

**Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee**  
**Monday, February 8, 2021 - VIA ZOOM ONLY**  
**Amended Minutes**

**Committee members present:** Chair Bob Mott, Bob Thome, Jr., Jim Winkler, and Stephen Schreier. Mitch Ives absent.

**Others Present:** Karl Jennrich, Michele Sadauskas, Baerbel Ehrig, Stephanie Boismenu, Jonna Jewell, Brian Desmond, Mike Romportl, Dan Butkus, Norris Ross, Jay Fostner, Tom Jerow, Jeff Verdoorn, Art Lersch, Myles Alexander, Carrie Kubacki, Terri Kolb, Meg Sprecksel, Thomas Barnett, Beckie Gaskill, and Merry Lehner.

**Call to order:** Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was properly posted.

**Approve Agenda:** A motion by Thome/Winkler to approve the amended February 8, 2021 agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

**Approve Minutes of Public Hearing on the Crescent Lake District:** Winkler/Thome approved the minutes from the Public Hearing. Mott asked for corrections in wording. Winkler/Thome to approve the amended minutes with four corrections. Steven Schreier abstained from vote; he was not present. The remainder were all ayes; motion carried.

**Approve Minutes:**

Thome/Winkler made a motion to approve 01/11/21 CUW Committee meeting minutes. Steven Schreier abstained from vote as he was not present and the remaining votes were all ayes; motion carried.

**Future Meetings:**

Monday, March 8, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Zoom Only
Monday, April 12, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Zoom Only

**Public Comment:**

Tom Jerow offered to work with and assist Sadauskas and Jennrich regarding the CAFO manure ordinance.

**Electronic Signature Approval for February 8, 2021 meeting:**

Chairman Mott reviewed that Committee members will permit their typed in names to be represented as their signature on all documents for this virtual meeting. Winkler/Thome made motion to approve electronic signatures for today's meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

**Crescent Lake District Petition Update:**

Mott thanked all involved for their work on the petition. Sadauskas commented on the *draft* of the Crescent Lake report, which is 41 pages, in which page three was discussed. A discussion regarding signatures and owners of percentage of land took place. Suggestions were made on how to clarify some things about signature verifications or notarized signatures, where Brian Desmond made comments. The Committee discussed Exhibit 7 regarding signatures. The final report will be presented next month and this decision will have to be made. It may be that the petition itself needs to be verified not the verification of signatures when looking at a Waukesha case Desmond quoted. In the past, each individual page was verified for previous lake districts on file with the County. The committee directed Sadauskas to contact other lake districts and check with other county conservationists who have handled this issue in the past. Butkus commented that on previous petitions on lake district formation, they did have every signature page signed in an effort to cover all ground so that the petition would go through. Chapter 33 is vague on this point and it can be unclear. Sadauskas does have the signatures on-line if anyone wishes to see who is eligible. The report may look different in the final form. Desmond Excused.

**Lumberjack Meeting Report: Lumberjack RC&D Council Meeting Minutes**

Jim Winkler – The Meeting was held January 14, 2021. Project presentations were made and the Council approved 2021 the Grant/Project Funding. Six projects were submitted from the multiple counties that participate with the Council. Winkler said it is a very good group to belong to for Oneida County.

## **Lake District Reports**

**Bear Lake – Robert Thome.** The meeting on September 5, 2020 held nominations for elected the officers. On January 20, 2021 Commissioner's meeting took place. A zoom subscription was purchased for meetings. Clean Boats Clean Waters volunteers are needed. They discussed old record storage concerns. A discussion took place about a floating bog located near the river inlet on the lake.

**Squash Lake – Bob Mott** The meeting took place on January 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. It was proposed to have Onterra test the water of a creek that enters Squash Lake. A report on a proposed Oneida County Shoreline Protection Ordinance amendment was discussed. Mott gave an update on the proposed Crescent Lake District.

## **CAFO Manure Storage Update**

Mott spoke to Jennrich earlier about Oneida County Planning and Zoning department rejecting the manure storage ordinance. A draft of the December 18, 2019, Chapter 28 Oneida County Manure Storage and Management Ordinance was shared. It is about the development of ordinances to either regulate confined animal feedlot operations with 500 animal units or greater and/or regulate the manure that is associated with livestock operations. Mott is concerned over pollution of surface and ground water and run off. Marathon County has some ordinances in place for up to a 500 animal threshold. Can action be taken after the fact if the State ordinance does not work for Oneida County? Jennrich reviewed that the ordinance does not apply to unzoned town areas. The Planning and Development Committee decided not to go forward. It will be up to Land and Water Conservation to create a manure storage ordinance. Jennrich researched surrounding counties and Tom Jerow will do the same with other counties in the State. Does Land and Water want to do this? The Committee was in favor of Land and Water developing an ordinance that would benefit Oneida County. Steve Schreier is in favor as well. Is the county prepared to handle the consequences if someone came into the county with a large herd of animals. Winkler suggested checking Lincoln County. Jennrich will be in touch with the Chair, Sadauskas, Jerow, and others who can contribute to the development of an ordinance. The ordinance looks at the manure not at the number of animals.

## **Recently Proposed SPO Changes:**

Bob Thome reviewed the proposed shoreline protection ordinance changes. The group met some resistance from Planning and Development Committee. Two DNR representatives will attend the next Planning and Development Committee meeting, concentrating on the shoreline access and view corridor. The push is for a selective clearing in the access and viewing corridor of 35' x 35' **on a 100 foot lot**. It requires the landowner to re-vegetate after construction is completed. There are discrepancies on NR 115 to be reviewed that Oneida County cannot do anything about. They will need to settle the vegetative buffer zone, clear cutting, regarding land disturbance when building a boat house. Progress is being made.

## **Cost Share Update:**

The Van Asten property, that has a 35 foot rip rap project, was approved earlier. Slides presented showed an area where more rock could be recommended. Plantings will be on the hillside above the rocks. Water from the driveway will need a rain garden to slow flow of water. Sadauskas had some concerns over rocking more of the shoreline. There is an \$8,000 cap, even with a smaller rock extension. The DNR is a stakeholder in this and Lake Tomahawk is an outstanding water component in the property. Sadauskas is comfortable providing a compromise in this issue. Jay Foster was in attendance earlier in the meeting to comment but had to leave early. More discussion with the landowner on the length of rip rap is necessary.

## **LWCD Update:**

The Speaking Contest was held on January 15, 2021 and one speaker was advanced to the Regional Contest. Malia Szews, a fifth grader at Sugar Camp Elementary, took first place at the Regional Conservation and Environmental Awareness Speech Contest on January 27, 2021 in Forest County. The Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) Annual Meeting held virtually on March 2-5, 2021 cannot be partially attended at a lower cost. The cost is \$150 to attend the whole conference.

**Consent Agenda Items: (Land and Water Conservation):**

A motion made by Thome/Winkler to approve b, c, and d as presented. All ayes; motion carried. The removal of one of the expenses will be added to the March agenda for further discussion. Most grants are two years and the money is carried forward into the 2021 budget.

Schreier excused.

**Oneida County Fair Report/Discussion:** Included below in Short Fair Presentation

**Short Fair Presentation:** Tom Barnett

Tom Barnett, Fair Coordinator, presented on plans for the Oneida County Fair. They have several new Fair members, all who have many bright ideas. They possess the will power, wants, and needs and are eager to move the fair in the right direction. The Fair is requesting approval to present to the County Board of Supervisors. The Fair Planning Committee is working to become a private entity and is requesting designated fairgrounds for the Oneida County Fair. By having their own grounds, they can ask for donations. Barnett has been meeting with many of the County Board members explaining their plans to move forward. Several properties were proposed and parcel PE-69 (5328 Lake Julia Road) is of interest to the Fair. Holewinski favored a proposal on leasing Oneida County property. The economic benefits to the County having a fairgrounds would keep the Fair financially fit. The economic benefits to having the ability to host year round-events would generate money that would go back to a proposed County Fairgrounds. The County would retain ownership of the property. There are infrastructure upgrades that will be necessary. If a proposal is made to Committee, the town involved needs to be contacted first. They asked to present at the March 8 meeting.

**Fair Privatization:** Brian Desmond has worked with City on an annual contract. Will report next month.

**Update Fair/City Contract, Business Plan, 501(c)(3) Conversation:**

Ray Bergen is working on the Score project. Progress continues on fund raising and the budget. The next meeting is the third week in February.

**Consent Agenda Items Fair:** A motion by Winkler/Ives to approve consent agenda items a, b, and d. All ayes; motion carried. New Committee members are Christina Johnson and Kristopher as new Committee members. They reviewed the line-item transfer.

**Update on Hiring of Area 4 Extension Director Position:**

Art Lersch announced that the posting for the Area 4 Director Position should happen fairly soon. By mid-spring, he expects a new area director will be in place.

**Update Related to Teen Court/Community Youth Development Position:**

Carrie Kubacki will be leaving Oneida County for a full time Health and Well Being position in Langlade County. It will be less travel and more concentration to her field. Sharon Krause is the candidate for the Oneida County Teen Court position. She formerly worked with Extension in Vilas County as their County Youth Coalition. She administered Teen Court in Vilas and has good connections at Lakeland Union High School. She will work at 50% in Oneida and 50% in the Lac du Flambeau Community as their Positive Youth Development educator. Due to the hiring freeze, a delay in approval is pending. Krause is a very qualified person for Oneida County Teen Court.

**Strategies for Presenting to County Committees:**

Terri Kolb has been meeting with Mary Rideout and others in Social Services in coalitions such as Northwoods COPE/ ADOA Coalition, part of CHIP, (Community Health Improvement Plan) that meets monthly. The County ADOA has agreed to participate in ROTA (Rural Opioid and Stimulant Technical Assistance) in partnership with UW Schools of Medicine and Public Health and UW Madison Extension. Kolb is facilitating in this process. Kolb joined the TRI-County Trauma Informed Care Task Force, teaming up with Oneida County Social Services and Human Services. Their mission is to reduce stress and trauma for social workers, mental health professionals, and school staff to provide education on the impact trauma has on individuals and families. They will offer to work with staff as a joint project with Extension. It is a three-year project, at the beginning stages, where they are meeting for listening sessions. Once they have bugs worked

out then she will report to the Committee. She will report at least two times a year to the Committee. She is working with the ADRC in an Aging Mastery Program, offered virtually, to improve well-being, strengthen ties to the community, and make new social connections. Kolb will bring up the role Extension plays as often as possible. Mott suggested Kolb to meet with Sheriff's Department to collaborate with them. They have been collaborating with the Rhinelander Police Department but not the Sheriff as of now. Thome suggested talking with Joel Gottinger, Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to meet about Veteran Services as another avenue in forming partnerships.

**Educator Reports:**

The Committee received the written educator reports in their packets. If there are any questions, the Committee can ask at this time. Educators will alternate each month presenting reports. The educators will report with any new information. Mott liked the Veterinary Science program and is happy seeing Teen Court progressing. FoodWise is collaborating with the Food Pantry promoting healthy meals and he is pleased with Alexander's involvement with PFAS, the Fair, and Economic Development as good things.

**Extension-Nicolet update:**

Lersch is following up with the State and Nicolet regarding signage. The Airport still has one Extension sign up. A request to remove all signage upon vacating the Airport was made last spring. Extension will follow up with the Airport.

**Consent Agenda Items:** A motion was made by Winkler/Thome to approve Extension consent agenda item b. All ayes; motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**Items to Include on next Agenda:**

Final report Crescent Lake District Petition, related LWCD expense discussion. Updates for LWCD, Cost Share, CAFOs and manure storage updates. County Fair Report, Fair Discussion and Contracts, and 501(c) (3) and privatization. Extension Area Director and Teen Court update, Nicolet update, Educator Reports. Extension Strategies.

**Adjournment:** Mott adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry Lehner  
Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

Bob Mott  
Bob Mott, Committee Chair