

**Agriculture & Extension Education/Land & Water Conservation Committee**  
**September 13, 2010**  
**Minutes**

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

**Others present:** Dan Kuzlik, Lawrence Eslinger, Nancy Hollands, Jean Hansen, Jim Tharman, Jim Winkler, Kari Lazars, Erica Brewster, Tina Werres, Norris Ross, Melanie Ostermann, Michael Stinebrink and Kerri Ison.

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

**Approve agenda:** Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve agenda as presented with permission to change the order of the day at the discretion of the Chair. All ayes; motion carried. Rudolph noted the agenda is lengthy and urged everyone to stay on topic.

**Approve minutes:** Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the minutes of August 9, 2010 with noted corrections on Page 1. All ayes; motion carried.

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

October 11, 2010	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
November 8, 2010	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
December 13, 2010	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

**Wildlife Damage Deer Fence Proposal:** Tharman noted after a site visit by the head of the review committee some adjustments are needed. He hopes to have a proposal ready for approval at the next meeting.

**Deer donation program/budget amendment:** Hollands noted Oneida County has participated in the deer donation program since its inception. Tharman noted TJ's and the Lake Tomahawk Meat Market participate in the deer donation program by processing venison for donation to various food pantries. Budget amendment consists of an increase of \$3,025 to \$8,778 for 2010. This is a 100% reimbursement program through DNR and no county dollars are required. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the deer donation program with budget amendment. All ayes; motion carried.

**OCLRA Proposed Shoreland Resources Advisory Committee amended resolution:**

Copies were provided in packets -- it has been approved by Corporation Counsel. Norris Ross gave a brief overview of OCLRA and noted the Planning and Zoning Department will be dealing with ordinance changes at this week's meeting. Berard indicated he is not against the resolution but voiced concerns about overstepping our bounds and the amount of time/energy spent on ordinance amendments that can be changed again in the future. Discussion followed. Ross believes we all need to be watchdogs to protect our water resources. Pederson spoke with a medical provider from Barron County and noted he could not believe what restrictions are in place there compared to what is in place in Oneida County. Kuzlik noted the Advisory Committee is a citizen group wishing to assist with the legwork, and bring information back to

this committee to be forwarded to Planning and Zoning. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to accept the resolution and forward to County Board for approval. Ayes: Rudolph, Pederson, Vandervest, Evsich. Nays: Berard.

**Approve budgets for 2011:**

LWCD: Hollands reviewed the proposed 2011 budget in detail. Departments were asked to reduce non-personnel budgets by 5%; however, she did not make that reduction due to increased revenues which will more than cover the requested reduction. Motion by Pederson/Berard to approve the LWCD budget as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands noted the Typist II position (63%) has been vacant for over one year. LRES put the position on hold until the departments merged but the position was not included in the Land & Water Conservation budget for 2011. Hollands would like this position reinstated and asked that this vacancy be brought up at the finance hearings. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to authorize request to the Finance Committee to reinstate the Typist II position in the 2011 budget. All ayes; motion carried.

Wildlife Damage program: Hollands reviewed the USDA budget proposed for 2011 with revenues and expenses equaling each other. She did not reduce budget as it is a 100% reimbursable program. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the Wildlife Damage Program budget as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

AIS program: Hollands reviewed the proposed 2011 budget incorporating figures from grant submitted on August 1, 2010. County pays for salary, fringes and overtime for the AIS Coordinator with the grant covering operational costs and LTE salaries. Hollands noted the budget was not reduced since it is grant funded except for salaries. Motion by Pederson/Vandervest to approve the AIS budget for 2011 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

UWEX: Kuzlik presented a budget with a 5% decrease in operational costs noting postage and printing costs have been reduced by using technology such as email and website postings. Agents are still mandated to take eight furlough days for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the UWEX budget for 2011 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Oneida County Fair: Kuzlik noted the county budget allocation was increased in 2009 to \$25,000 with the understanding that a portion of that funding would be used to hire a Fair Manager. The 2011 budget request includes a \$5,000 decrease -- requesting \$20,000 in county funding for 2011. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the fair budget for 2011 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly budget reports:

UWEX: Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the monthly budget reports for the periods ending 7/31/10 and 8/31/10 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

LWCD: Hollands noted one correction and has spoken to Finance to make the appropriate journal entry. Motion by Pederson/Evsich to approve the monthly budget report for LWCD for the period ending 8/31/10. All ayes; motion carried.

**Monthly invoices:**

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

Oneida County Fair: Discussion followed regarding invoices. It was noted that county policy reimbursement of personal cell phone use is 9 cents per minute. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

LWCD: Hollands reviewed list of invoices in detail. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the LWCD invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Agents 133 contract:** Kuzlik noted he initially met with the LRES Committee for approval of the Agents 133 contract on 8/25/10. At that time LRES asked for additional information regarding plans of work, daily duties, etc. He met with them again on 9/7/10 and the contracts were approved. Kuzlik thanked Rudolph, Vandervest, Pederson for attending and lending support. Rudolph requested the date of budget hearing be given to Committee members so that they may attend if desired as he believes similar questions will be raised at that time.

**AIS program accomplishments:** Eslinger circulated a list of program accomplishments for 2010 and highlighted some of the projects. He will be presenting this information at the September County Board meeting.

**Update on 2011 AIS grant:** After receiving Oneida County's AIS grant application, Kevin Gauthier, DNR Watershed Management Team Leader, contacted Eslinger to discuss items to help strengthen the application and to bring the budget in line with regulations. Eslinger provided copies of revised project budget with each objective and noted the grant was resubmitted with revisions.

**Amended AIS Resolution for DNR -- AIS August 1 Grant:** Copies of resolution with changes made to line 28, 43, and an updated fiscal impact statement were provided in packets for review. Discussion followed. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the amended AIS resolution for the DNR AIS August 1st grant as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**County cost-share program update/approval:** Hansen reported there are currently eight projects underway. Discussion followed. Hollands is currently surveying north central counties for funding availability.

**Oneida County speaking/poster contest:** Hollands noted the speaking contest is scheduled for 10/21/10 at 7 p.m. and will be held in the County Board room. Winning posters will also be displayed. Information has been sent to all schools in the county and a press release has been printed in the Rhinelander Daily News. Rudolph requested this be posted as a committee meeting so all committee members may attend.

**Ordinance Amendment designating our Committee to handle all Lake District applications:** A copy of the ordinance amendment, drafted by Brian Desmond (Corporation Counsel) was provided in committee packets. Discussion followed. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the ordinance amendment designating the Agriculture and Extension Education/Land and Water Conservation Committee as the committee of jurisdiction to process Lake District petitions. All ayes; motion carried.

**Proposed Lake Nokomis Lake District:** Hollands reported Mike Romportl has been contacted by the Lake Nokomis group regarding the formation of the Lake Nokomis Lake District and believes a petition will be submitted in September. A hearing must be held within 30 days of request. She noted space issues arose last time at the Nokomis Town Hall so use of the Tomahawk High School is being considered for the public hearing. After the hearing, staff must review paperwork within 90 days and provide a report to county board. County Board then has six months to make a decision. Hollands feels additional office support will be needed to complete the process in a timely manner and may request additional LTE hours.

**Oneida County Fair update:** Werres introduced Fair Secretary, Melanie Ostermann and provided brief handout of 2010 fair facts and reviewed in detail. She noted attendance was 17,500 – an increase of 4,000 from 2009. Visitors came from 33 states and two countries. 750 exhibits were displayed by 107 exhibitors with a premium payout of \$1,546. Werres noted her dismay of being reimbursed only a small portion of cell phone calls as she used her personal phone during the fair. Kuzlik noted reimbursement rate is set by county at 9 cents per minute.

Bob Evsich spoke with some people who felt the fair was very nice and thought it was much improved. Committee voiced their appreciation for the efforts of the Committee and Werres.

Werres noted Oneida County is hosting the October 6th District 1 Fair meeting at the Northwoods Golf Course.

**Monthly staff reports:** Monthly reports were provided in committee packets.

Eslinger highlighted the 8/21/10 AIS awards ceremony recognizing lake groups and volunteers in the county. He noted a survey was done on Katharine Lake to determine if Eurasian water milfoil was present after a sample was found on a pier in the lake. After surveying, no other samples were found.

Hollands noted she was out on sick time for the last two meetings.

Hansen has been working with WHIP noting eight agencies signed the MOU. Vilas County agreed to sign MOU, but their Corporation Counsel did not recommend approval because language was not satisfactory. The Vilas County Board unanimously approved it anyway. Hansen provided field guides for terrestrial invasive species. She also brought a sample of Japanese knotweed noting it typically spreads by the roots and it will come back if cut. One year's growth can be 10' tall. Please contact Hansen if any is found as she is mapping locations throughout the county.

Kuzlik noted UWEX is sharing an intern from Nicolet College with LRES. Anna Marie Gauthier already has a degree in childcare but is seeking an Administrative Assistant degree.

Lazers reported 50 applications were received for the full-time WNEP educator position. Plans are to interview 11 applicants with interviews completed by 9/22/10 to have person on board by mid-October. This position will be located in Oneida County but will share teaching duties in Langlade County.

Brewster reminded Committee the Pathways to Prosperity forum is from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. on 9/24/10 at the Nicolet College LRC. Registration is free. Morning program will consist of a keynote speaker and panelists and will use a portion of the Oneida County Conversations DVD. Afternoon will be roundtable discussion. Rudolph encouraged committee members to attend.

Winkler noted there weren't any Teen Court cases in August but have 10 cases coming up in September in Rhinelander with a variety of violations.

**Out-of-county travel requests:**

Brewster:

9/14/10	Faculty Tenure Workshop	Stevens Point**
9/20/10	Joint AODA Coalition meeting	St. Germain*
9/23/10	Leadership Oneida County	Treehaven*
9/28/10	Family Living Northern District meeting	Phillips*
9/29/10	PACE/Multi-cultural Awareness training	Madison**

Kuzlik:

9/22/10	Leadership Oneida County	Treehaven*
9/29/10	International Council of Shopping Centers	Green Bay**
10/5/10	Wisconsin DPI Conference	Appleton**

Winkler:

9/25/-26/10	Statewide Shooting Sports training	Stevens Point*
TBD	Meeting with Judge	Eagle River*

\*county expense

\*\*district/state/other expense

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

**Agency reports:**

Lake Districts: Greg Berard reported the Bear Lake annual meeting last Saturday was well attended. They reduced the levy, approved a resolution to make boundaries square, and discussed an issue about an old resort wanting to sell off as condos. This issue has been sent to the District Court of Appeals and will be resolved within three months. There was also discussion held about the town putting in a pier at the boat landing; the issue was not approved.

Evsich attended the Thunder Lake picnic on 8/28/10 and has some concerns to pass on to LWCD. He reported there are about 50 members but only 15-20 are active. Plans include the purchase of materials for an aerator. Lake is up significantly.

Rudolph reported the Horsehead Lake annual meeting was held on 8/14/10. A fish survey conducted indicated the lake is heavily populated with smaller forage fish, finding one largemouth bass. The levy was reduced a little. Weed harvesting was done again this year but noted weeds were less prominent than in past years.

FSA: Evsich reviewed written report and noted money has been allocated for some disaster programs for winter wheat. The next FSA meeting is 9/14/10 at 9:30 a.m. at USDA Service Center.

NRCS: Michael Stinebrink, District Conservationist, is still fulfilling duties in Lincoln and Langlade Counties. A local workgroup meeting is scheduled for 9/27/10 at 10 a.m. at the USDA Service Center to set the ranking system for deciding primary conservation programs for cropland and pastureland dollar allocations. Stinebrink believes programs are not fully understood so people don't apply for funding. Conservation stewardship program deadline is 10/29/10 which may be extended. Environmental quality incentive program awards \$15 million statewide. The deadline is in January and over 300 projects qualify. Hollands will attend the meeting on 9/27/10.

LWCB: Rudolph noted an officers conference call was held on 9/1/10 to review a resolution to be presented to legislature regarding staffing grants in the future and to develop an agenda for October LWCB meeting.

WLWCA: Rudolph reported the annual conference is scheduled for 12/9-10/10 in Wisconsin Dells. Registration deadline is 11/5/10. Committee members interested in attending should contact Hollands. Rudolph urged committee members to attend if possible. The last meeting was held on 8/19/10 and elected officers for coming year; Rudolph will continue as Vice President.

RC&D: Rudolph reported the annual conference is scheduled for 9/22-24/10 in LaCrosse and Rudolph urged committee members to attend if possible. Executive Committee will meet on 9/14/10 at the Lumberjack Office to discuss forest inventory project issues.

USDA: Jim Tharman noted he is working on annual permanent fence inspections. Received a new enrollee in the wildlife damage program dealing with bear damage to corn. Within last three weeks 15 bears have been removed and relocated from the Woodford farm fields located off of Highway A. A shooting permit for bear was submitted to the DNR today and trapping will continue. The property owner may be eligible for up to \$10,000 in damage if claim is pursued.

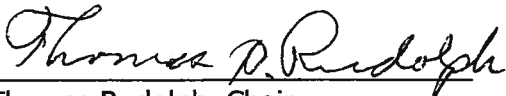
**Public comment/communications:** Kuzlik provided an article in the North Star Journal this past weekend highlighting Paul Dean's WACEC service award.

**Items for next agenda:** Fair update, agency reports.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

  
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Thomas Rudolph, Chair

