

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
Monday, MAY 10, 2021 Amended Minutes
Courthouse County Board Room and by Zoom

Committee members present: Chair Bob Mott, Bob Thome, Jr., Jim Winkler, Mike Roach, Mitch Ives, and FSA Representative, John Engel.

Others Present: Karl Jennrich, Michele Sadauskas, Mike Fugle, Baerbel Ehrig, Rosie Paige, Jonna Jewell, Dan Butkus, Ryan Peterson, Alan Janssen, Tom Jerow, Art Lersch, Anne Williams, Sharon Krause, Karly Harrison, and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. The meeting was properly posted.

Approve Agenda: A motion by Winkler/Thome to approve the amended May 10, 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 the updated minutes from March 8, 2021. All ayes; motion carried. Winkler/Thome made motion to approve the April 12, 2021 meeting minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Future Meetings:

Monday, June 14, 2021	1:00 p.m.	County Board Room and Zoom, Mott out of town.
Monday, July 12, 2021	1:00 p.m.	County Board Room and Zoom

Public Comment:

Don Hoppe is in opposition of the proposal of the lease of 34 acres of County land by the Oneida County Fair. Sandra McKittrick, is in favor of the Crescent Lake District to help financially reduce Eurasian watermilfoil.

Zoom: Tom Jerow gave an update on Livestock Manure Storage holding Ordinance. They are researching Wisconsin's livestock citing law which states what counties can and cannot do. They are working on it.

Terry Goldbach and Ryan Peterson: Thanked Oneida County staff for their support in favor of the request for the Petition of Crescent Lake District.

Phone Calls: Ted Francis, Dennis and Nancy Southworth are in support of the Petition of Crescent Lake District.

Email: Sue Alexander Binder, Mark and Melissa Mergenthaler, Judith Stroick, and Michael Pazkernik are all in favor of the request for the Petition of Crescent Lake District. Pazkernik specifically and only EWM.

Electronic Signature Approval for May 10, 2021 meeting:

Committee members will permit their typed names to be represented as their signature on all documents when attending meetings virtually. Thome/Winkler made a motion to approve electronic signatures for today's meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

Crescent Lake District:

Mott said the purpose in reviewing the proposal is so the Committee can affirm that all the parts and the process is based on the State law. Corporation Counsel Mike Fugle is present to clarify any question that any County Board Supervisor may address. We want to make it clear that all involved are following State law on the formation of a lake district. Specifically Statutes 33.25 and 33.26. Sadauskas reviewed the summary of exhibits that was shared in packets. This information will be included in County Board packets as well.

- A. Jensen Submittal: A 15-page document was made available to the County Board Supervisors that was centered on an Extension publication on how to form a lake district, 2006 and a 2018 edition. Both editions are guides. The contents represent opinions of the authors and not state statutes.
- B. Signatures: The challenged signatures were included in packet. Staff recommendations took place from

LWCD, Land Information, and Corporation Counsel reviewed the signatures that Mr. Jensen asked to review. Staff accepted those challenged signatures as originally reviewed, and have not rejected those signatures. A memo was sent to that affect. The signatures will remain at 192 or 55.97%. Sadauskas provided examples of the one page notarization that three other counties used.

- C. No changes in the signature challenge so no revision to resolution and final report is needed.
- D. County Board Concerns: Exhibit 6 posed questions, Exhibit 7 are the answers provided by Mike Fugle , and Exhibit 8 includes the exact statements that the purpose is to inform the County Board as to its statutory role and authority upon receipt of a petition to form a lake district. The exact wording is also present in "Establishment of the District will promote public health, comfort, convenience, necessity, and public welfare". Chairman Mott read the Crescent Lake statutes discussion and shared State Statute 33.24 – 33.26 State law in establishing lake districts by the County Board. The document was reviewed and all steps were completed. Conditions and contents were met, therefore state law was followed.
- E. Recommendation to County Board/Appointment of District Representative: Sadauskas broke down the four statements to present to the County Board. Mott read the recommendation to the Committee.

A motion made by Thome/Winkler that the CUW Committee make the recommendation to approve the formation of the Crescent Lake District, with exhibits included, to forward to the County Board. All ayes; motion carried.

Public Comment: Jim Gerke commented in favor of district and recommended Robert Thome Jr. as representative for proposed lake district, Alan Janssen, Connie Anderson were in favor of the formation of the Crescent Lake District. On Zoom: No comments.

A motion by was made by Winkler/Mott to make Robert Thome Jr. the representative on the proposed Crescent Lake District. All ayes; motion carried.

Area Extension Director Updates:

Art Lersch stated that current indoor meeting guidelines for public gatherings are 50 people indoors or 30 percent room capacity. As of June 1, 2021, the guideline will be 350 indoors or 50 percent room capacity. They will continue to mandate mask wearing and social distancing. For outdoors it will be 500 people with social distancing. Later this week, there will be final interviews for the Area 4 Extension director. There are some very solid candidates where no start date has been determined. Lersch informed the Committee that there will be a \$1,848 fee increase for 2021-2022 to the contracted amount with the County for Extension services. It will be covered in the budget. They are continuing to make up for wage increases for two people at 2% each for the last two budgets. For 2022 it will be 3 percent, similar to county COLAs. Counties will no longer have to pay for the professional development fee. Extension will continue the \$10,000 discount for the 2022 budget, applied to the contract amount. This is helpful for rural counties to keep Extension services.

FY 2022 FoodWise Agreement Letter:

Karly Harrison said the agreement letter has not changed, it is the same as the last five years. FoodWise, has been in the County since 1994. The number of contacts was 1,738 for the previous fiscal year and 455 persons. The number of people reached by FoodWise is down due to the pandemic. The funding of \$37,656 in federal funds covers two educators as well as benefits and mileage. The Extension office provides incentives, office space, supplies, equipment, IT help, and internet. A motion made by Thome/Winkler to approve the period from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 for Oneida County support of the agreement letter as presented.

Teen Court Update:

Sharon Krause started to hear Teen Court cases in April via zoom and the new panelists did very well. They will continue during the summer. They are training for new panelists for Rhinelander School District. The students are excited about training in the Courthouse in August. Patti Finlan, Juvenile Clerk, has accepted a position with Judge Bloom. Finlan has been a valuable to Teen Court and position will be posted.

Extension Communication Strategies:

Thome complimented on Extension working with the other County departments. Monthly copies of the County Report should go to the County Board Supervisors both electronically and hard copy.

Educator Reports:

The County Report is being generated by the State where educators input the material which is now used for the County as well. Myles Alexander received an award from the Rhinelander Community Foundation Awards for contributions to non-profit organizations. He was nominated by a member of the community. Mott congratulated Alexander and recommended it be shared at the County Board meeting.

Harrison: Terri Lindner applied for retirement, effective July 7, 2021. The FTE level will be .6 to .8 level position due to the population of Rhinelander. This covers the School District, the RAFP food pantry, budgeting education, along with food budgeting. There are over 4,000 food share recipients in Oneida County.

Williams: 4-H Continues to grow in Oneida County. They are increasing their partnerships and collaborations. The Rhinelander School District has requested job shadowing experience. Krause and Williams are working with the YMCA on the Teen Advisory Council, focusing on the social and emotional health grant program. They have connected with Social Services and Public Health to address the toll of the pandemic on social and emotional health of adolescents, in order to build resiliency, provide connections, and social support. Williams is planning 4-H Summer Camp at Camp Susan the second week in July.

Krause: New at Lakeland High School, is Raise Your Voice which focuses on QPR (Question, Persuade, Respond) for suicide prevention training. The trained students will wear pins on their backpacks with the Raise Your Voice logo for anyone who is struggling to approach them. Raise Your Voice is of interest to the YMCA and Social Services as part of the COVID grant. Ryan Zitlow, Mary Rideout, Krause, Williams and ArtStart, will work on a \$200,000 grant for mental health issues for ages 10 to 22.

Extension-Nicolet Update:

Catherine Neiswender, Assistant Dean stated that the Extension lease is up on June 30, 2021, where the State paid Nicolet from August 2020, through the beginning of this year to June. The agreement was that on July 1, 2021, Nicolet and the County would negotiate the lease for second six months of this year. It is Nicolet lease so Sandy Bishop should be contacting the County Building and Grounds about the lease.

Consent Agenda Items- Extension:

Motion by Winker/Thome to approve items a and b as presented. All ayes; motion carried. The March Monthly Summary was also approved by a motion made by Thome/Winkler. All ayes; motion carried.

County Fair Report/Discussion:

Fair Committee met on May 4, 2021. They will meet twice monthly. Winkler was not on the agenda.

Update on Fair Resolutions:

Winkler was out April 20 through May 1, 2021. The resolution to become independent will not be written until after the County Fair. The Fair budget will be better known by then. Mott spoke to Tom Wiensch about County Fair land and the subject Fair property in the garages. When they become a private entity, this should be a separate issue. The deposits will need to be documented as Fair fees or donations coming into the County. Mott advised that the Business plan will need to be ready.

Fair Privatization:

This will not take place until after the Fair is over, as described above.

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

Fair Contract from the City Administrator and City of Rhinelander lawyer is approved and Winkler will forward to the Committee members. Mott asked that the business plan be added to the agenda item for June, 2021.

Reminder: Land Records Meeting is May 11, 2021

The Land Records Committee Meeting will hold a discussion only on possible uses and background of Oneida County owned parcel PE-69, at 9:30 on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. Thome asked how many people can be at this meeting tomorrow to avoid a quorum. The Committee will be sure not to form quorum.

Consent Agenda Items: Fair

A motion was made to approve line items a and b for the Fair by Winkler/Mott. All ayes; motion carried. The March Monthly Summary was also approved by a motion made by Thome/Winkler. All ayes; motion carried. A fund raising document helped the Committee to understand where the Fair is at financially.

WHIP Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Rosie Paige, WHIP Coordinator, a multi-partner co-op dedicated to education and management of invasive plants and animals in Oneida and Vilas counties of northern Wisconsin, has a new MOU for signatures. WHIP has been in place since 2010. They have action teams working on different grants on prevention of invasive species. Their fiscal agent is Lumberjack RD&C. Oneida County is one of 16 formal partners. They are renewing their MOU for the next five years and are requesting an updated partner signatures at this time to ensure that the information is correct on the signature page. The agreement, good through 2026. A motion was made by Winkler/Thome to accept the partnership and move this MOU forward for the next five years to Chairman Hintz. All ayes; motion approved.

Lake District Reports:

Bear Lake – R. Thome Jr.

The report was in the packets. The Bear Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District met on April 28, 2021 all five commissioners were present. The budget was reviewed. The Lake Management Plan was discussed. The plan requires a second point intercept survey to take place in 2023. The next meeting will be on June 30, 2021.

Horsehead Lake - M. Ives

Mitch Ives reported that they are one of the oldest Lake Districts and things flow smoothly. They planted 5,000 blue gills and 750 crappies. They have made some repair and maintenance on their weed harvester.

Manure Storage- M Sadauskas:

Karl Jennrich provided a background on the ordinance and researched with other counties on how they regulated their ordinances. Chapter 28 was going to be regulated by LWCD and Planning and Zoning. Land and Water would look at the structures and Planning & Zoning at enforcement of the ordinance. Corporation Counsel reviewed it and the ordinance to be applied county-wide. Ultimately, the County along with Planning and Development did not approve it.

Manure can affect the groundwater and that is why it is being brought up. The ordinance can still go through Land and Water Conservation on the technical plan review of a manure structure. It has been two years since developed. We need to start somewhere. Mott's concern is having manure running into streams. Once CAFOs are here, an ordinance cannot be written. The argument is why regulate when the State is regulating. Large CAFOs consist of 500 animals or more, but there are small CAFOs. It is not based on the number of animals; it is how the manure storage ordinances are regulated. It also depends on if farmers receive funding from the State and Federal grants for storage issues. Tom Jerow added that public health and safety aspect related to regulation. He is looking into the livestock siting law for counties and the state.

Mott wishes to protect and preserve ground water and surface water in Oneida County and the keep water clean in Wisconsin. Can it be done without duplicating DATCP services? Do we have to depend on the State for enforcement. Thome suggested Tom Jerow and Dan Butkus continue to work on this issue. Sadauskus and Jennrich will see how to handle it as a northern county. Sadauskus thanked the group working on this. The focus in the ordinance is highlighted, where there are contentions. Water Quality Management areas are listed in the Land and Water Plan. The DNR has a brand new program called Healthy Watersheds. Committee shall review the December 18, 2019 draft, Chapter 28 Manure Storage and Management Ordinance for June.

Definition of Vegetation update:

Put on hold for June Agenda.

LWCD Update:

Consent Agenda Items: (Land and Water Conservation:

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

Discontinue Portion of Glencoe Drive- Town of Woodruff notice: The Public Hearing is June 8, 2021. Any discontinuance for a town road, per state statutes, is sent to the local Land & Water Conservation Committee for review. There was a question on whether the property was landlocked or not. No motion was made to approve the Glencoe Drive discontinuation schedule for June 8, 2021. Therefore, Jennrich will draft a letter and present it at the public hearing.

Public Comment: None

Items to Include on next Agenda:

Extension updates on Area Director, Nicolet, Educator Reports and Strategies. LWCD updates, Ives- permit, Hardtops and Roads, Manure Storage ordinance review. County Fair Report, Privatization. Update on Fair Business plan and resolutions.

Adjournment: Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

Bob Mott, Committee Chair