

Agriculture & Extension Education/Land & Water Conservation Committee
September 12, 2011
Minutes

Committee members present: Chair Tom Rudolph, Greg Berard, Paul Dean, Bob Evsich, Carol Pederson and Romelle Vandervest.

Others present: Dan Kuzlik, Michele Sadauskas, Erica Brewster, Jenny Sadak, Jean Hansen, Jim Winkler, Susan Hunter, Kari Lazars, Jim Kumbera, Roger Luce and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: Chairman Rudolph called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. noting the meeting has been properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible.

Approve agenda: Motion by Dean/Vandervest to approve the agenda for today with the order of items at the discretion of the Chair. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve minutes of 8/15/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried. Motion by Evsich/Vandervest to approve the minutes of 8/8/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Dates of future meetings:

10/10/11	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
11/14/11	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Monthly staff reports: Brewster is working with NATH to host a poverty simulation to kickoff National Homelessness and Hunger Awareness Week (11/12-20/11). The event is tentatively scheduled for 11/12/11 and will be held at the YMCA beginning at 2 p.m. Additional information is forthcoming.

Lazars noted five food pantries in the Antigo area plan to consolidate to help with funding and volunteer issues.

Winkler noted there were 11 Teen Court cases last month.

Hansen provided written report and noted she will be in the field with cost-share projects this fall.

Sadauskas provided written report noting the AIS Awards Banquet was well attended. She is currently working with libraries to provide an AIS link on their websites. She is utilizing Facebook to provide updates to reach a different audience. She also hopes to do programming in the schools this fall. Jenny Sadak's (AIS LTE) employment term ends 9/19/11.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Brewster:

9/21-23/11	WI Leadership Academy	West Bend**
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Hansen:

TBD	Cost share program meeting	Vilas County*
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Kuzlik:

9/14/11	Grow North general membership meeting	Tomahawk*
9/15-16/11	Regional RC&D meeting	Stevens Point*
9/17-19/11	Rural Economic Development Conference	Philadelphia, PA**
10/6-7/11	County Conservationist Fall Conference	Stevens Point*

Sadauskas

10/13/11	Vilas County AIS partnership meeting	Boulder Junction*
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Winkler:

10/4/11	Healthy Choice workshop	Stevens Point*
10/17-18/11	ND In-service	TBD*
10/27/11	District Speaking Contest	Wausau*
TBD	Teen Court sanction presentations @ schools	Vilas County*

Committee:

9/14-16/11	RC&D Regional Conference	Stevens Point*
10/6-7/11	Fall Conservationist meeting	Stevens Point*
10/27/11	District Speaker/Poster Fall Conference	Wausau*
11/5/11	State Speaking Contest	Waupaca*
12/8-9/11	WLWCA Annual Conference	Wisconsin Dells*

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

Introduce new OCEDC director: Rudolph reminded Committee members that Jim Kumbera will retire at the end of September and introduced the new OCEDC Director, Roger Luce. Roundtable introductions were held. Luce worked with the Marathon County Economic Development program for the last 14 years and also as Director of the Wausau Chamber for the past 11 years. He noted that the importance of Extension's role in economic development is evident and plans to work closely with Kuzlik. Discussion followed. Luce noted expansion and retention are priorities and one of his goals is to grow OCEDC fiscally so that more promotion can be done so that a multi-county revolving loan program may be developed and used to seek alternative funding sources. Luce has been appointed Chair of Northwood's Rail Coalition.

Agency reports:

Lake Districts: Berard noted the Bear Lake Association met Labor Day weekend with plans to stock bigger fish. Tax levy remained the same.

Rudolph noted the Horsehead Lake annual meeting was held in August and there will be a slight increase in the levy to be used for weed harvesting. The group is also looking into stocking bass. The aeration system has been updated and is ready for winter.

Hunter provided written report and reviewed in detail. She highlighted upcoming deadlines for several assistance programs.

LWCB: Rudolph noted the Oneida County Land and Water Resource Management Plant (LWRM) will be presented at the next meeting on 10/4/11.

WLWCA: Rudolph reported work continues on the merger with WLWCE. Bylaws are finished and will be presented at the area meetings over the next few months. The merger plan will be presented for adoption at the Annual Conference 12/8-9/11 in Wisconsin Dells and will also be presented to WLWCE after the first of the year.

RC&D: Rudolph noted the North Central Area RC&D Conference will be held 9/14-16/11 in Stevens Point. The local RC&D is in charge of hospitality at the conference.

Update on 2012 staffing requests: Kuzlik submitted the following 2012 staffing requests at the August 24 LRES meeting: AIS Coordinator (100%), 3-AIS LTEs (600 hours each – DNR grant funded), Fair Coordinator (400 hours), Fair Secretary (400 hours) and Summer Horticulture Assistant (280 hours). He also presented the Agents 133 contract for the period 7/1/11-6/30/12 with the understanding that Kuzlik would be 50% county conservationist. There were many questions but in the end all requests were approved by the LRES Committee. Discussion followed.

Fair update: Kuzlik noted wrap up of the 2011 fair continues, noting it was a successful event. Invoices are still coming in and Ison plans to meet with the Finance Director regarding the accounting.

Monthly budget reports: Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the UWEX monthly budget report for the period ending 8/31/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the LWC monthly budget reports for the period ending 8/31/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

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

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

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

Approve 2012 Budgets: Kuzlik reviewed the 2012 proposed UWEX budget noting most of the UWEX budget is salary/fringes. He reminded the Committee that once the department is moved to the Courthouse there is a potential rent savings of approximately \$40,000. Due to the construction timeframe the move will happen sometime in 2012 instead of this year. There is also a potential savings to the county with 50% of the County Conservationist position being absorbed by CNRED agent. Discussion followed. Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve the UWEX 2012 budget as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Kuzlik reviewed the 2012 proposed LWC budget noting DATCP has not provided the preliminary staffing grant allocation for 2012 at this time. Early indications are there may be a slight

reduction in funding. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the 2012 budget for LWC as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Kuzlik reviewed the 2012 proposed budget for the Oneida County Fair noting the request is reduced to \$15,000. Motion by Berard/Evsich to approve the 2012 budget for the Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

County cost share program update/approval: Hansen noted she will have low cost estimates for projects in the next few months. Several projects have been completed and payments approved.

LWRM plan: A final draft of the LRWM plan was circulated and Hansen noted 20 copies have been sent to LWCB and DATCP for review. Copies of the final plan will be posted on the website and also provided to Committee members if desired. A resolution will be drafted for the next meeting to send to County Board approval in October. The executive summary and work plan will accompany the resolution which will be provided to County Board supervisors for their review.

Update on conservation speaking and poster contest: The event will be held on 10/20/11 at 7 p.m. in the County Board Room at the Courthouse. The theme is "Forest for People: More Than You Can Imagine." Packets will be provided to the schools and past participants this week and trophies have been ordered. Judges for the speaking contest include Adam Grassow, Bart Sexton and Jim Winkler. Posters will be judged by Jean Hansen and Tom Melnarik. Kuzlik contacted the Community Education Director to help promote the contest. Rudolph requested Committee members attend the event to support the youth as they are the future of land conservation.

Public comment/communications: None.

Items for next agenda: LWRM plan resolution and Lake Nokomis Lake District appeal.

Adjournment: Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair