

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
April 10, 2017
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Bob Mott, Alan Van Raalte, Robb Jensen, Jim Winkler, Kim Simac. Mitch Ives was excused.

Others present: Lynn Feldman, Myles Alexander, Sara Richie, Michele Sadauskas, Karl Jennrich, Tom Peterson, Bill Freudenberg, Jack Flint, and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. noting the meeting was properly posted and the facility handicap accessible.

Approve Amended Agenda: Motion by Van Raalte/Winkler to approve today's agenda with the order of the items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve Minutes:

Motion by Jensen/Van Raalte to approve the 3/13/17 minutes with one minor correction. All Ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) of future meetings:

May 8, 2017	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room
June 12, 2017	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room

Building Future Agendas Discussion:

Meeting agendas for Oneida County seem to be a hot topic and Mott received several calls asking for additional information that needed to be included on the agenda for this meeting. We need to be as accurate and as specific as possible when listing topics for future agenda items. A sample agenda showing new details that are now required was distributed to Committee prior to the meeting. Please contact Jonna Jewell to include specific details about any topic to be discussed at future Committee meetings. Topics should be submitted at least one week prior to the meeting.

Committee Support of Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) Grant Re-establishment

During the 2015-17 State budget cycle there was a provision to eliminate WEEB as of June 30, 2017. By writing a letter to the legislators describing environmental projects that took place due to receiving a WEEB grant, there could be an incentive to re-establish WEEB. Representative Mursau plans on introducing such a bill. The WEEB Board is looking for letters of support from past grant recipients to start up WEEB again. Sadauskas asked the Committee to direct her, if desired, to write a letter in support of it being re-established. Mott encouraged all to call their State representative as well. Sadauskas said they had received two grants in the past related to AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species). The first enabled Land Water Conservation to create an ice fishing education program and the second involved Mellen School District and Rhinelander High School in an AIS program. Van Raalte/Winkler made motion to have Sadauskas compose a letter to present to Committee for re-establishment of this education group. All ayes; motion carried. The Committee will plan on signing it at the next meeting. An Addendum to the motion by Winkler/Van Raalte allows Sadauskas and Committee Chair to sign off sooner, if the due date is earlier than the next committee meeting. If possible, all signatures should be obtained.

Joint Finance Committee (JFC) Budget Meetings

Every budget cycle, the Joint Finance Committee travels the state to hold budget public hearings. Sadauskas would like to attend one of the meetings to support staffing grants. It is estimated that there will be a reduction of \$10,000 in staffing grants per county. An included graph demonstrated how monies have declined over the years. The state share is falling and the county's share is increasing, which will result in a higher cost obligation for Oneida County.

- a. Resolution: Support County Land Conservation Staffing Grants. The resolution was approved by

Corporation Counsel. Mott advised Sadauskas to read the resolution at the hearing. Resolution will need to be signed. Van Raalte/Winkler moved to approve the resolution regarding the necessity for increased funding at the State level for Land and Water, which will then be passed onto the County Board. All ayes; motion carried.

- b. Attendance: Sadauskas will attend the Joint Finance Committee Budget Hearing on April 18 meeting in Spooner. There are meetings on April 19 in Ellsworth, and April 21 in Marinette. If any Committee members can attend please notify Sadauskas. Simac will attend one of the dates and Winkler will attend in Ellsworth on April 19. Jensen/ Mott made motion that if any member wants to attend Joint Finance Committee public budget hearing the Committee will approve payment of the mileage to attend. All ayes; motion carried.

Cost Share Program Update:

- a. James Project Payment Approval: The James Project was the well project that was approved last year and was completed earlier this year. Payment approval is needed from the Committee. The invoice amount of \$2,922.21 was incorrect as there was one more receipt to include. The correct amount they are paying is \$3,879.21. A breakdown of the well project was \$15,565.50, of which NRCS contributed \$7,807.08. The County will cost share at 50%, totaling \$3,879.21.
- b. James Deposit Return Approval: A deposit of \$500.00 will be returned to close out this 2016 project. Van Raalte/Jensen made a motion to approve the Cost Share payment amount of \$3,879.21 for the James Project and to return the \$500 deposit. All ayes; motion approved.

