

Conservation/UWEX Education Committee
June 4, 2012
Minutes

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

Others present: Erica Brewster, Jim Winkler, Jim Tharman, Tina Werres, Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, Kari Lazars and Kerri Ison.

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

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

Approve minutes: Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve the minutes of 5/7/12 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) of future meeting(s):

7/16/12	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
8/13/12	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Lake Nokomis Lake District petition: The County Board approved the Lake Nokomis Lake District petition at a special meeting on 5/29/12.

Fair update: Werres reported the next meeting is 6/5/12 at 5:30 p.m. at Curran Building. The team will begin meeting weekly in July. Vendor fees are beginning to come in; wristband/raffle tickets are being presold at Trig's, Walmart, Chamber of Commerce offices, Shopko and UWEX. They are still seeking committee members and volunteers to assist with the event. The Fair is also seeking financial assistance to build a fence to keep equipment hidden. The Fairest of the Fair coronation will take place at Art on the Courthouse Lawn. The Fair will also be participating in Three Lakes, Rhinelander, Lake Tomahawk and Minocqua July 4th parades. Committee members were invited to ride in the trolley.

- Approve new member: Application for Janice Scheeler was reviewed. Motion by Martini/Berard to approve the application of Janice Scheeler as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Carnival contract: Werres presented the 2013-2014 carnival contract for KM Amusements. Discussion followed. Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the carnival contract with KM Amusements for 2013-2014. All ayes; motion carried.
- Entertainment contracts: Werres reviewed the following entertainment contracts/sound & lights contract for approval: Barnyard Buddies Petting Zoo/Pony Rides, 50's Fair Play, Stephanie Schroeder, Rhinelander Community Band, Restoration Jazz Band, Scott Kirby, Tunesmith Academy, and Spotlight Studios. Total cost \$3,195. Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve entertainment contracts as described. All ayes; motion carried.
- Operational guidelines: Werres discussed the updated operational guidelines distributed at last month's meeting. One major functional change is to develop an Executive

Committee to help streamline operations in the case of emergency situations. Motion by Martini/Berard to approve the fair operational guidelines subject to review by Corporation Counsel (if needed) and that any editorial revisions be made in a timely manner. All ayes; motion carried.

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

Agency reports:

- Lake districts: Jim Intrepidi has been appointed as representative for Lake Nokomis Lake District. A meeting is planned in late July.
- LWCB: Rudolph reported LWCB is postponing the planned forum to address staffing grant allocation issues. A team will develop a timeline to address the staffing grant formula and other possible sources of revenue.
- WLWCA: Rudolph reported WLWCA is still working with an interim board until all area associations have met to elect representatives to the state association. North Central Association meeting will be held in Antigo on 6/8/12.
- RC&D: National RC&D Conference is 6/11-13/12 in Madison.
- USDA-APHIS: Jim Tharman distributed a 2011 statewide summary report for review. Approximately five Oneida County residents are enrolled in the program with three other parties interested in doing so. He will be conducting the annual inspection on the permanent fence installed at JJ Acres last year soon. The wildlife damage program has added cougars to the list of animals included in their program. Additional details are forthcoming.

Monthly staff reports:

- Winkler will be retiring in November with his last day in the office being 8/3/12. The 8th Annual Family Fishing Fun Day (FFFD) was held Saturday at Hodag Park with 200 youth participating. Great response from community donors who provided prizes to youth completing all sessions.
- Sadauskas provided written report highlighting FFFD. The AIS station had a lot of contacts with parents--not just children. One of the AIS Resource Plan deliverables was to increase media exposure and the AIS program has gotten great response from local reporters. The AIS team will also be working with a college film student to develop a Clean Boats Clean Waters PSA on Lake Minocqua. TV 12 has agreed to air the PSA once completed. AIS Youth Poster contest was successful. Staff has developed a traveling art exhibit displaying the winning posters. The exhibit will be set up at several sites during the month of June --Invasive Species Month.
- Hansen noted cost share program interest has picked up. WHIP was awarded funding from Lumberjack RC&D for assistance with a roadside invasive species survey in Oneida and Vilas Counties. Interviews for LTE staff were held last week. Oneida County has hired; Vilas County is still reviewing candidates. The Forest Service has purchased a GPS unit and WHIP will be using it for the roadside survey. The Land Information Department will download information so maps will be available. WHIP will develop a management plan for the County. Hansen also distributed a brochure for landowners on the native shrubs of the Northwoods specifically for Oneida and Vilas Counties.

- Brewster has been spent most of her time dealing with staffing issues. She continues to teach sessions at the jail, Grandma’s Yellow Pie Plate workshops and is assisting with strategic planning with the Human Services Center Board.

WNEP Annual Agreement: An annual agreement is required to provide in-kind services (office space, telephone, Internet, copies, etc.) to continue the WNEP program in each county. During the first six months of programming this contract year 3,460 direct teaching contacts were made. For the prior year contract period \$87,000 in federal funds were received for programming in Oneida County. Discussion followed. Contract periods are October through September. Motion by Martini/Berard to approve the WNEP annual agreement as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Out of county travel requests:

Sadauskas:

6/11/12	Conservation Observation Day	Vilas County*
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Winkler:

7/24/12	Pas 2 ACA Camp Visit	Irma, WI*
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Committee:

6/8/12	NCA meeting	Antigo*
6/24-26/12	WACEC Conference	Green Bay*

*county expense

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

Blanket purchase orders: Motion by Berard/Martini to approve the blanket purchase orders as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly budget report: Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the LWC budget report for the period ending 4/30/12. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to approve the LWC monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve the UWEX monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Staffing updates: Brewster noted the CRD agent and County Conservationist positions were presented and approved by LRES. A change was made at budget time last year and departments were merged with one department head. It has since been brought forward that UW-Extension will not allow county staff to be department head over another department. The proposed plan discussed at an earlier meeting would incur a \$72,000 increase to the tax levy per the Finance Director. Brewster discussed several staffing plans to address this issue, noting physical location plays a big part in the plan. Lengthy discussion followed. Major concerns include salary increase for department head and efficiency. Brewster suggested moving

forward with a resolution to recreate the conservationist position as approved by LRES. Committee felt a special meeting to discuss the staffing issue is in order. The meeting was scheduled for 6/18/12 at 2 p.m.

County conservation position resolution: Brewster noted the resolution to recreate the county conservationist position has not been received from Corporation Counsel and Human Resources Director.

Reclassification Secretary III position: Tabled.

4H Ad Hoc position: Brewster requested a 4H Ad Hoc position to help backfill the 4H agent position due to Winkler's impending retirement. She requested a 600-hour limited term employee (LTE) for the period of July-October to cover the 4H/YD activities including 4H, Teen Court, TAG, fair, etc. Salary savings will cover the position. Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the 4H Ad Hoc position and forward request to the HR Director for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

Cost share program: Final reimbursement request was submitted for Mott contract during approval of expenses.

Public comment: None.

Items for next agenda: Staffing issues, conservationist resolution.

Adjournment: Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to adjourn at 4:12 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair