services at \$45,105.00 for Project 2395 Recycling Center Push Wall Upgrade. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Request for Approval of Bid for Project 2398 DePere Leachate Holding Tank Installation.

Haen informed they had property in the City of DePere where they used to bring their East Landfill leachate to and it's connected to the sanitary sewer and runs to the DePere Wastewater Treatment Plant. They stopped using it for a number of years because they built a sewer from the East Landfill connected down below the hill. They went back to reuse it and DePere didn't know it existed or what its intension was for they had been working on an agreement with DePere for them to handle the leachate. As part of that, they knew they were going to use the site, but they wanted to see the site upgraded with a metering tank.

Motion made by Supervisor Chu, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to approve awarding the bid to Kip Gulseth for work to be done in the December to March window at \$48,875.00 for Project 2398 DePere Leachate Holding Tank Installation. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Director's Report.

Haen spoke to his written report in the agenda packet material.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Suennen to open the floor to allow interested parties to speak. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Stan Kaczmarek – Land Con Subcommittee Vice-Chair

With regard to the digester, when talking about the gas, where were they going to take the clean gas and pump/inject into a pipeline? Will it be somewhere there or will they have to transport that long ways? Haen responded, about three quarters of a mile from their landfill. Where Dynamics was going to be located, was Guardian Pipeline, so that was the main feed to Green Bay. They were going to be on the north side of Mill Road, right across from the entrance of their new landfill.

Kaczmarek questioned, with the three counties, does each county have 1/3rd of the garbage going into the landfill? Haen stated currently Outagamie has the most tonnage, as the host landfill stuff just shows up to their door. Winnebago was much smaller. When they transition to Brown County, they will have the most tons. Costs and revenue was based on your net percent of tons. The agreement that was just signed will get

them to 2042 and involves Brown County South Landfill, following Outagamie's northwest. Beyond that they may go back to Winnebago or they stay in Brown County, that's not determined yet.

Motion made by Supervisor Suennen, seconded by Supervisor Dantine to return to regular order of business. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In addition to his written report, Haen reported on their financials for the 3rd quarter. They were on track, and everything was 65%-80% so they should be at about 75% of their costs and revenues. The Solid Waste side had more tonnage which means they have more revenue and more expenses so they will see a budget adjustment come through at some point to adjust their budget for those increased revenues with offsetting expenses.

Motion made by Supervisor Chu, seconded by Supervisor Dantine to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Planning & Land Services (Planning, Property Listing, Zoning)

10. Budget Status Financial Reports (Planning, Property Listing, Zoning) for September 2020 – Unaudited.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of an Application for the Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities/Planning Program.

Planning Director Cole Runge informed a summary was provided in the agenda packet material. This resolution authorizes the submission of Brown County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) close grant application to the Wisconsin Department of Administration.

Responding to Suennen, they were certain this will out, before his predecessor retired he set this up and the two of them talked about potential projects. Before they chose the Bellevue Street reconditioning project to submit as their project, they coordinated with the State Department of Administration staff to make sure they would approve this ahead of time before they even pursued it. They received assurances that if they pursued this project and complete it on schedule, they will get Bellevue back. Weininger added, 4-5 years ago the state got in trouble for mismanaging this program and the Feds are requiring them to fix this and they had to do the money switch for them, they were obligated to do it.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Director's Report.

Runge reiterated from previous meetings, in terms of revenues, their Shoreline permits continue to skyrocket. Their certified survey maps (CSM revenues) were down from previous years but picking up quickly. Their plan review fees have been very high as well. In terms of activity, they were very busy and their revenues in those areas remain pretty strong. There were a couple local assistance projects but because of the pandemic, they may have to put those off. The revenues associated with the overall budget, what they were getting on top of what they expected to get will more than offset those revenue losses, so they still expect to finish this year in the black.

One of their major projects they had been working on for quite a few years now was the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern Bridge project. In mid-October the Federal Highway Administration and Wisconsin DOT signed their record of decision for that which means their process was finished and it was finished successfully. They identified a location of the corridor, it will include a new interchange at I41 south of Scheuring Rd. Their next task was to work with the State DOT and the Public Works Department over the next couple years to do Section 1 for that project. The state has pledged to design and built the interchange for them. One thing they were still doing was trying to work out exactly what that interchange portion of the

project is. There's a chance the DOT at a minimum will handle the remaining environmental work for the entire Section 1 but the county may have to chip in some funding for some design work and find construction funding in the future to do the pieces of the road west of the interchange and east of the interchange. It's been really productive so far and that project went from a plan finally to a project.

Runge provided another project update on State Highway 29 and County VV Interchange Project in conjunction with the State DOT. That project has been proceeding during the pandemic as well. He believed most of the right-of-way acquisition of that project was finished. He believed they were still on schedule to break ground in early 2021 and it was still on schedule to be open to traffic by fall of 2023.

One project their GIS Coordinator has been working on was an update of the county's computer-aided dispatch project. This replaces the old system which existed since the early 2000s. There was also another component, a quickest route element, so they had to make sure the GIS mapping was just right and everything was connected and coded correctly to make sure when it's dispatched to a call, they dispatch the officer, that according to that system is, closest in terms of response time. That project went live on November 10th and it's working out very well.

Motion made by Supervisor Suennen, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Works

- 13. **Summary of Operations.**
- 14. **Director's Report.**

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to receive and place on file the Summary of Operations and Director's Report. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 15. **Register of Deeds - Budget Status Financial Report for September 2020 - Unaudited.**

Motion made by Supervisor Friberg, seconded by Supervisor Chu to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions & Ordinances

- 15a. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding *Resolution Establishing the Brown County Energy Commission.***

Motion made by Supervisor Chu, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to strike the words 'natural gas' out of 11th whereas and strike the last Whereas. Vote taken. Ayes: Chu, Friberg; Nays: Suennen, Dantine, Landwehr. MOTION FAILED

With regard to striking the last Whereas, Suennen noted there has been questions of legality and Corporation Counsel stated it was legal. They cannot prohibit but they were merely discouraging. He has advised this was the appropriate road to put in there if that's the type of phrase they want. Part of this had a lot of history in Brown County.

In regard to natural gas, Suennen had received 12-emails today. The reason it was originally put in was because of his research online, it defined natural gas as the best feasible alternative available today and it also defined natural gas as better, cleaner than petroleum products. He understood there was a lot of resistance based that it was not totally clean and he can understand the concept but in the same sense they need to monitor and determine how much natural gas they had as a separate component in our formulas to be able to determine if they were to pull it out at a future point. Suennen questioned if they want to get a policy that is going to pass or do they want to put stuff back in here that will probably be defeated.

Friberg stated the Department of Energy does not consider or list natural gas as a clean energy source. In terms of this committee being a clean energy commission, they should try and stay as close to that clean definition as possible. He believed it would be more of a focus with this next administration so it would be in line with what they are aiming for. In terms of the long term strategy for natural gas and methane as a fuel

source, there had been a few studies that say it will be uneconomical by 2035, so they should keep that in mind. It will be more difficult to financially justify. He would be in favor of removing it.

Chu felt it was compelling that the Department of Energy doesn't list natural gas under their clean energies. They do also list hydrogen and fuel cell. This statement was a great attempt at getting across examples of clean energy. She didn't think it was intended for any of these whereas statements to be like exhaustive comprehensive lists of all of the forms of energy. She felt it was an important part as a statement. It leaves wiggle room to use an energy form as natural gas is used as a transitional energy, it was not the end game. It was confusing to list it as an example of clean energy and it confuses the discussion long term. The final whereas, she totally acknowledges that the issue of wind generated energy in the county has been controversial but she believed they addressed that in the second to last whereas statement. She'd even be in favor of expanding that two miles which would take care of many areas of concern when they review maps. If they're looking to strengthen the message to residents that have already been negatively impacted, that was a better way than having that final whereas which kind of ties their hands as technologies in this form of energy continue to change and involve and sets a tone how they're going to be looking at that as an option in the long term future. This was setting themselves up for long term thinking. She thinks they are being sensitive to this group in the second to last whereas and felt the final whereas goes too far in setting a tone of exactly what it says, being discouraging of wind generation. She just offers this as a consideration.

Landwehr pointed out that the second to last states any county owned or operated where the other one was talking more general. Suennen noted, total different audiences. He felt based on feedback he had gotten, if they had this so it appeared to encourage wind generation eagerly, there were many supervisors that had hesitations about that.

Suennen didn't want to get political and this should be irrelevant of any changes in political administration. He was a realist, they were in 2020 and he was not going to speculate on what is going to be happening in 2035. If this passes, this was a brand new committee, they will analyze different aspects of things and if they decide based on their analysis of the experts within the energy committee and the resources available, this is going to be a document that gets changed as time goes on and will not be exactly as it is today. By 2030 there may be goals in here that were not going to be the ending goals that were previously in here.

Motion made by Supervisor Friberg, seconded by Supervisor Suennen to open the floor to allow interested parties to speak. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Casey Hicks, 1332 Angels Path, Apt 28, De Pere, WI 54115

Hicks informed he was a registered lobbyist with the City of Green Bay but not with the State of Wisconsin. He was a northeast organizer with Wisconsin Conservation Voters which is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization and briefly spoke to their mission. They had been working with supervisors to adopt a resolution of this type and supported past versions of this resolution but the changes that had been made to it make it impossible for them to support it in its current form. They were asking this committee to remove natural gas from the definition of clean energy and to fully remove the statement discouraging the siting of wind generation facilities within Brown County. Natural gas was not defined as clean energy by the US Energy Information Administration or US Department of Energy. He further explained their organizations position on this. Without these changes they would be encouraging them to vote against the resolution. Hicks briefly answered questions from the committee.

Dantinne felt this has gone way beyond looking at conservation. Most weren't sitting here when the Town of Glenmore and Morrison were sitting here screaming that their kids were sick, they were going to the doctors, losing their homes because of wind turbines. Until someone can change his mind that windmills are safe, this can't be in here. Natural gas heats the whole world right now. He felt this was premature in his mind, they were going too far ahead of the game to make decisions for another 15 years.

Coenen questioned if other counties that Hicks has worked with, had any issues with any sort of clean energy, as Brown County has? Hicks stated not that he knew of. Coenen understood where Chu was coming from but she can't support taking it out.

Motion made by Supervisor Suennen, seconded by Supervisor Dantinne to return to regular order of

business. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Coenen stated unless there was some other verbiage that they could agree upon to get support from all ends, she believed there needs to be a strong presence from the county. If they went to each individual municipality, this wouldn't pass. In order to encompass everyone, they need to somehow come to a common place where they can make a statement that was strong enough to support those communities yet get support of the conservation voters. Suennen reiterated that Corporation Counsel could not think of anything else to word this. You cannot put prohibit, restrict, etc. This was as strong as they could get.

Buckley agreed with Dantine, he was all for conservation but to proposed cutting out an energy source, they were suggesting to cut out natural gas which was a source of energy. They want to go electrical but what was fueling electrical plants, it was natural gas. He would have a problem doing anything to promote wind energy right now for the amount of money and time the county spent on wind energy. A big concern he had was its left up to the county to deal with, if they were going to have more wind energy, because it was going to be out in the county and not in the City of Green Bay. He had concerns that Hicks organization was limiting themselves too much. He respects their organization and beliefs but if they really want to get things done, Dantine was right in saying there was a way to do it and it was through real conservation.

Further discussions ensued regarding the resolution, and how to move forward. Dantine felt if their goal was to move forward to come up with ideas, throw this away and form a committee and start working. Buckley agreed, he suggested setting up a committee to take up issues and goals they can achieve. Don't worry about the resolution because it will just get filed and the committee will go off and do their work. Suennen didn't think they should change it, they should pass it. The more that gets brought up and kicked back and forth the more they increase the probability of permanently killing it. Landwehr agreed. Chu felt if Dantine had a motion to pare down the whereas' to a few that make sense and see if they can get it to pass with the Be it Further Resolved section in tact to get the committee to look at these things and come up with their own definitions for clean and dirty energy. Buckley suggested having the committee being formed put together their statement instead of them putting the cart before the horse. Suennen interjected the resolution formed the committee. Buckley responded they didn't need all of it to form a committee, it could be simpler. Set the committee up and they can put together their mission. Sometimes less is more.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to send to Corporation Counsel to come up with a simplified version of creating an Energy Conservation Committee to look at energy savings and reduced the carbon footprint. Vote taken. Ayes: Chu, Dantine; Nays: Suennen, Landwehr, Friberg. MOTION FAILED

Motion made by Supervisor Suennen, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to approve document dated December 16th to be presented at the January County Board meeting. Vote taken. Ayes: Suennen, Friberg, Landwehr; Nays: Dantine, Chu. MOTION PASSED

Other

16. Acknowledging the bills.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Suennen to acknowledge receipt of the bills. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. Such other matters as authorized by law. December meeting cancelled, special meeting if needed.

18. Adjourn.

Motion made by Supervisor Dantine, seconded by Supervisor Chu to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia A. Loehlein, Administrative Coordinator