

Agriculture & Extension Education/Land & Water Conservation Committee
March 14, 2011
Minutes

Committee members present: Romelle Vandervest, Carol Pederson, Greg Berard and Bob Evsich. Absent: Tom Rudolph and Paul Dean (excused).

Others present: Susan Hunter, Dan Kuzlik, Erica Brewster, Nancy Hollands, Jean Hansen, Jim Winkler, Kari Lazars, Tina Werres, Jim Kumbera and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by Vice Chairman Vandervest, noting the meeting has been properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Pederson/Berard to approve the agenda for today's meeting with the order of items at discretion of the Chair. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Evsich/Pederson to approve the minutes of February 14, 2011 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Dates of future meetings:

April 11, 2011	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
May 9, 2011	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Agency reports:

FSA: Hunter reviewed written report in detail and provided copies of most recent newsletter.

OCEDC: Kumbera noted the OCEDC Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, April 29, 2011 at Holiday Acres. The Speedee Delivery facility is now open. The Finance Committee approved the final loan to ABX and project is well underway. Rhinelander is doing better than other portions of state due to tourism and manufacturing viewpoints which continue to expand. Eight percent of the labor force (mainly manufacturing) brings in \$64 million in salaries. Discussion followed regarding qualifications and training for manufacturing jobs.

WLWCA: Hollands provided current newsletter.

RC&D: Hollands reported the next meeting is scheduled for 4/28/11. Federal budget has targeted RC&D for cuts and thought a letter of support may be in order. Ison will email Rudolph regarding this issue.

Monthly staff reports: Written reports were provided and staff provided highlights. Brewster, Kuzlik, Diane Jacobson and Gary Apple will speak about current Oneida County demographics on WXPB on 3/16/11 at 6 p.m. She has started a blog website where she will be posting programming information and highlight the 211 service.

Hansen provided handout listing terrestrial invasive species with photos specific to Oneida and Vilas Counties.

Lazers is finalizing the Adopt-A-Backpack project and recruiting donations for next school year. Leadership Oneida County participants have chosen the Adopt-A-Backpack for their project and are making flyers, have developed a Facebook page, and have linked to the RAFP website. It costs \$160 to sponsor a backpack for an entire school year; however, smaller donations are welcome. The Cantastic event will be held on 4/16/11 at the Trig's Riverwalk Centre -- judging is at noon with an additional two weeks for public voting. The theme is "Don't Toy with Hunger". There are currently four groups signed up to participate.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Brewster:

3/9-11/11	UWEX County Leadership Conference	Stevens Point**
4/5/11	Dept. of Family Development meeting	Stevens Point**

Hansen:

TBD	Meet with staff re: native vegetation list	Vilas County*
3/21/11	2011 DATCP training	Wausau*
4/4/11	NR115 Forum	Wausau*

Hollands:

3/31-4/1/11	County Conservationist meeting	Stevens Point*
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Kuzlik:

4/6-8/11	International Council of Shopping Centers	Milwaukee***
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Winkler:

3/25-26/11	State Shooting Sports training	Lodi**
4/5-7/11	JCEP	Stevens Point*
4/28-29/11	Teen Court training	St. Germain*
4/28-29/11	Statewide Shooting Sports training	Phillips**

Committee:

4/12-14/11	WI Lakes Conference	Green Bay*
4/14/11	Sustainable Forestry Conference	Florence*

*county expense
**district/state expense
***other expense

Motion by Berard/Pederson to approve the out-of-county travel requests as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair update: Werres noted the vendor contract with the Rhinelander Area Chamber of Commerce fell through due to the transition happening at RACC. She is a Leadership

Oneida County participant and chose to develop a community volunteer database as her community service project and solicited volunteers through the Hall of Opportunities at the recent Home Show. This database will be accessed when seeking volunteers for various Fair projects.

Fair contracts: The KM Amusements (carnival) two-year contract was provided for review. It is similar to last year's contract and has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel. Motion by Evsich/Berard to approve the KM Amusements contract as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

AIS Coordinator/4-H Secretary vacancies: Kuzlik met with County Coordinator, John Potters regarding both vacancies. Committee was provided copies of the vacancy review analysis and written recommendation for each position. Potters recommended that each position be filled with a 600-hour LTE and attempt to refill each position it after those hours are exhausted. Hollands expressed concern regarding the grant match for the 2011 AIS grant. Kuzlik noted the County could fulfill the match by using salary or actual cash. Filling the positions with LTEs would also be timelier as advertising can begin upon LRES approval instead of waiting for the full six-month vacancy period to end. Discussion followed. Motion by Evsich/Pederson to approve the recommendations that the AIS Coordinator and 4-H Secretary vacancies be filled as 600-hour LTEs and forward to the LRES for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly budget reports: Motion by Berard/Evsich to approve the UWEX monthly budget report for period ending 2/28/11. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands reviewed the LWC budget in detail. Motion by Pederson/Berard to approve the LWC monthly budget reports for the periods ending 12/31/10 (Close 2-report) and 2/28/11. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Berard/Evsich to approve the UWEX invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Evsich/Pederson to approve the Oneida County Fair invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Evsich/Berard to approve the LWC invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Line item transfers: Hollands requested a line item transfer (\$12,996.00) for the AIS program to carryover of 2010 grants funds to the 2011 budget yet. Motion by Evsich/Pederson to approve the line item transfer as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

County Cost Share program update: Hansen has been working on a prescribed grazing plan (rotational grazing) with a landowner as the NRCS deadline has passed.

Hansen would like to present at a future committee meeting regarding eligible cost share projects.

Lake Nokomis proposed Lake District: The resolution regarding the petition for the Lake Nokomis proposed Lake District will be discussed at the March 15, 2011 County Board meeting. Kuzlik noted staff met last week to prepare for the County Board meeting. Committee members noted they have been receiving letters and phone calls in opposition to the proposed Lake District. Discussion followed.

Soil & Water Stewardship Week: Hollands noted the National Association of Conservation Districts designate one week each year at Soil and Water Stewardship Week. It is usually the last Sunday in April through first Sunday in May. In the past LWC has ordered church bulletin inserts and bookmarks to help promote the event, and Hollands asked for authorization to make these purchases for 2011. Motion by Berard/Pederson to approve the purchase of inserts and bookmarks promoting soil and water stewardship. All ayes; motion carried.

LWRM Plan update: Hollands reported the Technical Committee includes representation from Forestry, Zoning, LWC, Solid Waste, FSA and NRCS. A meeting was held last week to start review of work plan items. She is still working to fill the Citizens Advisory Committee slots. Hollands noted a draft of the plan should be submitted to DATCP in August in order to meet the October deadline. A LWRM plan is required in order to receive DATCP funding.

Public comment: None.

Next agenda: Lake Nokomis Lake District, Fair Committee applicants, Fair contracts.

Adjournment: Motion by Berard/Evsich at 2:40 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Romelle Vandervest, Vice Chair