

## Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee

February 12, 2018

### Minutes

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

**Others present:** Steve Nelson, Lynn Feldman, Sara Richie, Fred Andrist, Tom Barnett, Keith Kost, Karl Jennrich, Beckie Gaskill, and Merry Lehner.

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

**Approve 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:** Van Raalte/Winkler made a motion to approve the 1/8/18 minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

**Date(s) of future meetings:**

March 12, 2018            1:00 p.m.                    UWEX Conference Room

April 9, 2018            1:00 p.m.                    UWEX Conference Room

**County Fair Report /Update – Jim Winkler.**

a. Long-term commitment discussion-Pioneer Park Fair Location.

Interim City Administrator, Keith Kost, came to speak about Pioneer Park Fair site. Mott reviewed previous correspondence on three points. First, will they use the existing City lease ending in 2019 or second, opt for a new five-year lease beginning in 2020 or go with a 2018-2024 lease. The third point was regarding infrastructure and financial commitment to the Fair. Kost stated that there is no concern over the contract or the years we want listed on the lease. Their concern is over the financial commitment from the County Board that they will continue to support the County Fair. Having just reviewed their budget in the past the City has spent \$27,642 where about \$25,000 was for electrical and water upgrades from 2011-2013. Some of that lighting will be devoted to the south end of the park, where it is needed most. In 2018, the City will spend \$22,000 for lighting upgrades at Pioneer Park. They will retro-fit thirteen former street lights to LED where seven of the lights will have a 20 amp service which will be specifically inside the park. City employees spent another \$2,500 annually on labor and machinery committed to the park.

Mott reviewed an additional letter regarding an admission fee for the Fair. The reasons why city did not want this were reviewed, but \$2,000 in admission fees would be helpful. Tom Barnett, Fair Coordinator feels that the general public feels they have paid in taxes and should not have to pay again to use the park. Barnett has some ideas of how they plan to raise money this year. A commitment for the intent to continue the Fair at the park is requested and the City cannot ask for anything more than this.

The City wishes to keep the Fair in the park. An out option exists in the current use agreement if the County were to purchase a fair grounds, which would still be upheld. The use agreement that reads: the lessee shall have the use of Pioneer Park but there currently is no financial commitment at all. The Fair Committee and the City will update any changes on the lease for their March 6 meeting. It will be brought to the CUW Committee and then it will go to Corporation Counsel. Ultimately, they will see how the County Board accepts the final approval.

b. Winkler Update: By-Laws were reviewed at their last meeting. The Fair By-laws will be taken to Brian Desmond for review. When the Fair reviews a contract, they will forward it to the Oversight Committee for acceptance and then on to Corporation Counsel for stamping and approval. There was existing language regarding "just cause" if a fair member were to be removed. They added non-attendance of a volunteer as an example. It will be reviewed by Corporation Counsel. The Fair president will be more actively involved than in the past. Fred Andrist is processing, appointing, and delegating work teams. Finances are being addressed to shore up the budget process. Tom Barnett has many new program ideas. There are gaps that need to be addressed in overseeing the exhibit court. There will be some restructuring of things by the Coordinator.

### **Consent Agenda Items – Oneida County Fair:**

- a. Monthly Budget Reports for December 2017 and January 2018.
- b. Approve Monthly invoices/purchase orders/vendor contracts.
- c. Line Item Transfers – None

A motion was made to approve the blanket purchase order summary by Van Raalte/Winkler. All ayes; motion carried. A second motion was made by Van Raalte/Jensen to approve monthly invoices for the Fair. All ayes; motion carried.

### **Mid Lake District Report – Bob Mott:**

The District met on January 17 at the Woodruff Town Hall. They discussed updating the lake management plan and about purchasing a new weed cutting machine, which costs around \$200,000. By year end, they will have the funds to purchase it. After that, the mill rate will be reassessed. The lake will be surveyed for weed types. A reoccurring question at the annual meeting is how many votes per property are allowed. Can more than one person, husband and wife for example, vote from the same property? He believes there can be more than one vote per property. Mott would like to see this issue cleaned up on who is qualified to vote.

### **Bear Lake District Report – Robb Jensen:**

Annual meeting was held 9/2/17. They re-wrote their by-laws. They will continue to work on their lake management plan and update their website. Short-term rentals are a concern on property that was formerly a resort. They will have another meeting in April 2018. Weed control remains an issue. The residents are informed of what is going on at their lake. The commissioner's meeting was held on December 9, 2017.

### **Consent Agenda Items – UW Extension:**

- a. Approve out-of-county travel requests as presented.
- b. Approve monthly budget reports
- c. Approve Monthly invoices/purchase orders.
- d. No Line Item Transfers.

Jensen asked if it is necessary for the Committee to approve educator travel, given that the AED has approved them. Steve Nelson is already looking at the reports and the educator's plan of work. Travel is listed in the agent reports. If there is significant travel or if the educator wants to give a quick report to the Committee, Mott would appreciate it. If an educator is away from the county it would be nice to hear a report, but the County code requires approval for county employees. A motion was made by Van Raalte/Ives to approve consent agenda items a, b, and c.

### **\*\*\*Closed Session\*\*\***

The Committee entered closed session at 2:02 p.m. Topic: Educator Employee Performance Reviews. Minutes were taken by Robb Jensen. No action was taken in closed session; there was discussion only. A motion to return to open session was made by Van Raalte/Winkler. Roll call vote. All ayes; motion carried. Committee returned to open session at 2:55 p.m.

### **Office Air Environment:**

There were six reports of fumes made for the month of January. An annual report for 2017 was included as a comparison. There were seven in January 2017. Nelson recommended that LRES receive a copy of the reports since it is not only State educators affected during reported days, but county employees as well. It was noted that fumes are mostly present in hallway, main office and conference rooms. Educator's offices are not affected as much.

### **Support Staff:**

LRES requested the committee review the updated recommendation on support staff percentages. The department support staff requirement is between 60-70 hours. Nelson recommended retaining the LTE staff position over a permanent part-time position and that the other position be changed to full time. Nelson stated that other counties have a full-time support staff position and it works well. The required percentage is 1.6 for Extension support staff and the proposal would be a .58 and 1.0 percentage. By continuing the LTE position, additional wage expenses involved for a permanent part-time position with benefits is eliminated. Mott entertained motion for one full-time staff position and one LTE position. A motion was made by Van Raalte/Ives to accept one full-time and one LTE position for the Extension Support Staff. All ayes; motion approved.

UW Extension staff excused at 3:25 p.m.

#### **Mining 101 Update - Karl Jennrich:**

Jennrich said the Mining 101 educational seminar was a worthwhile session to attend for his staff. A general overview of the deposits in Wisconsin was presented and why the area in our part of the state is so important. It was interesting to see how substantial the Town of Lynn deposit is in relation to other deposits in the state. Larry Konopacki, the Legislative Council for the Assembly, reviewed the law regarding the regulation of non-ferrous metallic mining and answered many questions from the audience. Al Christianson, Ladysmith City Administrator, spoke of the Ladysmith deposit and how there is still a substantial amount of that deposit below grade. He reviewed local agreement, which is a process a local government can enter into with the mining company to negotiate benefits for the community. This will be a topic at the February County Board meeting and it is recommended that outside council should be employed for addressing the mining ordinance and zoning. Mott commended the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Towns Association for sponsoring this event.

#### **Land Water Conservation Department Update:**

- a. Deer donation program: There was an increase in deer donations from 2015 to 2017 where processing doubled. The Land Conservation website highlighted the Deer Donation Program in 2017.
- b. WLWCA Annual Meeting in Lake Geneva: On March 14-16, 2018. Mott will be attending WI Land+Water Annual Conference where Sadauskas and Boismenu will be presenting at a seminar. They will talk about how to discuss concerns with a local County conservationist. Van Raalte/Jensen made a motion to approve the expenses for Mott attending the WLWCA annual meeting along with any other committee members who might attend. All ayes; motion carried.
- c. Grant Recap: A Grant Recap 2017 document was provided. All grants closed out except the Bayer Pollinator grant for 2017 to 2018 where a Line item transfer is included. The Committee was requested to sign a letter of support for the NCWPP. Oneida County is part of a nine-county grant and each county is to send out a Letter of Support for the North Central Wisconsin Pollinator Partnership NCWPP grant to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Committee already approved going forward with the grant, the letter was signed.
- d. Speaking/Poster Contest Wrap up: The 2018 Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Speaking and Poster Contest winners was Kaya Szews from Sugar Camp who made first place in the NCLWCA area speaking contest. She will move on to the state competition in Lake Geneva on March 14. Kyleah Hartman from JWMS was awarded first place in the NCLWCA area poster contest. Her poster will go onto the state competition on March 14 as well. Mott asked that the committee formally recognize the teacher from Sugar Camp who worked closely with the children to participate. The Committee would like to send a letter of appreciation to this particular teacher, perhaps at a county Board meeting.

#### **Consent Agenda Items – Land and Water Conservation:**

- a. Approve out-of-county travel requests as presented.
- b. Approve monthly budget report(s)
- c. Approve Monthly invoices/purchase orders.
- d. Line-Item transfers
  - i. Grant Carryovers
  - ii. Year End LITs.

A motion was made to approve Consent Agenda Items a, b c, and d by Van Raalte/Winker; motion carried.

#### **Wisconsin Land and Water Board Elections:**

A biography of all the candidates was received in advance by the Committee. The option to vote collaboratively was chosen. The three candidates selected were David Solin, Monte Osterman, and Russell Rindsig. A motion was made by Van Raalte/Winkler to forward the said three votes for the Land and Water Conservation Board. All Ayes; motion carried.

Steve Nelson excused 3:30 p.m.

**Public Comment:** Winkler dismayed with the shoreline protection ordinance standards being made less restrictive.

**Items to include on next Agenda:** Cost Share, Mining 101 update from County Board meeting, Grants updates, Fair update after March 6 meeting, including the decision made on the agreement with Interim City Administrator Kost. That final agreement will be included with next CUW information packet and be brought to next meeting for approval to go to Corp Counsel. Alan Van Raalte will replace Winkler (excused) at March 6 Fair meeting and CUW meeting. Extension Annual Report, year-end LITs, Air environment, Support staff update, and Broadband.

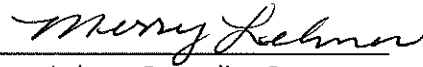
**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Jensen/Winkler at 3:50 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Bob Mott Committee Chair



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Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary