

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
March 16, 2015
Minutes

Committee members present: Acting Chairman Bob Mott, Robb Jensen, Scott Holewinski, Jim Intrepidi, and Kim Simac. Chairman Tom Rudolph participated via phone.

Others present: Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, Fred Heider, Lisa Charbarneau, Lynn Feldman, Sara Richie, Joel Knutson, Will Andresen, and Merry Lehner.

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

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Intrepidi/Holewinski to approve the minutes of 2/9/15. All ayes; motion was carried.

Date(s) of future meetings:

April 13, 2015	1:30 p.m.	Airport meeting room
May 11, 2015	1:30 p.m.	Airport meeting room

DRAFT

Farmland Preservation Plan

Fred Heider reviewed two items from the Oneida County Farmland Preservation Plan – DATCP review packet from the last meeting. He asked the committee members to refer to their DATCP letter and public hearing draft of the plan to identify what needs to change in the plan in order to comply. He spoke with DATCP to see what specifically was needed to satisfy their requirements. The first items were text changes. On page 6 it states the plan is set to expire on December 31, 2014. Due to the extension of one year it will change to read the 2015 Farmland Preservation Plan. On pages 15 - 17 under Utilities and Infrastructure Facilities it says Chapter 4 of the Oneida County Comprehensive Plan and it should be Chapter 5. On page 10 it will be stressed that potato storage exists and will continue to exist in the county. Potato chip production is now outside of the county. It will be added that Sowinski Farm has a seed farm in Stella, WI.

The second change was on Map #5 where the legend shows Future Land Use shaded in red as "planned out" on the Future Land Use Composite map. Some other wording was reviewed. Several other sentences were re-worded as discussed in the previous meeting. A review of Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEAs) was discussed and how to create an AEA. A motion was made by Jensen to make the changes as presented and submit the plan to DATCP for their approval and final changes brought back to the committee for resolution to take to the county board. The motion was seconded by Intrepidi. One vote was abstained. The motion carried.

Approval of Farmland Preservation Plan Resolution

This will be addressed at the April meeting.

NCWRPC Study

Mott summarized the results of the NCWRPC study that were discussed at the last LRES meeting. Essentially it said that UW-Extension is doing what is expected and there were no real concerns. It

was suggested that a potential merger with Land & Water Conservation with the Planning and Zoning could be an option. If there were a merging of departments, Mr. Cushing stated that if additional personnel were needed to effectively make that change with Planning and Zoning, he would be in support of it. The Forestry department outside of the meeting felt their department could potentially merge with the department as well. There are Forestry departments merged with Land and Water in Chippewa or Waushara Counties. In other counties around the state there is a trend of Land and Water and Planning and Zoning merged departments per Lisa Charbarneau. Neither department at this point has the staff or personnel to accept that department into theirs where it would give them the advantage of more personnel. Mott commented that this personnel shortage is what Land and Water is experiencing now so there is no advantage without additional staff.

Jensen commented that no meeting between this Committee and LRES has occurred. He felt that others are trying to make decisions before the committee of jurisdiction has been able to decide on anything. Rudolph commented by phone that it is premature to have this discussion now. Mott commented that we have not had Dennis Lawrence and Coleman Peiffer speak yet with the CUW Committee about the study results. It was agreed to have them attend the April 13 meeting and it will be put on the agenda. A separate meeting will be scheduled after the April committee meeting to discuss possible mergers including, Planning and Zoning, Forestry, and LRES. Questions for this separate meeting should be forwarded to Bob Mott.

Sharing AIS Coordinator with Vilas County

Kim Simac spoke at the Vilas County Land and Water meeting and it was felt that there would be too much demand and too much job description to share a person for both counties. Jean Hansen and Tom Rudolph received a letter from Vilas County Chair, Ronald De Bruyne about sharing the AIS Coordinator. Tom Rudolph responded back to the letter. After that Jean responded to De Bruyne that she did not think it would work. The Committee would like to see the letter. Mott said that it may work in other counties, but with Vilas and Oneida counties having so many lakes, it becomes an issue with the AIS and the lake associations. There are 100 in Vilas County and Oneida County has 61. The associations all function at different levels related to monitoring and education. Sadauskas suggested that sharing with a county that does not have so many lakes would work better. Perhaps in Florence or Iron County, who also desperately need an AIS coordinator, could take advantage of this arrangement. The committee would like to stay informed and want to see the letter in their packets next month. Simac stated that the position is needed but where can they find the funding. Vilas County needs money that other counties use for agriculture dollars. Our agriculture is forestry and the lakes in this region. Tourism dollars are important to these counties and this program is important to discuss. Rudolph commented that six or seven years ago the Vilas County position was put on a tax levy but then later it received funding through a grant. Funding changes and sources of AIS and LTE's will be on the agenda at the next meeting. The AIS program is important and tax payers could be asked to support it in Vilas County. Regardless of the position it is important to continue to take the opportunity to cooperate and collaborate with Vilas County.

