

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
AGENDA

DATE: Tuesday, December 15, 2020
TIME: 8:30 AM
LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse, Room 114

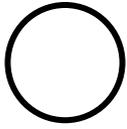
1. Call meeting to order.
 2. Declaration of Quorum.
 3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
 4. Resolution – Clean Water Referendum
 5. Consider Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for South Wood County bicycle and pedestrian trail wayfinding signage project
 6. Adjourn
-

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Meeting number (access code): 146 957 6052

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m54f6e0e3b2b399d6c017cce9f02f5615>
Meeting number (access code): 146 957 6052
Meeting password: CEED1215



Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____ Absent: _____	
Number of votes required:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____, Finance Dir.	

LAD

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To place on the Wood County April 2021 ballot a referendum question on Clean Water.

FISCAL NOTE: Minimal cost to the County depending on the size of the ballot.

WHEREAS, a cheap plentiful supply of drinking water is necessary for the health and well-being of all Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS, keeping Wisconsin's rural drinking water free of pollutants, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, benefits not only citizens but also Wisconsin's tourism industry as well as rural economic development; and

WHEREAS, Governor Evers declared 2019 to be the "Year of Clean Water"; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Speaker's Task Force on Water Quality brought to the attention of state legislators and the state's residents, as a whole, the immensity of this problem; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Assembly took a step in addressing the problem by passing 13 "Water Bills" on February 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State Senate never had the opportunity to consider these "Water Bills" when its last scheduled session on March 24, 2020, was postponed by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin voters can encourage continued legislative attention to the issue of water quality by speaking out.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES, in legal session assembled, to hereby approve that the following question be placed on the April 6, 2021, ballot as an advisory referendum question: "Question: Should the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin? YES ___ NO ___"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the Wood County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the Wood County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 6, 2021, election at which the question will appear on the ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send results of the referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Towns Association, the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, all members of the State Legislature, and to each Wisconsin County Board.

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_____ KEN CURRY (Chair)

_____ BILL LEICHTNAM

_____ ROBERT ASHBECK

_____ JAKE HAHN

_____ DAVE LAFONTAINE

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, this _____ day of _____ 20 _____ .

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

TRAIL SIGNAGE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between Wood County (County) and the Village of Port Edwards (Village) effective on the date it is last signed, below.

WHEREAS, certain municipalities within the county, specifically, the Village of Port Edwards, the City of Nekoosa, the Town of Saratoga, the Town of Grand Rapids and the Village of Biron, which municipalities are collectively referred to herein as the Community Partners, desire to work with the County to develop and maintain standardized signage for trailheads and local trail networks for biking, hiking, ATV and snowmobile usage, and

WHEREAS, the Community Partners have arranged for the 2021 Chamber of Commerce Leadership class to properly identify and map all of the trails and recreational and activity features in those parts of the county covered by these municipalities, and

WHEREAS, the County has agreed to provide funding for the signage and the Community Partners have agreed to accept responsibility for the installation of the signs, and

WHEREAS, the Village has agreed to serve as the agent of the Community Partners in far as entering into a single MOU with the County for setting and implementing terms of the signage program,

Now, therefore, the County and Village agree as follows:

1. The County will pay \$14,400 to the Village as the agent for the Community Partners to acquire from a local vendor metal Trail Head signs with wooden posts all having a life span of at least 15 years as follows:
 - Port Edwards: 6 signs
 - Biron: 4 signs
 - Grand Rapids: 4 signs
 - Nekoosa: 6 signs
 - Saratoga: 4 signs
2. The County will pay \$4,000 to the Village for one Common Area sign for each Municipal Partner which sign shall include a map of the community and the location of commodities along the trail.
3. The County by means of its Planning and Zoning Director and the Village by means of its Administrator will agree to the design of both the Trail Head and Common Area signs prior to the signs being ordered by the Village.
4. The Village will procure and distribute to the other Community Partners the Trail Head and Common Area signs and wooden posts within 6 months of the effective date of this MOU.
5. Each Community Member shall install each sign within 6 months of receipt.

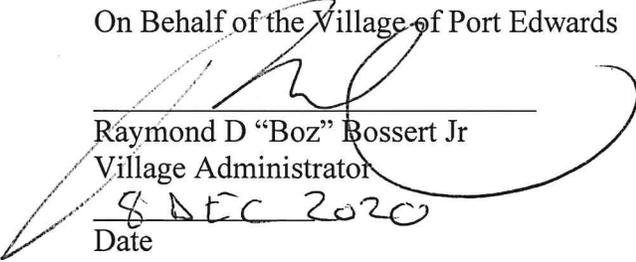
6. The Trail Head and Common Area signs shall all be of similar design. The Trailhead Signs shall be located so as to mark the trailheads of the official county bike/hike/ATV/snowmobile trail networks in the respective Community Partners.
7. At six and nine month intervals after the effective date of this MOU the Village shall provide an update to the Wood County CEED Committee on the design, acquisition and installation of the signs. The Village will also provide at these times an update on the cost of the acquisition of the signs.
8. The Village will return to the County within 10 months of the effective date of this MOU any funds not used by the Village in the acquisition of the signs. The Village will also return to the County within 10 months of the effective date of this MOU the cost of any sign herein that has not been installed.

On Behalf of Wood County

Jason Grueneberg

Date

On Behalf of the Village of Port Edwards



Raymond D "Boz" Bossert Jr
Village Administrator

8 DEC 2020
Date

TOWN OF SARATOGA

WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

December 3, 2020

Raymond Bossert
Port Edwards Village Administrator
PO Box 10
Port Edwards WI 54469

Dear Raymond,

At the December 2nd, 2020 Town Board meeting, the Town Board of Saratoga made a motion to support the Memorandum of Understanding that involves the Village of Port Edwards as lead agency working with the City of Nekoosa, Town of Saratoga, Town of Grand Rapids, and Town of Biron. The MOU would allow grant money to be used to assist in funding the Trail Sign Program in Wood County.

Sincerely,

Heidi Kawleski, Clerk
Town of Saratoga



1120 State Highway 73 South, Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494
Phone 715-325-5204 - Fax 715-325-5249

Village Admin

From: Jon Sprehn <jon_sprehn@nekoosa.k12.wi.us>
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 5:30 PM
To: Village Admin
Cc: trekpilot0
Subject: Swiftwater Trails & HEART Network

Hello Boz,

On behalf of myself and the other members of Swiftwater Trails, we fully endorse the HEART Network vision. As you know, Swiftwater Trails, which is located in Nekoosa, has already decided to take action to strengthen our partnership with your organization. Pam Piotrowski, a member of Swiftwater Trails, is going to be the liaison between the groups. I have included her in this email. Feel free to reach out to her as needed.

Thanks, Jon Sprehn

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Jon Sprehn, Principal
Humke Elementary School

"Love Every Child, Engage Every Learner"

Village Admin

From: Rick Schmidt <RSchmidt@nekoosawi.com>
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2020 9:26 AM
To: Village Admin; a.nystrom@grandrapidswi.org; saratogaclerk@wctc.net; clerk@bironwisconsin.org
Subject: RE: Town/ Village signs

Boz~
I attended a kick off meeting several months ago at the City of Wisconsin Rapids and they had hired a consultant to help the city with wayfaring and signing.
At this meeting it was discussed about renaming the bike trail that wound its way to all our communities. That way we would have one trail name for the long bike trail in our area and be more appropriate for marketing to visitors.
What happened to this project and how does this tie into Wood County? I never have seen a follow up meeting to Rapids work effort. Maybe they downsized their project? I also know the Ho-Chunk Nation was interested in assisting in this effort also (James Webster).

Nekoosa has a trail group working locally on nature trails. We are calling (when complete) all of our trails in Nekoosa the "Swift Water Trail System". We have a ways to go.
I'm sure our city is interested in working with a larger group and help support the signage effort.
If I have some more details on cost and schedule I would to place on an upcoming city committee agenda.
Thanks,

Rick

Rick Schmidt, P.E.
Director of Public Works
City of Nekoosa

From: Village Admin [mailto:villageadmin@port-edwards.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2020 4:22 PM
To: a.nystrom@grandrapidswi.org; saratogaclerk@wctc.net; Rick Schmidt; clerk@bironwisconsin.org
Subject: Town/ Village signs

Fellow Towns, Villages and Cities, Hope all is well.

I am the new administrator for the Village of Port Edwards. I have been here over 5 months and look forward to working with you'all in the future. I have been working with the County on some sign concepts to help our Villages and Town better label our trails, boundaries and city centers. I am also working with a Chamber of Commerce team on the mapping of all these existing services and trails and would be happy to chat about that in the future. I have gotten some County support and funding to pay for a few signs that our communities can use. We are trying to standardize the sign but also give each community the ability to personalize it. I have attached a DRAFT concept. If you are interested in joining our effort(there is success in numbers) I am happy to chat about this. We are in the infancy of this concept but must allocate the funds this year and get the design set for production, then we can install into next year and the Spring.

Not asking for money just your support and ideas in the design process. The County wants to do this but would rather be more community focused and not just one Village or city.

Interested???? Drop me a note and I can come by to chat or give you a ring back