Consent Agenda Items - Land and Water:

Jensen/Van Raalte made motion to approve items a through d as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Simac, Sadauskas, and Jennrich excused.

Consent Agenda Items - UW Extension:

Van Raalte/Winkler made motion to approve items a through d as presented. The April 12 faculty tenure workshop travel requests were cancelled and will be held via Wisline. All ayes; motion carried.

UW Extension Offices Technology Update:

A new HP Pro Desk 600 desktop computer with a Windows 10 O/S was assigned to Lehner. It was loaded with the same Microsoft Office software as the rest of Extension staff has. It replaced the VDI Thin Dell Client. Flint reported that the VDI (virtual data infrastructure) project will be retired due to the many different needs of various departments that could not all be addressed by the two VDI servers, which crashed multiple times. Flint predicts that the communications line through Charter will continue to be a problem. The internet line here at Airport is just a bit better than what people have at home. Alexander has been using the hotspot in his office. There most likely will continue to be some IT challenges with the re-organization and future IT needs.

Flint Excused

UW Extension Air Environment Update:

Mott took the tour with Airport Director, Joe Brauer, who showed all the work that was completed with the Airport basement ventilation system. There was one documented report this past month where fumes were experienced over the weekend. It was during a class that was held Saturday morning. It was asked if Alexander has noticed any fumes related issues and none were noted. The work on the air improvement project is complete.

Fair Planning Committee:

- a. Jim Winkler - Update on the 3/14/17 meeting: Winkler was not able to attend the two previous meetings but has been involved in the reviewing of the original Oneida County Fair ordinance with Brian Desmond and Bill Freudenberg. The ordinance was formed in 2004 and in 2009, and an update in 2011. The

exhibition and education sub-committee duties were listed along with the voting members for the fair. Winkler emailed the Fair Board Committee outlining concerns about what the fair sub-committee should or should not be doing. The ordinance alluded to paid fair board members not having voting right. Clarification is needed whether contracted members, such as Gehrig, and paid LTEs, Seabloom and Silbernagel, should be voting members. More discussion on whether the Fair should become non-profit entity continues. Mike Boyd has a background in this area will speak to the Fair sub-committee next month. A proposal that Fair carryover money be used for a power upgrade, in the exhibit court, was made to install a 60 amp panel. Lighting is needed by the north gate and could be categorized as an improvement on the infrastructure. The City's old street lights might be provided for the Fair who could pay for wiring costs. Tom Peterson clarified that Brian Desmond outlined two things that must be done. One, Winkler, as designee, should be listed as a voting member, and two, Gehrig has an advisory role and is not to be paid as a manager. There are nine members currently voting and it was questioned if the number of voting members should be reduced. There are fifteen members, where a quorum is half plus one, which equals eight voting members. Peterson felt they should keep the fair members as is for this season. Feldman stated that Brian Desmond indicated that the resolution does not have the language in it to designate what the Fair really does. It only address that the sub-committee is to oversee the exhibitions. It does not include anything on amusements, entertainment, nor vendors in the resolution. Desmond said the language would have to be re-written because right now it says the sub-committee members are to be selected from 4-H, scout groups, seniors, or those who have an interest in exhibit court. The only other statement was about the contracted fair coordinator should not vote and Winkler as a designee should vote. There was no mention in it regarding Fair LTE's voting. Desmond said that by-laws may not be necessary and that the Fair sub-committee just needs a Chair. It is the CUW Committee who oversees the Fair. The sub-committee performs the work and CUW oversees it. Desmond is re-writing the ordinance now. The only thing Desmond insists upon for this year is that Gehrig should not be a voting member and that Winkler as a designee should vote. A quorum of eight is required for now. Mott and Peterson feel the Fair should continue as presented for this season. It was agreed that Gehrig should abstain from voting on fiscal items this season and Winkler will vote as an appointed member, until a new set of by-laws is proposed. Mott suggested the Fair and this Committee need to come together on what best serves the Fair.