Vacate Portion of Moen Lake Road

By state statute Land and Water has to be informed of this notice per Jean Hansen. The committee has received a copy of the proposal to vacate a portion of Moen Lake Road and all have had the opportunity to look at it. It will be handled by the Land Records Committee.

Wisconsin Lakes Convention

This convention will be held April 23 through 25, 2015 at Stevens Point. The DNR grant allows for one committee member attend this convention. Robb Jensen volunteered to attend either Friday or Saturday. Sadauskas will send him an agenda.

DRAFT

Poster and Speaking Contest

Michele Sadauskas reported the results of the local and area contests. Winners who placed first in the Area Speaking & Poster Competition moved on to the Wisconsin Land & Water State Competition held in Appleton on March 9. Local winners from our county were: Elementary Division, Third Place, Margaret Mouw, Oneida County, titled "The Spiny Water Flea". First Place went to Grace Ribbe in the Junior Division from Three Lakes Junior High, Oneida County, titled "Save the Oaks". Senior Division, Second Place went to Grace Hoger, Rhinelander High School, Oneida County, and "What is It"? For the poster contest Stephen George from James William Middle School was the first place winner. So the county had a poster winner and a speaker go to state.

Rental Equipment Fees

A review of the Tree Planter Agreement which currently charges a \$10 late fee beyond the time period established, as listed on 1.C of the form will be changed to a higher dollar amount as discussed in the previous meeting. Currently it is the \$40 daily fee plus the \$10 penalty fee. A motion was made by Holewinski to change the penalty fine to \$100 for each day that it is not returned unless previous arrangements have been made. The motion was seconded by Intrepid. The fee will be out of respect for the next user. All ayes; the motion carried.

15 Year Service Recognition

Jean Hansen was awarded a certificate for her years of service by the County Board and it was presented to her by Bob Mott. The committee applauded Hansen for her dedication to the community.

Consent Agenda Items:

Jensen made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented and Intrepid seconded it. Mott requested approval to for out of county travel to Minocqua to attend the WACEC Conference. Updated line item transfers were brought to attention of Committee by Hansen. Two additional expenses were requested for out of county travel and lodging approval on the Expense Summary report by Lehner/Richie. All ayes; motion was approved with the changes presented.

Agency Reports

Bob Mott presented a reference sheet providing an explanation of what the abbreviations stand for regarding all the organizations listed below. For Lake Districts a county board member is required to be on each Lake District board.

Lake Districts: Intrepid reported that Lake Nokomis had their meeting last week and reported a Lake District tax levy of \$45,000. As soon as the ice is out they will be removing weeds. Jensen reported Bear Lake will meet next month. No report for Thunder Lake or Mid Lake. The April meeting for Horsehead Lake was canceled.

FSA: Simac announced that there is a meeting is scheduled next Monday. There are programs and money that is available through the USDA. She urged the committee to let people know that there are many opportunities for assistance and education for small farmers. There is an Agricultural Conference in Wisconsin Dells on March 30-31. Hansen asked if there is a data base available for an outreach for farmers and producers and Simac will follow up.

USDA, APHIS: Jim Tharman will report at next meeting on a claim where he will need DNR approval, so he will report at the next meeting regarding deer damage to crops. There will be a document to sign at that time along with an explanation.

NRCS, DNR: No report.

OCEDC: No report.

DRAFT

LWCB: Conference was just held on March 8 and 9 and no report yet.

RC&D: Lumberjack meets quarterly and next meeting is in April.

WACEC: (WI Association of County Extension Committees). Mott and Holewinski will be attending the Conference in Minocqua on March 18 and 19.

Approve and schedule visioning session for CNRED position

Lynn Feldman stated that after the joint meeting with LRES is completed she proposes a public visioning session. County board members, the Chamber, businesses and others in the area will offer input on community issues in order to craft an initial focus for the CNRED position. Feldman is to schedule a Visioning Meeting for April 8, 2013. A luncheon will be provided from 11:30 to 2:30 by the UW-Extension District Office. Extension support staff will send out the invitations and with RSVP being required.

Will Andresen was introduced. He is the CNRED agent in Iron County who is very experienced in directing visioning sessions. One of Andresen's job functions is to be a liaison between Madison and the counties to hire new agents. As part of the hiring process he recommends doing a visioning session to help the committee to come up with the best position description for each individual. The CNRED is a very broad description: Community, Natural Resources, and Economic Development. Each county will define this description per their specific needs. The second advantage is to get the public involved in this process. What are key partners looking for in the community to address in this session? Once the session is completed a visioning report will be presented showing what the high priorities are so that the best person can be hired. The new person will have a framework of a job description based on the visioning session.

It was clarified that the committee's decision was to have an interim person to work for 720 hours. That is a temporary position. The interim is a UW-Extension position. The salary was not available but there are no benefits. The Interim interviewers consisted of Lynn Feldman, Tom Schmitz, Tom Rudolph, and Will Andresen. Even the interim person will have to re-apply for the permanent CNRED position through the statewide, nationwide application search process. There is a three stage interview process through the state to determine the best candidate.

Will Andresen will conduct the visioning session for the permanent CNRED position. There are usually anywhere from 12 to 30 people in attendance. They will provide a history and a projection of where the county would like to go. The group will be set up in a "U" shape and issues will be put on posted and grouped into categories that make sense. Then the top three or four projects will be determined from this process.

An agenda item for the April Committee meeting will be to discuss the results of the visioning session to address what areas Knutson should focus on for the next 18 weeks.

Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, and Lisa Charbarneau were excused.

Salary Range for CNRED Position

The salary range for the CNRED position will be \$45,000 and \$48,000. The county pays 40% of this salary. The strongest candidate will be recommended by Tom Schmitz. A motion was made to approve the salary position by Mott and it was seconded by Holewinski. All ayes; the motion was approved.

Update on interim CNRED position

Joel Knutson was introduced as our interim CNRED representative. Questions were asked on what projects Knutson is working on. Last week, Knutson was at Tree Haven attending an OCEDC broadband committee meeting. He has attended all the available ASC Broadband public meetings since 2013. Tim Brown and Knutson worked closely during that time. Knutson said the first three

DRAFT

YMAX sites they are looking at include the town of Lynn. Lynn in particular will be of interest as it currently does not even have Charter or Frontier. In contrast the town of Hazlehurst is covered to a much greater extent. Another project is the new Three Lakes Community Foundation. Direction will be needed on what sort of demographic data will help to develop a series of relationships. His involvement with OLRCA was geared towards getting town related lake issues addressed, but he has resigned that position. The committee commented to they would like to be involved in what capacity UW- Extension will focus on issues so there is not an overlap of other county departments. A committee member asked about ATV clubs. Knutson replied that he has been working with the Forestry and Recreation Department for over a year to open ATV access to these areas. Collaboration has been made with other County Extension offices in this regard. Knutson made the point that the committee only will have him for a short period of time and he will have plenty of pending issues to address. Knutson stated that consistent community outreach is important. He shared a letter addressed to the Town of Sugar Camp to commend the efforts that students put forth in the recent Speaking Contest. This program revealed how involved parents and teachers are in their children's education.

Will Andresen was excused at 4:15

Agent Report – Lynn Feldman

One of the organizations Feldman is involved with is the Oneida County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Collation. Her role is prevention where she will be working on becoming a state certified substance abuse specialist. Her target will be drug and alcohol abuse prevention in youth and mental health and substance abuse education. This is covered in schools but there needs to be a variety of ways to present this information. The Human Service Center Rise Together program involves former addicts who put on a presentation called Good Choices Gone Bad. Feldman would like to bring this program to the schools. The goal is for students to develop critical thinking. As an example she showed a series of pictures to the committee and asked them what they had in common. All of them suggest the feeling of "enjoyment" and our brains use a chemical called dopamine that produces this feeling. It is used by the brain under normal conditions to balance stressors. Students learned about this function of the brain and were encouraged to look into brain research as a career. Teens have a lower amount of dopamine than adults. This is good knowledge for them so they can get through this stage of development realizing that this is a real chemical shortage and it also reminds parents to keep this fact in mind. Feldman performed a demonstration using props to show how dopamine works when drugs and alcohol are introduced to the body. The result is that they damage the production of dopamine because receptors in the brain become blocked and the ability to feel good becomes dependent on drugs and alcohol. It was also pointed out that the Limbic system that controls the emotion part of the brain is most developed during the teen-age years. This makes alcohol or money very alluring to them. The health teacher at the middle school is very interested in getting this program started in the school district.

Approval to move forward with new telephone installation

Per Lynn Grube committee approval is needed to begin new phone installation. A motion was made by Intrepidi and Jensen to approve the new phone system. All ayes; motion approved.

Oneida County Fair Update

Jim Intrepidi reported on Spectrum Rides. The Oneida County Fair will have to keep KM Amusements for 2015 under contract. Spectrum will be considered for the future. They offer as many as 36 rides

and the Fair does not have to pay money up front. Currently the Fair has to pay \$10,000 up front to KM Amusements. More donations must be asked for this year to keep the Fair viable.

Approval of new Fair Treasurer

Aprelle Rawski was voted in by the Fair Board to be the new treasurer. A motion was made by Jensen and Holewinski to approve the new treasurer. All ayes; motion was approved.

DRAFT

Office Space/Air Quality

The luggage conveyor area is now a separate room. The NIOSH report requires that we continue to report incidents when diesel fumes are present. At the last Fair Planning Meeting held in the Extension Conference room, all members complained of very strong diesel fumes present at 5 to 5:30 pm. Office support reported very heavy fumes that same afternoon. For this month there were 208 reports where 158 specifically noted diesel fumes. As suggested by Holewinski at last committee meeting, Feldman contacted Terri Williams at the fire department to see if they had monitoring devices available to test the Extension office for fumes. The fire department has a carbon monoxide tester and has access to a PID device which measures particulate matter. Feldman has instructed staff that if there is a particularly bad fume day, they are authorized to contact the fire department for sampling of the air with the above devices. It will be a one-time test opportunity to use on a bad day to see if data will show a significant measurement. Feldman stated that the State Department of Hygiene received the NIOSH report and found it very insightful. Additional Ventilation was recommended to push more air into the affected areas. It was noted that the budget to remodel was cancelled for 2015 due to the Study results not being completed.

The Capitol Improvement project for 2016 is to address the remodel of the Extension Office. The committee commented on options for UW-Extension. If they stay here then the remodel must be completed in 2016 at an estimated \$100,000. It was felt an upgraded ventilation system must be a priority. If reports continue to come back that diesel fumes are an issue, what then? Joe Brauer states the air quality is within the acceptable requirements. The Committee asked if the Extension Office were to move from this facility, then who else would rent this facility.

Sara Richie moved from the back office where fumes were affecting her well-being. Jean Hansen had used that office in prior years and was affected by the air quality where it made her eyes water and she felt miserable. Then the vents were modified with an additional fan and she stated that it helped the situation. Currently, Knutson is in Richie's old office and is reporting chunks of debris falling onto to the work surface. The WNEP has had an ongoing problem of debris on their work surfaces as well. Per the previous minutes, Rudolph stated that the corrugated vents were recommended to be replaced and that was not done. Brauer responded that air filters can be replaced more often. Brauer has contacted the vent cleaning company regarding this grainy dust found on surfaces, since the vents were cleaned last fall at a cost of \$8,000.

Jensen stated that moving the offices could be an option. If the office were to move then they would have to address to rental payment on this facility. If improvements are made and fumes are still present, money has been spent and if the problem continues to exist, then a decision regarding this facility must be made. A remodel could possibly happen this year based on the capital improvements report per Holewinski. He suggested contacting the Finance Department. This subject will be re-visited at the next meeting.

Capitol Connections Announcement

This program will be held in Madison on April 1, 2015 for committee members to talk with legislatures about UW-Extension.

Public comment: None

Items for next agenda: NCWRPC Study Results, USDA Claim, Funding changes/sources of AIS and LTE's, CNRED Visioning Session, and Air Quality/Office Space.

Adjournment: Motion by Jensen/Mott to adjourn at 5:01 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry J. Lehner, Recording Secretary

Bob Mott, Acting Committee Chair

DRAFT