

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

Committee members present: Chairman Tom Rudolph, Bob Evsich, Paul Dean, Greg Berard, Carol Peterson, Romelle Vandervest and Eric Snyder (TAG representative).

Others present: Nancy Hollands, Jean Hansen, Tina Werres, Dan Kuzlik, Lawrence Eslinger, Erica Brewster, Jim Tharman, Jerry Luedtke, John and Ginger Bowman, Anna Gauthier (UWEX Intern) 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 Dean/Vandervest to approve the agenda as presented with permission to change the order of day at the discretion of the Committee. All ayes; motion carried.

Chairperson's announcement(s): Rudolph reported the WACEC District meeting will be held February 4, 2011 at the Great Lakes Visitors Center in Ashland. Additional information is forthcoming.

Approve minutes: Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve the amended minutes of 10/11/10 and the minutes of 11/8/10 with corrections. All ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) of future meetings:

January 10, 2011 1:30 p.m. UWEX Meeting Room

Public comment: Jerry Luedtke, John and Ginger Bowman were in attendance to discuss the Lake Nokomis proposed Lake District issue.

Lake Nokomis update: Kuzlik noted staff is not prepared to make a recommendation at this time but plans to do so at the 1/10/11 meeting. Preliminary data suggests that actual signatures for the number of property owners in the proposed Lake District area will fall short of the required 51%. However, when looking at size of area owned by Lake District supporters (because of how much property WI Valley Improvement Corporation controls), approximately 60% of property owners are in favor of the district.

Questions from the public regarding the process were addressed. Kuzlik noted that after signatures are verified, information will be presented to this Committee who will then review this information and form a recommendation. It will then be taken to county board for approval in January.

Monthly budget reports: Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the UW Extension budget report for the period ending 11/30/10. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands noted the line item transfers approved last month have not been posted at this time and expects additional transfers will be necessary. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the LWC monthly budget report for the period ending 11/30/10. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Discussion held regarding the UW Extension monthly invoices. Motion by Berard/Vandervest to approve the monthly invoices for UW Extension as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Werres discussed the invoices for the Oneida County Fair in detail. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands reviewed the list of invoices for LWC in detail. Motion by Pederson/Berard to approve the monthly invoices for LWC as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve Fair Committee members: Tina Werres noted there are currently eight members on the Committee. She presented four new applicants for approval: Michelle Wich, Leroy Eades, Tom Peterson, and Susan Glentz. Background checks have not been completed at this time. Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve the applicants for the Fair committee pending a proper background check. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair update: The Fair Committee plans to begin meeting the first Thursday of the month to be in sync with this Committee's schedule. They are currently in negotiations with KM Amusements who wish to sign a two-year agreement. Several members will be attending the Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells in early January. Werres noted the City has voted to spend \$35,000 on electric infrastructure. The Fair Committee is also negotiating with the Rhinelander Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC) to coordinate vendors this year with the Fair getting a percentage of the fees. The RACC Board meets this week to discuss the issue. Long range plans include making improvements to the small picnic shelter that is used for the animal area and eventually would like a roof placed over the tennis courts.

Line item transfers: Tabled until next meeting.

Results of County Board budget meeting: Kuzlik noted there was a motion to cut the 4-H program by 50%. After discussion/presentation the motion did not pass and the department budget was passed as presented. Rudolph reminded everyone to remain vigilant and educate other county board supervisors on the value of UW Extension and the programs offered by the department.

2010 AIS grant extension: Eslinger noted two objectives of the current grant have not been totally completed. One of the items is the AIS strategic plan to provide a foundation for the AIS program. Eslinger distributed a copy of the plan in its current draft form. Discussion followed. He noted there is approximately \$10,000 remaining in the 2010 grant allocation. Eslinger spoke with Kevin Gauthier at the DNR who recommends requesting an extension to spend the 2010 allocation, before tapping the 2011 allocation.

Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to authorize Eslinger to request an extension of the current 2010 AIS grant. All ayes; motion carried.

2011 AIS grant agreement: Hollands noted final paperwork for the 2011 AIS grant agreement has been received from the DNR for signature. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson authorizing Chairman Tom Rudolph to sign the 2011 AIS grant agreement. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve long range plans: Kuzlik reviewed the 2011 long range departmental plan for UW Extension. Motion by Dean/Vandervest to approve the 2011 long range departmental plan for UW Extension. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands provided copies of the LWC plan which is based on goals listed in the five-year Land & Water Resource Management plan, listing current activities and 2010 accomplishments in all program areas. She plans to look at a new Land and Water long range plan in 2011. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the LWC action plan for 2010/2011. All ayes; motion carried.

Agreement with Regional Planning on Land & Water Resource Management Plan Update: Copies of the agreement were provided in packet. Hollands noted DATCP requires the plan to be updated every five years prior to receiving any cost share funds. North Central WI Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) has assisted in the past and budgeted funds have covered the expense. Over the past two years that funding has been lost, however NCWRPC will assist again. All costs for NCWRPC staff are covered under previously paid Oneida County membership dues. Motion by Pederson/Vandervest to approve the work agreement between Oneida County and NCWRPC as presented and forward to County Board Chair for signature. All ayes; motion carried.

Report on WLWCA Conference: Evsich and Rudolph attended the WLWCA Conference in WI Dells. Rudolph was re-elected to the Land and Water Board. He provided information on the proposed forums regarding spreading of septage and NR115. Rudolph also hosted the awards presentation. Evsich noted four main resolutions were brought for approval regarding Asian Carp, supporting deer management and support of the nine-day season, requirement of well water testing

prior to real estate transfers, and reducing the number of attendees to WLWCA national conference. Additional information is available if others are interested.

County-cost share program update/approval: Hansen noted contracts need to be finalized and signed by the end of the year. Four cost estimates were submitted for approval: (a) Camp Luther project includes a planting plan, 70 feet of Biolog and erosion control. Low cost estimate: \$23,790 submitted by Lorbetske Landscaping. 50% cost share is \$11,895. (b) Dorothy & Harry Skye have already completed a few cost-share projects. This particular project consists of 90' of Biolog and a few plantings. Low cost estimate: \$6,132 submitted by Integrity Landscaping. 50% cost share is \$3,066. (c) Denovo project includes Biolog, steep bank geogrid and cuttings, sediment logs and plantings. Low cost estimate: \$8,063 submitted by Integrity Landscaping. 50% cost share is \$4,031.50. (d) Weber Island on Hasbrook Lake project will complete the island and includes 110' of Biolog. Low cost estimate: \$6,724 submitted by Integrity Landscaping. 50% cost share is \$3,362.

Lists and packets are provided to the landowner who is responsible for obtaining cost estimates. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the low cost estimates for the county cost share program as discussed. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands noted there is about \$6,000 in funds still available. Hansen is still working on several possibilities to allocate these funds. All contracts must be signed prior to December 31, 2010 but work can be completed in 2011. Motion by Vandervest/Berard authorizing Chairman Rudolph to sign low cost estimates for any additional contracts that come in prior to December 31. All ayes; motion carried.

DATCP Extension request: The department must request an extension for cost-share contracts that are signed but the work is incomplete. The extension must be postmarked by 12/31/10. Motion by Evsich/Pederson to approve the DATCP extension request for county cost share program. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly staff reports: Brewster noted she completed a modified poverty simulation with Leadership Oneida County participants. Attached with her report is a presentation compiled by the AODA Coalition which will be presented at the January County Board meeting. It addresses the issue of K2 Spice (synthetic/manufactured marijuana) and a petition for a county resolution encouraging towns to make this substance illegal in each township. The Smithsonian Exhibit -- Key Ingredients: America by Food opened on Saturday. The exhibit is located at the Trig's Mall, is open Tuesday through Saturday and admission is free. Special programming will be offered throughout the exhibit.

Eslinger distributed the AIS brochures for review. He will attend an AIS strategic plan training at the DNR and has begun to work on grant reports. Eslinger has visited a majority of the towns and noted the Town of Newbold has adopted a Town Lakes

Committee. He recently attended the Fire Chief's meeting to talk about dry hydrants but didn't receive much feedback.

Jim Tharman reported a cooperator now feels he should get paid for damages to his crop. Earlier in the year the client wasn't interested in reimbursement but has apparently changed his mind. There is an issue with this and he has contacted DNR. Tharman indicated the fence proposal for the project in Minocqua will be approved in 2011 and will be put out for bids.

Winkler noted a new 4-H club has been formed in Harshaw. The Bits and Bridles Mane Event was a 4-H horse program that has now become an actual club. Seven families are currently involved. Winkler was told the local newspaper is moving in a new direction and no longer wishes to print the Power of Youth articles. The North Star Journal currently does not have space but he is on a waiting list and he may be able to submit articles to NewsOfTheNorth.net for publication on their site.

Out of county travel requests:

Hansen:

TBD	Meeting with Vilas County LWCD	Vilas County*
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Kuzlik:

12/14/10	WCEA meeting	Wausau*
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Winkler:

11/16/10	WMMB grant meeting	Eau Claire*
12/14/10	Present TAG to Vilas County Extension Committee	Vilas County*
1/28-30/11	Chaperone Winter Camp	Bayfield County*

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

Agency reports:

Lake Districts: Rudolph attended Horsehead Lake meeting recently. Business included approval of bills, revamp aerator system, plans for weed harvesting if needed and further refinement of lake study. Berard noted the next Bear Lake meeting will be in May.

FSA: Evsich indicated the FSA report is in the packet. SURE signup will be in January.

LWCB: Rudolph reported additional information on the LWCB forums will be available at next meeting.

RC&D: Rudolph noted the RC&D meeting will be the end of January.

Public comment: Kuzlik provided letter of resignation to Committee members from Lawrence Eslinger, AIS Coordinator. He has accepted a position as a fisheries biologist with DNR in Mercer beginning January 3, 2011. Eslinger noted it wasn't an easy

decision but he has had a goal of fisheries biologist since college. He learned a lot while working for Oneida County, enjoyed coming to work everyday and dealing with staff, committee and citizens. It was a very positive experience. He plans to remain an Oneida County citizen and continue to protect water resources. Eslinger voiced his hope that Oneida County will fill the position quickly and hopes it will be an easy transition for the next person.

Committee members wished Eslinger the best and thanked him for the wonderful work he's done and the accomplishments he's made. Rudolph indicated the Committee needs to move on this as soon as possible and request a waiver to the six-month freeze.

Items for next agenda: Lake Nokomis report/recommendation, AIS Coordinator vacancy.

Adjournment: Motion by Dean/Berard to adjourn at 3:46 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Tom Rudolph, Chair