

**Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee**  
**Monday, June 14, 2021 – County Board Room and Virtually by ZOOM**  
**Minutes**

**Committee members present:** Chairman Bob Mott, Bob Thome, Jr., Jim Winkler, Mitch Ives, and Mike Roach. John Engel excused.

**Others Present:** Karl Jennrich, Michele Sadauskas, Baerbel Ehrig, Jonna Jewell, Dan Butkus, Tom Jerow, Art Lersch, Terri Kolb, Sharon Krause, Karly Harrison, 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/Ives to approve the June 14, 2021, agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

**Approve Minutes:**

Thome/Winkler made a motion to approve the amended May 10, 2021, CUW Committee meeting minutes with two corrections. All ayes; motion carried.

**Future Meetings:**

Monday, July 12, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Courthouse and Zoom
Monday, August 9, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Courthouse and Zoom

The Northwoods Center conference room will not be available until the end of August due to summer classes. The CUW Committee wishes to begin meeting at the Nicolet Northwoods Center conference room in September 2021.

**Public Comment:** Alan Janssen, has a question to ask regarding the Manure Storage agenda item and will comment then. Tom Jerow and Dan Butkus have worked closely on the manure storage ordinance. All water is connected whether ground water, wetland or surface waters. Liquid manure ultimately runs downhill towards a water body. He thanked Karl Jennrich for his work on the ordinance and report. It is time for an ordinance to be in place for manure storage and CAFO development.

**Electronic Signature Approval for June 14, 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. Committee members present can sign documents going forward. Ives/Thome made motion to approve electronic signatures today. All ayes; motion carried.

**Brief FSA Report – John Engel**

Engel was not able to attend the meeting. Late June reports are available in conference room.

**Nomination of At-Large Members – Lumberjack RC&D**

Winker asked for committee members to be looking for possible members in their districts that might apply. There are three slots open, Claudia Baker currently represents Oneida County, and our county can have one more at-large member on the committee. Applicants cannot hold an elected position. All applications are due in July, please see the website. The Council meeting is on Thursday, July 29th in Shawano County.

**Art Thompson Road Concerns – Karl Jennrich**

Jennrich summarized that the department received a complaint regarding the issuance of a permit pole building to a Mr. Newkirk near Art Thompson Road. It is a private road, which part of it is paved and part is not. It is not a formal town road. Mr. Newkirk received a complaint filed by a neighbor, Mr. Rulseh, regarding the placement of the building causing runoff that is flowing into the lake. Newkirk and his neighbor, Sachse, share a common driveway, and Sachse has erosion on his property from runoff. Then complaints were received for possible runoff caused by the building, where no gutters are present. Part of the complaint is related to enforcement. A recommendation for a rain garden or filtration basin shall be placed to stabilize the fill and vegetation is required. The permit is not being followed. An on-site inspection was completed. Jennrich sent out a letter about the shared private driveway and erosion on the property. The last letter

stated that they would like the issue corrected. Jennrich ask Michele Sadauskas for input with action by August. A letter was sent to both Sachse and Newkirk, and Rulseh was informed of the letter. Jennrich believes there is other erosion involved with the site. Wash out on the road is being caused by the garage, which is two feet higher than the road. There is no ditch line on the road. LWCD be at the site on June 28 and offer advice on preventing runoff into Sand Lake. Planning and Zoning has little involvement with private roads. It is believed the roads themselves are contributing to the runoff into Sand Lake.

### **Lake District Reports:**

Thunder Lake – Jim Winkler

The June meeting had 17 people in attendance. The fish stocking will occur again next year. They visited the Thunder Lake marsh. John Stauner has an organic cranberry marsh there. The dam that is in disrepair flows into the marsh. They are concerned that a heavy rain will wash out the dam. An engineer is scheduled to look at the dam site.

Mid Lake – Bob Mott

A special meeting was held on who can vote at the annual meeting. Mott asked Butkus regarding this and the statutes do not specifically say so. They came to some agreement on the number of voters a trust or property owners can have. Husband and wife can both vote and renters can vote if they have been there 28 consecutive days. A resident of the District can vote. It will be an on-going issue with their by-laws.

### **Manure Storage Ordinance – K. Jennrich/ M. Sadauskas**

Sadauskas said there are a number of people working on making sure that all understand what a Manure Storage Ordinance is and what a Livestock Facility Siting is and what a CAFO represents. There is a group of northern counties that do not have manure storage ordinances; however, Florence County has a livestock facility siting ordinance. Ashland has a manure storage ordinance, but not a livestock siting ordinance. She sent out information on local and state regulations for new and expanding livestock facilities to the Committee. The concern is that once a CAFO is established, no new ordinances can be placed. The group asked for the input of Dan Butkus and Tom Jerow on the ordinance pros and cons on the basis of Oneida County Draft of Chapter 28, dated December 18, 2019. A report was provided by Butkus and Jerow to the Committee. They looked at the difference between a siting and manure storage ordinances. Siting ordinances are huge and more complicated and must follow Wisconsin siting regulations, and receive DATCP approval. Manure storage ordinances are easier. Jennrich's ordinance is much like other counties. Fond du Lac County included some extra things in their ordinance they would like to adopt. The new DNR program Healthy Watersheds addresses wetlands, and high quality water. The report covered findings, authority, definitions, activities subject to regulation, and water set backs. Exceptional water quality of northern highlands is what we want to protect. We want to more clearly identify protection of lakes and control of runoff. Setbacks were defined at 1000 and 300 ft. from a navigational stream, wetland, and intermittent streams. A number of intermittent streams exist that flow into Squash Lake as an example, that can carry runoff and intermittent streams actually increase the water shed area. Prohibitions include idle manure storage, conditions for bringing a site back to service. Land must be revegetated. A proposed revision of the manure storage ordinance to P&Z is pending and will be their responsibility to finalize it. The moratorium was extended to September 1, 2021. It was agreed a line-by-line review of ordinance with staff and committee will take place. A request was made to check with John Engel about manure stacks.

Alan Janssen: Stated that we do not want CAFOs in the Northern Highlands. Property values will go down. Property and rivers have been destroyed in the southern part of the state. We do not want this to ruin our lakes, rivers, and streams.

### **Definition of Vegetation – M. Sadauskas**

Sadauskas highlighted vegetation requirements for the Cost Share Program. Item #2 Mandate: defines the access and view corridor that must be maintained with vegetation. Sand, gravel, rock or other similar materials shall be prohibited. Item #3 Include a definition of compliant vegetative buffer under 9.95a: Shall contain three distinct layer including tree canopy, shrub layer, and groundcover. A chart was provided that explained the multiplier of trees, shrubs, and groundcover of plants required. Option one is per 100 square feet. Option two involves 200 square feet, but no groundcover. The third option defines the size of trees in the viewing corridor and all other existing vegetation shall not be removed or replaced with sod or seed. Now there is a definition for vegetation and there are numbers and LWCD will present to P&D once final approval is given by CUW. Then it will go to the County Board of Supervisors. Committee will look at it again in July.

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

A motion made by Thome/Ives to approve b and c, as presented with \$513.47 amount. All ayes; motion carried.

**Oneida County Fair Report/Discussion:**

Bob Thome presented and provided the County Fair report from the May 25 and June 8 meetings. No further action was taken on a permanent fairground. The priority now is for the successful operation of the 2021 in-person Fair. Updates were given on sub-committee tasks, noted in the handout, including the Minocqua carnival and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, marketing and advertising, raffles, and funding of 2021 goals. Fair privatization plans are on hold until after the Fair. Priority issues to address are that the 2021 Fair balance is in the black. The City Contract for Pioneer Park for 2022 will need review. The business plan/budget for privatization and inventory of all Fair related equipment will be assessed after the 2021 Fair. Thome is looking at the books to be sure that they are in order so when the Fair is over, the numbers will be in order for privatization. The Fair takes place July 29 through August 1, 2021.

Tom Barnett, Fair Coordinator, agreed with information covered by Thome and thanked him for attending their meetings. Barnett said they are moving forward to present the best 2021 Fair. He has spoken with the land records committee several times and he is working through some of that for the Fair.

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

Covered above. To be addressed after the 2021 Fair. It will be on the August Agenda.

**Consent Agenda Items Fair:** A motion by Winkler/Ives to approve consent agenda items a and b, with an updated Voucher Approval list total of \$3,084.66. All ayes; motion carried.

**Area Extension Director Updates:**

Art Lersch announced that Amber Rehberg as our new Area Extension Director position for Area 4. She will start on July 18, but he will schedule Rehberg will attend the July 12 meeting. Rehberg is a longtime Extension employee who has been a 4-H educator, an Extension Department Head in Price County, and is currently a 4-H Educational Programs Specialist in Madison. He reviewed her variety of program, supervisory and leadership roles. She has spent time managing budgets, promoting Extension, and supporting colleagues. Lersch, Area Extension Director, Nancy Crevier, and Assistant Dean, Catherine Neiswender, will be mentoring Amber.

Art and Myles met with Tina Smigielski, Finance Director, to review Extension programming and budgeting. Lersch mentioned the county transferring of funds for the rental of space at Nicolet College for 2022.

Approval of Extension signage at the Northwoods Center is complete. Lersch would like to have an open house at Nicolet College and invite the new President, Kate Ferrel, to introduce the CUW Committee members. Ferrel starts July 1. The Committee discussed having the open house and the CUW committee meeting the same day of August 9, 2021. They asked if the entire County Board of Supervisors might be invited. Reservations at the Lakeside Center are an option; Lersch will have preliminary discussion with Nicolet College before scheduling.

**Extension Communication Strategies:**

A Nicolet open house discussed above inviting our committee members and possibly others. One strategy coming to fruition is that Social Services and ADRC are in support of educational work including Extension educators. It is through Title 3 Grant Funding received on an annual basis through Social Services/ADRC. More information is pending. From the University side they will be developing an MOU. These will be grant dollars and not tax levy dollars. The other accomplishment is a Youth Programing Grant through various entities. Extension is involved but not a fiscal agent. Anne Williams and Sharon Krause are taking part in this grant through UW Madison for special programming for the youth clients of these various agencies. Amber Rehberg will receive an update on the process.

**Educator Reports:**

In the summer, it is difficult to submit a strong report due to vacations. Mott is always pleased with the report. A compilation of events and people reached was requested for publication in October. The testimonials are great.

Educator Updates: Alexander and Williams are on vacation.

Terri Kolb: She did some in-person programing in May. She worked at Rhinehaus with Health and Wellness topics. She is planning a hybrid Strong Bodies class both as an in-person and virtually through Zoom as well. The class will begin on July 13, 2021. A training for new volunteer leaders will take place in August in Madison. The other partnership is with

Public Health where they are conducting a survey on Community Assessment of Substance Abuse. They have received 300 responses. In July and August, they will host focus groups on the survey results and use it to educate the community. Karly: More in-person programming is starting with Mary Stys hosting Nutrition Education, Food Safety and food budgeting education at Rhinehaus for the months of June and July. FoodWise is partnering with the YMCA and RAFP for summer youth food distribution program at the Central School parking lot Starting June 24, every Thursday at noon until 1:00 p.m. FoodWise sent a partner survey out and most would like to see more education provided by the educators. They will try to replace Lindner at a 70% position.

Sharon: Teen Court is still hearing cases; one or two a month and Social Services expects the numbers to increase as Covid restrictions lift. There will be no hearings in July but will continue in August. Extra mental health training will take place for panelists. Krause worked with Adam Nowack at Lakeland on a new club called the Raise Your Voice. Due to an attempted suicide in May, they started their QPR Suicide Prevention course early. Fall recruitment will continue for Teen Court and the Freshman Ignite program. She is working on the project Lersch mentioned previously.

**Extension-Nicolet update:**

The County Facilities Committee met last week regarding the drafted lease agreement with Nicolet College and the County for the Extension office for the next six months July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The University paid the first six months of the rental. A recommendation that the lease agreement be handled directly by the CUW Committee and funding for rent allocated directly to the Extension budget, in place of Buildings and Grounds. The transfer of funds will take place in 2022. A motion made by Thome/Ives to approve the lease agreement between Nicolet College and the County as presented for Extension. All ayes; motion carried.

**Consent Agenda Items:** A motion was made by Winkler/Ives 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, CAFOs, manure storage, Education on manure storage, comments from John Engel. County Fair Report, Fair Discussion. Extension Nicolet update, Extension Strategies, Educator Reports.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

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Bob Mott, Committee Chair