- b. Trolley use at Art on Courthouse Lawn - Lynn Feldman: The Chamber wanted to borrow the trolley for Art in the Park on June 10. Nicolet College built the trolley for the Fair. It is essentially is the County's trolley. Would the Chamber's insurance cover the use of the trolley? There are plans for a donation box to be placed inside the trolley. Large donation boxes will be promoted at Fair gates.
- c. By Laws update: Bill Freudenberg stated that most of the information was covered above. Brian Desmond continues to work on the by-laws. It was determined that Gehrig will not vote on any fiscal matters.

Oneida County Broadband Update: (Economic Development Project) Roger Luce could not attend today. Mott commented that the Administration Committee received a short report on Broadband in Oneida County. They requested a more detailed report be presented to the County Board. A fiscal report will be covered about broadband for the entire county. Oneida County is known as the model for broadband development right now. Alexander pointed out that since Oneida County is now the model others are following, increased competition and the possibility of a one-time increase in funds, it is important that Oneida County prepare a comprehensive and successful grant proposal this year.

UW-Extension Re-organization Update:

Today a job description for the Extension Area Directors will be going out. It will replace the Department Heads in each county. Applications will be collected in the next two weeks. There will be overlap of the new directors and department heads from June to December of 2017. The two will work together during those months. Mid June is the target date where the Area Directors will be on board to connect with each county on services, budgets, hiring, coordinating staff and their services. Four committees of jurisdiction will continue to convene but there are still too many questions at this time to comment further. Their goal will be to work with the county and the county clusters

to meet their needs, services that they desire, and coordinating the staffs of program areas. Karl Martin informed Mott that they are working hard on how it will ultimately all end up. There will be challenges and hiccups to get through during this process. No programming will be handled by the Area Directors. Their role will be strictly administrative. Richie commented that at the regional conference, it was announced that the fiscal year will change using the January through December timeline. Jensen said that August will be an important month for both county and state budgets to be in sync. Salaries will not be based on a 40/60 model like they are now and will not be a part of the County budget. Counties will contract for a package of Extension services. It could possibly be similar to the CESA model (Cooperative Educational Service Agency) used in Wisconsin.

Participant Data Collection - Lynn Feldman:

Feldman wanted to explain what her data means in her monthly agent report. She presented how she spends her time and how many people she reaches. Meetings are divided up so that she can serve both adults and youth or each separately. Her work is divided between programs, organizations, and groups. For example, the 4-H program can involve meetings for the children in the Club, adults in the 4-H Leader meetings and both during events. There are also organizations such as AODA Coalition, the Oneida County Fair, Partners in Education, and Kids in Need. One other program category is groups such as Diversity Club, Teens Active in Government, and Teen Court. Feldman documents how many unduplicated contacts she makes in meetings and how many new people she contacts. This is a State requirement and it is important to see the total amount of contacts to show how many people she meets with. A record is kept of how many different adults and youth are served each year. The chart displayed showed the number of unduplicated adult contacts, which totals 217 so far this year. Total contacts are 981. Last year she reached about 40% of youth. She would like to spend more time on adults this year. Civil Rights data is recorded on race and ethnicity, youth or adult, and gender. 4-H data records are kept on youth enrollment and adult leaders. Outcome evaluations are created for every event her programs host. Evaluations look for changes in knowledge gained from the programs. They keep track of changes in behaviors and attitudes of the participants, as a result of the programs. Feldman wants to know how the programs make a difference in areas such as depression, risky behaviors and positive education. Teen court mentoring makes a big difference.

Public Comment:

Richie reported seven more referrals from Social Services since working out of her office at the courthouse which she attributes to the proximity of her office at the Courthouse. Winkler commended Myles Alexander for the email he sent out about the State Energy Education funds. He found it very helpful and shared it with the Town of Newbold.

Items to Include on next Agenda: WEEB, JFC Budget, Cost Share updates, UW Re-organization, Fair update, Broadband. Mott requested that WACEC and PILD be put on agenda for the next meeting. Lake District meetings will be put on the agenda once their district minutes are out.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Jensen/Winkler at 3:45 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bob Mott, Committee Chair



Merry J. Lehner, Recording Secretary