

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
March 9, 2020
Minutes

Committee members present: Bob Mott, Alan Van Raalte, Jim Winkler and Robb Jensen. Members excused: Mitch Ives

Others Present: Karl Jennrich, Stephanie Boismenu, Jonna Jewell, Julie Petraitis, Steven Schreier, and Myles Alexander

Call to order: Chair Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was posted properly and the facility is handicapped accessible.

Approve Agenda: A motion by Winkler/Van Raalte to approve the agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Winkler/Van Raalte to approve the 2/10/20 CUW Committee meeting minutes with changes addressed by Van Raalte. All ayes; motion carried.

Future Meetings:

Monday, April 13, 2020	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room
Monday May 11, 2020	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room

New FSA Representative: Stephanie Boismenu reported that the Oneida/Florence/Forest/Vilas FSA Committee has a new members, Jason Neilitz, who will represent the FSA on the Conservation portion of the Oneida County Conservation and UW-Extension (CUW) Committee. Jason will be introduced at the April meeting.

Manure Storage and CAFO Ordinances Update: Mr. Jennrich stated that the Planning and Development Committee made a motion to not pursue going forward with the Manure Storage Ordinance. The committee felt, after hearing discussions from individuals, that they believe NRCS and DATCAP already regulate manure enough. The Planning and Development Committee is going forward with revisions to Section 9.20, Zoning Districts, which would basically try to refine where commercial agriculture could and could not be placed. The committee also, at this time, did not want to create a Confined Animal Feedlot Operation Ordinance. Mott asked if the County is adequately protected. Jennrich stated that he doesn't believe the County can be more restrictive than the DNR or DATCAP. That is the bottom line. Mott asked if CAFO's can be banned from the County. Jennrich stated he does not believe so. Van Raalte asked if DATCAP regulations apply, with regard to the manure storage, to the unzoned towns as well as the zoned towns. Mr. Jennrich stated he believed so. Mott asked if the DNR and DATCAP regulations apply to unzoned towns. Mr. Jennrich stated he believed they would apply. Mott asked if Jennrich told those people that were commenting about manure storage that they are already under restrictions. Jennrich stated he did not have a full grasp on that at that time. Now he knows that they are covered under those regulations.

Method for relaying discussion/committee suggestions to County Board and Committee support:

Mott stated he had this on the agenda because he attended the last meeting via phone and there was a long discussion regarding the shoreland/wetland setback changes being proposed and the committee's viewpoint on the subject. Mott thought the committee members were going to take the committee's viewpoint to the County Board meeting. He asked the committee about their perception of how that support went. He asked if the committee seemed to support it or not support it.

Jensen stated that he felt it was made clear that the committee had concerns relative to the information that was provided. That the research was there but the committee didn't really see that. The committee didn't feel that

they had adequate information at the time. Van Raalte said that he made two points at the County Board meeting (1) they did not have enough information and (2) the vote should be delayed until they had that information. Mott stated that if the committee voices a concern that there should be the same kind of discussion at the County Board meeting that was held at committee level about whatever the issue is.

Nitrate/Nitrite Concerns in County wells:

Chair Mott stated that this is a topic of concern because of the land spreading in the County. He wants to be sure the citizens of Oneida County are getting the best information possible because there are extreme results that could result from having too many nitrates in a well. He wants to make sure the county citizens are aware of that and that well testing is available to them. Also, if it gets passed at the State level there may be some funding available. Boismenu stated that there is information in the agenda packets regarding Assembly Bill 800, the tests for wells and public education. There is also a resource sheet from the Health Department in regards to well testing and water testing information for home owners and well test comparison sheet and fee schedule. Jewell stated that she and Sadauskas are in the process of developing a groundwater page for the website for more public information. Mott stated that this is a discussion item that should be looked into further and feels that the County needs to be straight with the residents about what the threats are.

SB 723 Country Conservation Staffing: Boismenu reported that SB 723 is hoping to go to Senate in March. It was passed by Assembly 97-0. If it passed it will bring additional funding to the Land and Water Conservation Department.

Lake District Reports:

- a. Thunder Lake – Jim Winkler: The meeting was postponed until March 28, 2020. This item will be added to the April Agenda.

WLWCA Conference update – Bob Mott:

Mott stated he attended this conference in Green Bay, WI. He gave a brief summary of the topics discussed. Mott informed the committee that he was appointed to the Wisconsin Land and Water Board.

Posting of the submitted applications related to 9.61 Metallic Mineral Exploration, Bulk Sampling and Mining on the Oneida County Land and Water Website:

Jewell stated that Sadauskas was inquiring if the mining applications could be posted to the Land and Water website, in addition to any other official documents that come up. Jewell stated that they reorganized the mining section of the website identifying the recent and potential mining projects that are happening. The information came from the DNR website.

Jewell stated that Sadauskas has the following questions:

1. Would posting the permitting process be beneficial?
2. Should the application be posted? Who approves the application?
3. When can the information (application) be posted to the website?

Schreier stated that he could see just a link to the Planning and Zoning website, as that is where you go to get the permit application. Providing a lot of resources may lead people to think it is the responsibility of Land and Water Conservation Department.

Jennrich stated that when the Planning and Zoning Department approves and issues permits, the permits are posted on the GIS area of the website.

Mott feels it is an excellent piece of information and part of the ten-year plan. Jewell will go forward with updating the site and have Jennrich review it before going live.

LWCD Update:

- a. New Grants Awarded – Steph Boismenu:
 - i. DNR AIS Education, Prevention, & Planning Grant:
 - ii. Lake Classification Grant:
 - iii. River Planning Grant:

b. Upcoming Events:

Boismenu reported that the Land and Water Conservation Department was awarded three grants through the Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Grant Program, as stated above. The AIS Education Grant was in the amount \$43,823.00. This will allow the department to hire three LTE's and prevent the introduction and spread of AIS along with doing education and outreach programs. They will be doing 625 hours of Clean Boats, Clean Waters, watercraft inspections, the LTE's will be working a total of 1800 hours. There are currently 2 LTE positions open.

The Lake Classification Grant was in the amount \$45,000.00. This will promote and implement lakeshore restoration projects aimed to protect the water quality, create wildlife habitat and reduce shoreline erosion.

The River Planning Grant was in the amount of \$10,000.00. This for an LTE for this summer for 380 hours. That is to map, assess and prioritize approximately 90 stream crossings in five townships (Minocqua, Lynne, Hazelhurst, Lake Tomahawk and Woodruff).

LTE Request for LWCD River Grant Project.

Motion by Jensen/Winkler to approve the LTE for the Land and Water Conservation Department River Grant Project. All ayes; motion carried.

Consent Agenda Items: (Land and Water Conservation).

- a. Approve out-of-county travel requests for staff and/or committee members:
 - i. WHIP Annual Meeting- March 18, Lincoln County (already approved)
 - ii. AIS Lakes Convention – April 1-3, Portage County (already approved)
- b. Monthly budget report(s).
- c. Approve monthly invoices/purchase orders.
- d. Line item transfers.
 - i. Closeout LIT's.
 - ii. 2020 LIT's.

Motion by Van Raalte/Winkler to approve items a-d. All ayes; motion carried.

County Fair Report/Update/Discussion.

Winkler reported that the Fair Committee is working on major fundraisers. They are looking at the major fundraiser taking place after the fair, which is going to be a carnival in Minocqua. A percentage of the proceeds will go to the Fair Committee. It will be held at the end of August. They are working with Crystal, from the Minocqua Chamber. They will have some food booths and they have a two-year contract with the carnival company. The committee is working with a local lawyer for a grant with Wal-Mart. They are looking at creating a committee that will work totally on fundraising. They also have a volunteer fair coordinator who has a plan of action proposed.

Fair Coordinator Contract.

This has been approved by Corporation Counsel. Motion by Van Raalte/Jensen to approve the Fair Coordinator Contract. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair/City Contracts update/action.

This has not been approved by Corporation Counsel. No action taken.

Consent Agenda items: (Oneida County Fair).

- a. Monthly budget report (s).
- b. Approve monthly invoices/purchase orders/vendor contracts.
- c. Line item transfers.
 - i. Closeout LIT's.

Motion by Jensen/Van Raalte to approve items a and b. All ayes; motion carried.

Educator reports. None. Mott stated there will be a 4-H interview coming up.

Office air update. The committee was provided a written report.

Progress report on Extension/Nicolet move. Jensen stated this was on the Administration Committee agenda and they have some concerns, such as:

- A more exact date as to when move might happen.
- What is going to be moved from Extension to Nicolet?
- When to cancel the lease?
- When does Nicolet want them to move over there?
- What does the lease look like? Does the County need to approve the lease?
- Is there any cost to the County?
- Buildings and Grounds may be too busy to move them.
- Reconnection of the computers – IT Department?
- Potential damage to office space at UW-Extension.

Consent Agenda items: (UW-Extension).

- a. Monthly budget report(s).
- b. Approve monthly invoices/purchase orders.
- c. Line item transfers.
 - i. Closeout LIT's.

Motion by Van Raalte/Jensen to approve item b. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Van Raalte, Winkler to approve items a and c. All ayes; motion carried.

Public comment. None.

Items to be included on next agenda. UW-Extension move

Adjournment.

Mott adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Mott, Committee Chair

Julie Petraitis for Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary