

Conservation/UW-Extension Education Committee
January 14, 2013
Minutes

Committee members present: Chair Tom Rudolph, Greg Berard, Jim Intrepidi, Bob Mott, Bob Martini and Clint Zimbeck.

Others present: Erica Brewster, Michele Sadauskas, Tim Brown, Jean Hansen, Claudia Baker (RC&D), and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. noting the meeting was properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible. Roundtable introductions were held.

Approve agenda: Motion by Intrepidi/Martini to approve today's agenda with order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve the minutes of 12/10/12 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Dates of future meetings:

2/11/13	Extension meeting room	1:30 p.m.
3/18/13	Extension meeting room	1:30 p.m.
4/8/13	Extension meeting room	1:30 p.m.

Oneida County Fair update:

- Berard noted the Fair Planning Team met on 1/12/13 for a regular meeting and strategic planning session with Brown. The long-term goal is for the Fair to eventually become a non-profit and possibly move to a permanent site. Sites were discussed as well as future entertainment options. Brown listed the short-term goals resulting from the strategic planning session: (1) review and strengthen bylaws; (2) recruit new committee members and (3) decide on an amusement company.
- Brewster noted the CUW Committee approved the filling of a Fair Secretary LTE (as the Fair Coordinator is a volunteer) at the 12/10/12 meeting. She noted LRES must also approve the position and will address it at their February meeting.

Update on Youth Development Agent position: Brewster thanked the Committee for their support at LRES for the filling of the Youth Development agent position. The State has reviewed the position and plans to post it on 1/18/13. It will be posted for approximately 6 weeks, with preliminary interviews held in late February. It is hoped the position will be filled by late March/early April.

4H LTE Ad Hoc position: Brewster noted Holly Schepp's employment ended 12/27/12. In the interest of providing adequate service to Teen Court, TAG and other Youth Development/4H programs, Brewster requested a 600-hour LTE be hired to assist the office until 3/31/13. The State is supportive of filling the LTE position and the County Human Resource Manager can approve the position. Funding would be covered by salary savings under the 60/40 split. Motion by Martini/Mott to approve the 4H LTE Ad Hoc position as requested. All ayes; motion

carried. Brewster noted she has received a recommendation from the Health Department for a suitable candidate who just completed her internship there.

Agency reports:

RC&D: Claudia Baker provided background regarding RC&D. Main focus is to help localities with ways to conserve natural resources, increase community development and provide a better quality of life for rural residents. They also help fund local projects which enhance conservation. RC&D has provided grants for invasive species roadside surveys, WHIP, display cases at CAVOC, Eisenhower Parkway sidewalk and are the fiscal agent for several lake associations who hire boat landing monitors. In 2013 they awarded approximately \$75,000 for similar projects. There are six employees at the Rhinelander Office which is located in the Curran Professional Park building. Discussion followed.

Lake Districts: Intrepid noted the Lake Nokomis Lake District contracted for 10 acres of milfoil control (spraying) at a cost of approximately \$40,000. Discussion was held regarding the cost.

FSA: Zimbeck reported the Farm Bill was extended temporarily through September--existing programs will continue through September. The Merrill office space has been sold and plans are to merge with either the Antigo or Wausau offices. Staff is pushing to merge with Antigo to better serve the region.

NCRS: Printed report from Michael Stinebrink was provided.

OCEDC: Rudolph reported Wausau Papers has announced the sale of the Rhinelander, Mosinee and Brainard, MI mills. Brown noted if a buyer comes into the picture not much will change. He believes since Rhinelander produces a very specialized product, someone else will want to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase. He has spoken with other Extension agents throughout the state who have been faced with similar situations and how it was handled. Discussion followed.

LWCB: Rudolph recently participated in an officer's teleconference, discussing the frac sand forum. Plans are to hold the forum in conjunction with the April LWCB meeting in the western part of the state. The February meeting will most likely be held via conference call.

WLWCA: Rudolph provided a handout with talking points to assist in speaking with legislators regarding reinstatement of state aids for county LCDs. Lengthy discussion followed.

Monthly staff reports:

- Sadauskas noted payment was received to satisfy the completion of the 2011 grant. Chris Hamerla has been hired as the Ice Angler Outreach LTE (112 hours – seven weekends). His weekend summary was provided for review. Sadauskas is also working with the School District on a video project.
- Hansen reported the 2012 cost share funding has been committed and the extension request was filed prior to the deadline. WHIP meetings are scheduled for January and February. The WI DOT has signed a MOU with WHIP. Lumberjack RC&D approved funding for 600-hour LTE to draft a roadside management plan. It is expected that Rosie Page will fill this position and be housed within LWCD office space. Discussion followed.
- Brown has been making contacts with key players in the County, developing a plan of work as well as drafting an economic analysis of the County. He will also be working closely with the County's Technology Committee. Discussion followed.
- Brewster completed annual reporting to the state. She thanked staff for assisting with the office clean up days. UWEX has announced their Technology Plan-- each educator will receive a Google Nexus tablet, using Google Apps, for work purposes. Programming

continues with Teen Court, Raising a Thinking Child, and the Human Service Center. Buildings and Grounds staff is working on plans for office space at the Courthouse.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Brewster:

1/22-24/13 NCR All-Staff Conference Keshena**

Brown

1/16/13 Meet w/Corky Reynolds @ Treehaven Lincoln County*
1/22-24 NCR All-Staff Conference Keshena**

Hansen:

1/18/13 WHIP meeting Vilas County*

Sadauskas

1/18/13 WHIP meeting @Trees for Tomorrow Vilas County***
1/23/13 Clean Boats/Clean Waters Stevens Point***

*county expense
**regional/state expense
***grant funded expense

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

Approve monthly budget reports:

- Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to accept the LWCD monthly budget reports for the period ending 12/31/12 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to accept the UWEX monthly budget report for the period ending 12/31/12 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve monthly invoices:

- Motion by Martini/Mott to approve the LWCD monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the UWEX monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Mott/Intrepidi to approve the Fair monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Blanket purchase orders: Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the 2013 blanket purchase orders as presented. Motion carried; all ayes.

Approve long-range plans: Motion by Martini/Berard to accept the long range plans for UWEX and LWCD as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Line item transfer: Ison indicated a line item transfer is needed to correct the 2013 budget as Hansen's step placement was incorrect upon her appointment to County Conservationist.

Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to approve the line item transfer to correct the step placement for the County Conservationist position. All ayes; motion carried.

Resolution to restore base level funding for LWC: Rudolph presented a resolution to restore base level funding for LWC. Lengthy discussion followed. Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve the resolution and forward to County Board for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

Draft Oneida County AIS Strategic Plan: As requested, Sadauskas reviewed the current LWRM plan and spoke to Kevin Gauthier (WI DNR). Gauthier noted Oneida County should have an AIS strategic plan to comply with grant requirements. Sadauskas will continue to develop a plan for approval at a future meeting. Discussion followed.

WLWCA dues: Hansen provided a letter and invoice from WLWCA for membership dues, SOC and Envirothon fees. Discussion followed. Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve the WLWCA membership dues in the amount of \$1,628.89. All ayes; motion carried.

WLWCA Conference: The WLWCA Annual Conference is scheduled for 3/11-13/13 in Wisconsin Dells. Detailed conference/registration information was provided. Rudolph urged committee members to attend. Discussion followed. Registration deadline is 2/8/13.

North Central Regional Annual WACEC meeting: The meeting is scheduled for 1/23/13 in Keshena. Registration information was provided electronically. Rudolph urged committee members to attend. Discussion followed. Rudolph and Mott plan to attend.

County cost-share program update/approval: Hansen reported 2012 funds have been committed and the extension has been filed with DATCP. Allocations for 2013 have yet to be finalized; however three landowners on Lake Tomahawk are interested in 2013 project funding. Discussion followed.

Public comment/communications: Brewster noted that due to the closing of the Northern District office, the office received a "new" conference tables, a few chairs and other miscellaneous office items.

Items to be included on next agenda: Update on Youth Development position and AIS strategic plan.

Adjournment: Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to adjourn at 4 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair