

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
Monday, January 11, 2021 - VIA ZOOM ONLY
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Bob Mott, Bob Thome, Jr., Jim Winkler, Steve Schreier, and Mitch Ives.

Others Present: Karl Jennrich, Michele Sadauskas, Baerbel Ehrig, Stephanie Boismenu, Jonna Jewell, Jeff Verdoorn, Art Lersch, Myles Alexander, Anne Williams, Carrie Kubacki, Meg Sprecksel, Tom Jerow, and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was properly posted. Mott thanked everyone for work on the Crescent Lake District Petition Public Hearing on Saturday, January 9, 2021.

Approve Agenda: A motion by Thome/Winkler to approve the January 11, 2021 agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve Minutes:

Winkler/Thome made a motion to approve 12/14/20 CUW Committee meeting minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Future Meetings:

Monday, February 8, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Zoom Only
Monday, March 8, 2021	1:00 p.m.	To be Determined

Public Comment: None

Electronic Signature Approval for December 14, 2020 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 Public Hearing and Timeline Update:

The Public Hearing was held Saturday, January 9, 2021. It went very well and Mott thanked all for their efforts. Mott reviewed the timeline dates with the Committee.

- February 8, 2021, CUW views the draft of Crescent Lake District Report.
- March 8, 2021, The final Crescent Lake District Staff Report will be reviewed by CUW Committee.
- March 16, 2021, The County Board will receive report and recommendation (if sent) and Jennrich will report to the County Board.
- April 20, 2021 The resolution will be forwarded to the County Board who receives resolution and recommendation.

The dates are tentative. Jonna Jewell will send out hearing documents to the Committee. LWCD has completed their initial review and inspection of the 150 petitions. and will be in contact with Land Informaiton and Corporation Counsel.

Solar Facility-One Energy Update:

The Hodag Solar Project Conditional Use Permit Follow-UP document was shared with the Committee. It was submitted by OneEnergy Development, LLC, proposing a solar facility in the town of Crescent near Highway 17. OneEnergy is working with the Department of Transportation to apply for a permit for a new driveway into the site from Hwy 17. The company listened and addressed concerns with the public such as bird casualties. OneEnergy answered most of the concerns and did a very good job. Planning and Development approved it and will be sending out a letter to the Department or Transportation. Pollinator plantings will be incorporated into the site amongst the arbor vitae. OneEnergy will work with Land and Water on the pollinator project. Construction will begin this year. Company responded to land owners in a very prompt and professional manner to accommodate landowner questions.

Discussion on Oneida Couty CAFO moratorim ending 2-28-2021:

Next Wednesday, January 20, 2021, Planning and Development will be having public hearing on ordinance on Ordinance Amendment #1-2021 authored by the Planning and Development Committee to amend Chapter 9, Article 5, Section 9.57 Livestock Facilities Licensing of the Oneida County Zoning and Shoreland Protection Ordinance. It will extend the moritorium up to September, 2021. Jennrich heard back from DATCP regarding the change and he will be meeting with

Corporation Counsel about the amendment and about placing commercial agriculture in various zoning districts. The department and Corporation Counsel will be meeting with DATCP lawyers, and Sadauskas is free to attend.

Potential Manure Storage Ordinance: There is nothing new to report. Planning and Development did not move forward with the ordinance. The ordinance is more of a public health ordinance and it can come from either department, Public Health or LWCD. Tom Jerow and a colleague are researching the surrounding counties and are in the process of investigation. Jennrich will share his files with Jerow and believes there is some justification to extending the moratorium. Oneida County Board of Supervisors will make the decision. Mott prefers not to see another six to eight months to go by with no decision.

Possible Committee Division:

It is difficult to concentrate at meetings longer than two hours. There is a cost savings by combining Land and Water, the Fair, and Extension Committee meetings. Per Dave Hintz, it is permissible to hold such meetings twice a month. Mott polled if they should hold two meetings per month or keep it to one meeting but make it more efficient. There are important topics at each meeting that need to be discussed. Committee responses were:

Jim Winkler is fine with the committee meeting as is. If the Fair goes private, it will be removed from the agenda.

Bob Thome is not in favor of splitting the meeting. Extension should be on the agenda every month.

Mitch Ives felt two meetings are better if meeting agenda is lengthy. Choose only specific topics to discuss.

Art Lersch said Extension is flexible and it is up to the Committee. Quarterly is not often enough for Extension to keep the County Board current. In a hybrid meeting, all educators would submit a report but only one or two would attend the meeting to present their programs. Extension is last on the agenda and Lehner will notify Extension when to sign on for the meeting. It was agreed to keep one committee meeting and try it for February.

Lake District Reports: None

LWCD Update:

- a. Annual County Conservationist Virtual Meeting March 2-5, 2021. A schedule of events was included in the information packets. The cost of the Virtual Conference is \$150. Mott asked if attendees could attend one day only at a reduced cost. LWCD will see if it is possible to break down the days so people could attend some of conference at reduced costs.
- b. River Grant Update. Sadauskas will have JoAnne Lund present next month.
- c. Lake Class Grant Update. Baerbel Ehrig provided a presentation on an overview of 2020 accomplishments. Lake protection grant. Shorelines are very important to our ecosystem. The grant title is: Targeted Approach to Lake Shore Restoration. An extension for an additional year (past two years) due the the pandemic is likely. A kickoff to the grant began in June with a news release, a workshop of 45-60 people in attendance, and a WXP Radio interview. workshop of 45-60 people in attendance, and a WXP Radio interview. Staff conducted surveys and 34 site visits, and is working with the Three Lakes Waterfront Association on a lake shore restoration photo contest project. Baerbel also attended the Wisconsin Lakes & Rivers convention, and additional trainings for lake shoreland and shallows habitat monitoring.

Consent Agenda Items: (Land and Water Conservation):

A motion made by Winkler/Thome to approve b and c, as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Oneida County Fair Report/Discussion:

Winkler submitted no written report because the Fair Committee Meeting does not meet until January 12, 2021. The Fair completed their move into their new office at the Curran Building. Meg Sprecksel, new County Fair President, named the new Executive Committee members and shared an updated fair member roster. Mott thanked them for their devotion to their many responsibilities. Mott spoke with Tom Barnett who will be presenting to the County Board in the upcoming months on future Fair plans.

Fair Privatization: Myles Alexander, Extension and Ray Burgan a hired consultant, and continue to work on privatization. Fund raising is one of the main topics of focus.

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

Their 501(c)(3) was filed and is awaiting approval. Brian Desmond is working on this and Fair will report in February.

Consent Agenda Items Fair: A motion by Winkler/Ives to approve consent agenda items a and b, with a correction noted on Voucher Approval list. All ayes; motion carried.

Strategies for Presenting to County Committees:

Art Lersch requested this to stay on the agenda for further comment. Terri Kolb will be presenting to Social Services this year as an example of staying in touch with county contacts. The County Board Supervisors received the Educator reports last month to keep them informed of Extension activities. Will the educators present to the full County Board with updates at some point? Mott will follow up on it at next meeting. An example of a presentation to the Board could be Alexander presenting with the Lakes Design partners. Constituents could speak at Board meetings to keep them informed. County Board meetings begin with an agenda item called have a "Reports" which would be the proper time for a brief presentation. Suggested collaboration with the county departments should be a focus. Extension educators can arrange to speak at any of the County Department meetings where Extension might offer help or partner in a project. A suggestion of five-minute presentations by educators at other department meetings is an option. Lersch said this would have merit. Winkler suggested educators contact board members for one-on-one visits. Educators will contact new county board members to introduce them to Extension. They will give updates to all members and offer the opportunity to talk about what Extension has to offer.

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. Mott commented on how much Extension does for the community. Transitioning to virtual programming is something all the educators have done well at in 2020.

Myles Alexander: Gave an update on PFAS. At the point, it is how to best to have dialog with the Community. The City is in the process to develop qualifications to do remediation of City Well 7 and 8, currently off-line and Rhinelander. They are testing every other month. The first round of testing Slaughter House Creek site reported only trace amounts of PFAS. The results of water draws by Dr. James Tinjum, Madison, should be in next month. Funding proposals for research at the Airport where surface spreading occurred in years past, if funded, will start in spring.

Extension-Nicolet update:

Nicolet College has closed the campus until January 18, 2021. Lersch is in the process of hiring a new LTE position to fill in while Tillmann is out of office through mid-February. An interview will take Tuesday, January 12, 2021. Winkler asked about new Extension signage by the Nicolet entrance. The Division of Extension is developing new signage throughout the State. Once developed, our site will be a priority for a new sign, with the cooperation of Nicolet.

Consent Agenda Items: A motion was made by Thome/Winkler to approve the Extension consent agenda items a and b. All ayes; motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Items to Include on next Agenda:

Updates for LWCD, Cost Share, Crescent Lake District formation, CAFOs and manure storage, Squash and Bear Lake District Reports. County Fair Report, Fair Discussion and Contracts, and 501(c) (3) and privatization. Extension Nicolet update, Educator Reports. Jeff Verdoorn, OCEDC report and Extension support, Extension Strategies.

Adjournment: Mott adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry Lehner
Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

Bob Mott
Bob Mott, Committee Chair