

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee

July 9, 2018

Minutes

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

Others present: Steve Nelson, Karly Johnson, Sara Richie, Michele Sadauskas, Karl Jennrich, Stephanie Boismenuue, Fred Andrist, Tom Barnett, Krystal Westphal, Stacey Johnson, Matthew Leitner, and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. noting it was properly posted. 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: Jansen/Van Raalte made a motion to approve the 6/11/18 minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) of future meetings:

August 13, 2018	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room
September 10, 2018	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room

Introduction of OCEDC Executive Director, Stacey Johnson

Johnson's background is in Finance. Her specialty is in business and international business development. She came to Wisconsin seven years ago from Florida to work with banks in Wisconsin affected by the financial crash at that time. Her short term stay turned into being a full time resident of Wisconsin. Johnson is committed to work with the community and economic development projects, and the funding of non-profit organizations. She recognizes the need to keep the Northwoods a viable place to live, considering the aging population and a decline in high school populations. The final grant for broadband will be out in two weeks. The broadband committee will continue to be a resource for other communities. Fab lab, education, and workforce development are Johnson's main focal point. With help from the federal sector of workforce development, they will be able to collaborate in addressing 200 to 300 jobs vacancies in the County. She appreciates the collaboration of UW-Extension to accomplish goals we all have in common. Please reach out to her with any questions; she is available at the office or by cell phone.

Introduction of Airport Manager, Matthew Leitner

Matt is a native of Rhinelander and grew up in Newbold. He is a life-long aviation aficionado who used to ride his bike out to Rhinelander Flying Service where he worked and learned to fly. He moved to Atlanta where he completed college and grad school and then worked with Delta Airlines where he ultimately was in Flight Operations Safety. He was an airport director at two other commercial service airports. He is grateful to be back and embraces the high quality of life in the area. The Airport has good infrastructure and economic potential. He would like to see more community involvement and outreach to youth. Enhancing the commercial airline services is his goal. There is currently a pilot shortage and resources are limited. The current size airplane, the CRJ200, servicing the airport could be larger. Leitner is asking for bigger planes and more flights for the airport.

Excused: Leitner 1:20

LWCD Update

- a. AIS Report – Stephanie Boismenuue: Two LTE's will work with the AIS program all summer, another will leave us next week and a fourth will start then, and work through the end of summer. Aubrey Nycz, a Stevens Point student, is the AIS Lead Program Assistant, and returns for her third year. Thomas Boisvert, project assistant, returns for his second year and starts next week and will continue through the end of the summer. Vanessa Niemczyk, from Eagle River started in late Spring and will be completing her duties next week. She and Tom are splitting a position this summer. A Rhinelander native, Jody Partin, will start next week and continue through the end of the summer. All have completed the aquatic identification class. This Spring, the LTE's have reached over 1,000 students through school programs and

field trips. Identification of invasive species, their removal, and assisting two homeowners, have been completed by the LTE's. One focus this year is the Purple Loosestrife beetle-rearing project, a bio control program. AIS continues to promote Clean Boats Clean Waters and citizen science projects. A new, non-native phragmites site was reported by a Rhinelander Flowage resident. Updates are pending.

- b. **Pollinator and Garden Grants:** All four gardens are now complete from the Bayer grant received last year. A slide presentation was given. The Healing Gardens at the Teaching Drum outdoor classroom was completed in the fall, 2017. Baerbel Ehrig just had grand opening of Healing Garden Nature Center last weekend. The next garden was planted June 2018 at the Historical Society in Three Lakes. The third garden at the Center for the Arts in Three Lakes went in late June of this year. The fourth site is at the Oneida Courthouse garden on east side of the building. The sod was removed last November and the rest of the work was just completed. Buildings and Grounds worked extensively in putting together the garden with much labor involved. Brent Hansen worked on the pervious path in the garden. The WPS foundation assisted with the grant for the pathway. There will be an interpretive sign at each garden site.

NCLWCA Land Conservation Committee Training Opportunity

On Tuesday, July 24 a seminar about the roles and responsibilities of the Land Conservation Committees will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Lincoln County Service Center, in County Board Room 256 in Merrill. Mott will attend. Jensen/Mott made a motion to cover mileage and dinner expenses for committee members attending. All ayes; motion carried.

Mining Update – Karl Jennrich

Ordinance 9.61 passed by majority vote by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors. The Planning and Development Committee wanted to revisit it on July 17. They will possibly talk about retaining outside counsel about any concerns. Now that is has been passed, if there are any concerns that anyone wants to be re-addressed, please re-submit to Jennrich. Public inquiries are forwarded to Scott Holowinski in the Planning and Development Committee. Stacy Johnson stated that public forums will be held by Myles Alexander and her as an educational outreach for the community. They will gather professionals to answer questions from public in this community.

Consent Agenda Items – Land and Water Conservation:

- a. Approve out-of-county travel requests: Sadauskas.
- b. Approve monthly budget report(s)
- c. Approve Monthly invoices/purchase orders.
- d. Line item transfers-WPS Grant

A motion was made by Jensen/Winkler to accept items a through d as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Excused: Boismenu at 1:50 p.m. Sadauskas and Jennrich at 2:00 p.m.

County Fair Report / Update- Jim Winkler

The Fair meeting of July 3 reviewed details on timelines, deadlines and things that still need to happen. The two Fourth of July parades were successful and Winkler distributed promotional materials to on-lookers. Barnett announced events in carnival fashion from the Fair Truck to promote fair attendance. Fred Andrist reported many positive comments about the upcoming Fair. Some updates to the layout of the Fair were made. New and different presentations and entertainment events will be featured at the Fair every day. More food vendors will offer a wider variety of food, such as corn dogs, Mexican food and drinks. A hard rock band is scheduled per the request of younger fair goers. Sunday is family fun day. Barnett invited Krystal Westphal, with Oneida County Tourism Council, to the meeting to promote the involvement of the Minocqua area. Westphal is offering the help of OCTC for the Fair. They would like to market the Fair much more than in the past. The next step is to help promote and find earned media. The other focus is how to fund the fair in the future. They will put a marketing plan together for next year on the ideal fair for the future. A good plan needs to be in place to address options for the future. If money for the Fair is continued to be retracted by the County, the Fair must have a plan. There are some barriers that have existed that need to be broken down and Westphal wants to help in this effort. A new Fair committee member will be coming forward. There are eight members on the Fair Committee and have been as many as 15 in the past. There are two levels of involvement; those who attend meetings to plan and those putting in volunteer hours.

Consent Agenda Items – Oneida County Fair:

- a. Monthly Budget Report –June 2018
- b. Approve Monthly invoices/purchase orders/vendor contracts

A motion was made by Jansen/Van Raalte to accept consent agenda items a and b as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Excused: Johnson, Westphal, Barnett, and Andrist 2:20 p.m.

Consent Agenda Items – UW Extension:

- a. Approve monthly budget reports – June 2018
- b. Approve Monthly invoices/purchase orders.

Van Raalte/Winkler moved to accept the monthly budget report and monthly expenses as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Teen Court coordinator/contract:

Steve Nelson said the position was advertised in The River News. Updates were made to the contract with requested changes and were forwarded to Corporate Counsel. One response was received, Lynn Feldman, who will need to sign the contract, along with the Committee Chair signature, and then on the County Board of Supervisors. The deadline on the application was July 3 and a starting date could be soon, once the contract is signed. The position will have to be reviewed again before the end of the year, to continue into 2019. There is concern over whether the teen court position will be covered under the new contracted positions of Community Youth Development and Wisconsin 4-H with the State, as they are now two separate positions. Teen Court might not be covered under the State as a flagship account. The County has requested that Teen Court be considered as an approved activity by this County. Nelson reviewed the math for how many positions there will be for each county. There are 220 positions in the State. If you subtract the positions from Milwaukee and Dane Counties as well as five other high populated counties and the Tribes, that leaves 2.27 educators for each of the rural counties. It is a funding problem. Teen Court was part of UW-Extension for this County but will no longer be funded by the State. The Committee discussed if other entities could fund Teen Court. It does not have to be run by the government. Boys and Girls Club or other organizations could be a sponsor. We have August through October to decide for the 2019 budget. Van Raalte suggested a private contract for 2019. The Committee asked how much Extension can fund to Teen Court. The committee will check how other counties fund teen court. A motion was made to have Lynn Feldman serve as the Teen Court Coordinator for the remainder of the year. All ayes; motion carried.

4-H Position update:

Nelson stated they will be reviewing a pool of applicants on Wednesday, July 11. There were 12 applications. Interviews will be on July 31 and Nelson will send out an email on the location and time. It most likely will be in Price County courthouse. There are about 40 positions that cannot be filled. Only 220 positions can be funded. There has not been any political activity against the cuts but now that Extension is part of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, there may be an opportunity for possible changes. There is an excitement on campus for Extension resources to be shared. Intergenerational communication will influence the future of Extension as well. Extension will continue the \$10,000 discount again for 2019 but will most likely not be there for 2020.

Capital Improvements:

Options were presented for the replacement of the tables and chairs for conference room. Money, has in the past, been allotted to make provisions to help departments cover projects and replacements. It was requested to compile an estimate and list of options to Buildings and Grounds. Rod Olson from EBI Emmons Business Interiors provided an estimate. There were several suggestions on the types of chairs and tables which will be forwarded to Luann Brunette in Buildings and Grounds for her input on the best choices. An update will be given at the next meeting.

Agent Report:

Sara Richie will be returning July 31, 2018 on a part-time basis until her maternity leave is up. Karly Johnson announced her married name is now Karly Harrison. Harrison conducted an adult food preparation class. There was a nutrition lesson and then they prepared chicken tacos. The Rhinelander area Food Pantry will open their kitchen and they plan on presenting four adult nutrition classes. Those who qualify for the Foodshare program can participate. Erin Aagesen, with the State, partnered with the farmers markets and will have a letter and marketing materials sent on how to use EBT cards. An advertiser on the Facebook news feed how will have to explain how use quest cards at the Hodag Farmer's Market.

Office Air Environment: No further reports in June.

Public Comment: None

Items to include on next Agenda: Act 134 Mining and Oneida County Ordinance amendment, Cost Share, LWCD update. Extension Teen Court and 4-H positions update, Staffing Level for 2019, Conference Room Furniture, Air environment. Nokomis Lake District report. Bear Lake minutes.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Jensen/Ives at 3:40 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bob Mott



Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary