



## DECODER

Winter 2012

# Official Newsletter of the Wisconsin County Code Administrators

## President's Message - Steve Rannenberg



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Submission of Articles: WCCA Welcomes articles, letters to the editor, articles from the WCCA districts, calendar listings, etc. Please send anything that may be of interest to other zoning administrators in Wisconsin. Articles may be submitted by mail, fax or email. Content of the articles does not necessarily represent the position of WCCA, the WCCA Executive Committee, or the editor.

#### Deadlines:

Spring Issue March 15  
 Summer Issue June 15  
 Fall Issue September 15  
 Winter Issue December 15

With the Fall election season behind us, to include that of our WCCA Executive Board, I humbly look forward to my year as president of WCCA. You'll hear no more excuses from me about the effect turbulence within this position since the 2011 Fall Conference. I heartily accept the responsibility of moving forward with alacrity. However, I cannot do this alone. It is my good fortune to have stout leaders willing to, as Karl Jennrich (our 2012 POY) said, "accept the mantle of responsibility". As I look across the pages of the executive board and committee rosters I see many of our stars stepping up. While consistency is good, there is something to be said for the identification and mentorship of a new cast of characters.

Nothing lasts forever. Look around you. The list of retirees grows and

behind them their fellows are stepping forward. "Forward" - the State motto - is an apt one for your WCCA. Those who have left our ranks expect us to do our utmost to carry on our tradition of ethical stewardship. With that as our charge we are ready. The association's members, who stand before us today, expect us to lead the way. We will not waver and we will not disappoint. I am confident that Kay Miller and CeCe Tesky will put on a couple of great shows at next year's conferences. Let there be no doubt that Terri Dopp-Paukstat will be very, very busy tracking the legislative session of an emboldened membership. I want to extend a special greeting to the newest members of the Executive Board as they embark on a new adventure. To borrow a phrase; "Who dares wins." Looking back at Mark Steward's 2011 goals I

see that Goal #3 was to work cooperatively with the Wisconsin Counties Association. Despite the turbulence within WCA we have forged new friendships and a true sense of energy, thanks, in no small part by Scott Godfrey's willingness to step forward yet again. The next generation of zoners who do not yet know of us will know we did our best by what we leave behind.

In closing I want to take a moment to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Take time to safely recharge those emotional and spiritual batteries and be ready to hit it hard in 2013!

Steve Rannenberg  
 Douglas County  
 President



## District Reports

West Central—Kevin Lien –Courtesy of Emily Lund

In March, our district had a meeting at the Chippewa County Courthouse in Chippewa Falls, WI. We discussed legislative updates, state departmental updates, and met new staff from WI DNR. Our district has been overwhelmed with many frac sand mine applications. WCZA President Kevin Lien stated in a recent WisconsinWatch.org article, “Our office has turned into a zoo. Everyone here is engulfed in mining.” Some call it the frac sand fever of west-central Wisconsin. Our district has been working together to formulate regional consistencies with conditions on nonmetallic mining permits. Ideas for future application submittal / conditioned criteria: blasting plan, haul route plan, groundwater response/well testing plan, fugitive dust plan, property value assessment/appraisals, spoil pile location/reclamation, base-level/depth mining, ambient air testing (possible), noise, lighting plan, storm water/erosion control, screening/landscape buffer, all copies of WI DNR & WI DOT permits, transportation impact analysis, financial assurance, restricted hauling times.

Mining moratoriums: Eau Claire Co. & Dunn Co. – ended at the end of July 2012; Buffalo Co. – ended in Oct. 2012. Discussion regarding new zoning district and overlay district for nonmetallic mining took place. Nonmetallic Mining notification is different throughout our district. Most counties follow the Class II Publication requirements, while others have increased notification to ½ mile or 1 mile for mining projects. Many staff members from different counties have left to work for private mining companies. Marathon County congratulated Jim Bergner on his retirement, which was later filled by Becky Frisch (previously employed by Langlade Co).

In June, our district had a meeting at the Trempealeau County Courthouse in Whitehall, WI. We discussed legislative updates, departmental mergers, 2011 WI Act 170, NR 115, and plans to set up Administrative training and BOA training for our district’s staff and volunteers. We discussed 2011 WI Act 32, where the State Budget Bill discusses borrow and material disposal sites for transportation projects and have made them exempted from local zoning ordinances, with conditions set in this bill. We discussed how some Towns are now adopting nonmetallic mining ordinances and licensing ordinances to address and regulate the negative impacts of frac sand and other types of nonmetallic mining.

Our guest speaker was Brent Pickard from the Wisconsin DOT. He spoke to our district about Frac Sand Mining Impacts. In summary, he said the demand for frac sand is expected to increase 15% over the next 3 years. Most mine companies choose the path of least resistance, so go to un-zoned towns. Estimations: 6.5 million tons of frac sand mined in 2009, 13 million tons in 2010, and 28 million tons in 2011. 90% of US gas and oil wells use hydraulic fracturing. “Ground zero” for frac sand mining is a 60 mile radius around Eau Claire. Over 100 mines and facilities are in process, where 95% didn’t exist 12-24 months ago. Concerns are with logistics of truck, haul routes, intersection location, safety, pavement, and rail lines. There is a transportation tool box when working with WI DOT and they have intergovernmental cooperation with counties.

Future meetings: The WCA Frac Sand Task Force will be meeting in Chippewa Falls on December 17th, 2012. Our next district meeting is December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Eau Claire County Courthouse.

North West District– Tom Bergman

The Northwest District will be meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup> at the Flat Creek Eatery in Hayward, WI. The District will be electing officers as well as discussing a number of issues. We will be discussing methods to track service from the wastewater specialist position to help develop a case for filling of vacant positions. There will also be discussions of mining issues, the WCCA Executive Board Meeting Agenda, and changes to the NW District boundary lines. We will be getting an update from the recent NR 115 sub-committee meeting. Wishing everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

East Central District—Bill Bosiaci

The East Central district of WCCA met on Friday, December 14. Gary Heinrichs was in attendance and gave a floodplain presentation focusing on the new Great Lakes study that FEMA is conducting. A question and answer period followed with Gary answering many questions in regards to floodplain administration and flood insurance. After lunch the election of officers took place with the current group being reelected unanimously. Our Treasurer gave a very enthusiastic report of our districts financial state which pleased everyone in attendance. After that, our district representative handed out the proposed changes to the current NR-115 and everyone agreed that they were a step in the right direction and would be studied closely to see how they would affect their individual counties with the agreement that they will let the district representative know of any changes they may require. Adjournment was taken shortly thereafter with the acknowledgement that the meeting was informative and efficient, a very LEAN event!



## Annual Meeting Agenda

Stoney Creek Inn  
110 Imperial Avenue  
Rothschild, WI 54455  
Phone: 715.355.6858

### Thursday, January 17, 2013 10:00 AM

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Changes or additions to the agenda
4. Review and approval of the October 3, 2012 Executive Board meeting minutes
5. Old Business
6. Discussion of district representative duties and responsibilities (Please bring your WCCA Handbook issued to the district representatives.)
7. Treasurer's Report – Michelle Staff, Secretary-Treasurer
8. Audit of 2012 Financials – Audit Committee
9. Review and approve WCCA 2013 Operating Budget
10. Committee Assignments and Appointments for 2013 (See draft assignments spreadsheet)
  - a. Executive Board representation on committees
  - b. Standing Committees
  - c. Ad Hoc Committees
  - d. Program Coordinator
  - e. Web Page Coordinator
  - f. State Agency Liaisons and Others – Proposed affiliations
11. Committee and Project Reports
  - a. Program Coordinator/Conference Committee – Draft Agenda 2013 Spring Conference
  - b. Legislative Committee – Legislative Report
  - c. Administrative Code Committee
  - d. Nominating Committee
  - e. Audit Committee
  - f. NR 113 Committee
  - g. NR 115 Committee
  - h. NR 116 Committee
  - i. Mining Committee
  - j. Working Lands Initiative Committee
  - k. Awards/Scholarship Committee
  - l. Web Page Committee
  - m. POWTS Code Council
  - n. POWTS Technical Advisory Committee
  - o. Shoreland/Wetland Committee

### Friday, January 18, 2013 9:00 AM

12. District Reports – To include discussion on realignment of District boundaries
13. State Agency and Affiliated Organization Reports
  - a. WI Department of Safety and Professional Services
  - b. WI Department of Natural Resources
  - c. WI Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection
  - d. UW Stevens Point - Center for Land Use Education
  - e. UW Extension Local Government Center
  - f. Wisconsin Wetlands Association
  - g. Wisconsin Counties Association
14. Other Business
  - a. WCCA Spring Conference, April 4-5, 2013, Stoney Creek Inn, Rothschild, WI
  - b. 2013 Fall Conference - select location and dates
  - c. Raffle/Scholarship Report
15. Plans and Goals for 2013
  - a. Executive Board Goals for 2013
  - b. President's Goals for 2013
16. Adjourn

### Administrative Notes:

1. Contact CeCe for room reservations for January 17, 2013
2. Lunch and dinner for Board members provided on January 17, 2013
3. Complimentary Breakfast available on January 18, 2013
4. Next Executive Board meeting: April 3, 2013, 7:00 PM, Stoney Creek Inn, Rothschild, WI



## Some Recent Changes to [www.wccadm.com](http://www.wccadm.com)

Comparison of NR115 Rules

Summary of Draft Rule Language—NR115

New Committee Assignments

Posted December 28, 2012 Planning Technician - Village of Kronwetter

Posted December 28, 2012 Associate Planner - City of Janesville

Posted December 28, 2012 Assistant Redevelopment Planner - Vandewalle & Assoc.

Posted December 4, 2012 Planner Principal - State

Posted November 25, 2012 Environmental Engineer Eau Claire County

Wisconsin has large deposits of precisely the kind of sand needed for the now-popular hydraulic fracturing (fracking) method of extracting oil and natural gas. As a result, mining sand and exporting it to other states is suddenly a booming business in Wisconsin. The G4005 series of publications is designed to help Wisconsin communities anticipate and head off problems that may be caused by Wisconsin's sudden boom in sand mining, including problems with groundwater, air quality, reclamation after a mine is closed, truck traffic on local roads, dust, noise, and so on. The author discusses tools, such as comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances, that communities may use to regulate sand mining operations, and she ranks counties according to how successfully they are using those tools.

New from Cooperative Extension Publishing . . . Planning and Zoning for "Frac Sand" Mining (G4005-01)

Evaluating Nonmetallic Mining: County Comprehensive Plans (G4005-02)

Evaluating Nonmetallic Mining: County Zoning Ordinances (G4005-03)

Evaluating Nonmetallic Mining: Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances (G4005-04)

By Anna Haines

**Available at [learningstore.uwex.edu](http://learningstore.uwex.edu)**

This is effective immediately.

Product approval has found an error in the sizing of the all-in-one end cap installed at the ends of the rows. Corrections have been made to the approvals of the Quick4 Plus Standard profile end cap sizing. It is 2.6 sq ft PER END CAP instead of the previous version stating 5.1 sq ft/end cap.

In most cases, the sizing of the end caps will not change the total number of chambers you will need, but please review any outstanding plans you have out there because we will be referring to this corrected information for all future inspections and permit issuances.

If you have any questions, please contact Glen Schlueter. Thank you for your cooperation! And please pass this on to anyone who should know.



## Secretary/Treasurer Report

Effective January 1, 2013, new updates to the WCCA Constitution

The amendments to the WCCA Constitution have been passed. The majority of the changes were to bring the WCCA into the 21st century by removing references to paper and snail mail and inserting web page and e-mail. Elections will now be conducted on-line!!! Please remember when filling out the membership form to include your work e-mail address so we can e-mail you important reminders. You can view the WCCA Constitution on-line at [www.wccadm.com](http://www.wccadm.com)

2013 Membership Dues

Don't forget your 2013 Membership dues. There is a fillable form in the newsletter or on-line at [www.wccadm.com](http://www.wccadm.com)



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Website - [www.wccadm.com](http://www.wccadm.com)

Website contact - [grant@maqs.net](mailto:grant@maqs.net)