

**Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee**  
**November 11, 2019**  
**Minutes**

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

**Others Present:** Steve Nelson, Andrea Rippley, Myles Alexander, Michele Sadauskus, Karl Jennrich, Fred Andrist, and Merry Lehner.

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

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

**Approve Minutes:**

Van Raalte/Winkler made a motion to approve 10/4/19 CUW Committee meeting minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

**Future Meetings:**

Monday, December 9, 2019	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room
Monday, January 13, 2020	1:00 p.m.	UWEX Conference Room

**DRAFT**

**Cost Share:**

A partial reimbursement of \$8,693.23 was requested for approval on the Charest project. Before and after photographs showed the progress of the project on the Wisconsin River to the Committee. A motion by Jensen/Winkler was made to approve the partial reimbursement, as presented, for the Cost Share Charest project. All ayes; motion carried.

**Lake District Report:**

Squash Lake - Bob Mott.

A resolution to enter into a grant agreement with the DNR to update Squash Lake's Aquatic Management Plan was approved. The Eurasian water milfoil harvesting report is posted on the Lake District webpage. It included information on the Onterra fall survey, harvesting data summaries for 2019, and the fall divers meeting report. There were three rare species found on the lake during the Onterra survey. A motion approved the bid received for boat storage, mooring and trailering. The Squash Lake group is an interesting and active group.

Thunder Lake – Jim Winkler

The group met in August while Winkler was in Alaska but they discussed the late arrival of the fish fry introduced into the lake. They are making their quarterly meetings. The next meeting is Saturday, December 7. Winkler requested another committee member attend the December meeting. Mott will try to attend.

**Septage Update: Investigation of Septage Spreading in Stella:**

Karl Jennrich reported on the issue of spreading septage on frozen ground in the County. A Notice of Violation/Enforcement Conference was scheduled on September 26, 2019, by the DNR to a local area septic service business to attend. A review of the septic company's logs was provided to the DNR who observed that "land applied septage" totaled 10,600 gallons during February, 2019, while the ground was frozen and snow-covered. The Wisconsin Administrative Code requires that land disposal of septage, applied to snow covered fields must have the snow removed, or plowed spreading lanes, when snow is deeper than six inches. Land spreading to frozen or snow-covered ground is prohibited except in emergency situations. There are record keeping and reporting that businesses must submit on DNA department forms. There is required records upkeep on vehicle log books or invoices with businesses. Daily books or invoices must contain disposal locations and the date and time of disposal. The local septic business records were incomplete. The committee was provided written information from Ashley Dooley, Environmental Enforcement Specialist, with the DNR outlined areas where the company needed to provide further documentation and make

improvements to their records. Their communication that employees of the company need to receive adequate training. A compliance list requested the company to provide revised daily vehicle logs with correct certification statement, hydraulic loading rates for each vehicle, an updated Spill Plan, and a Standard Operating procedures, and other items. This information was due by November 1, 2019.

**Follow-up on FSA Representative to CUW Committee:**

There is one year remaining on Kim Simac's term as FSA Representative. The current Farm Service Agency Committee in place is responsible to find an individual to fill in or replace Simac through the end of her term. If a replacement is not found soon, the Committee may or may not be represented. Former FSA Representative, Clint Zimbeck, cannot be an appointed representative this year or next year because he is not on the current FSA Committee. Zimbeck could be on a ballot to be a FSA representative in 2021. Each committee elected member serves a three-year terms of office. We do not want to be in a quorum issue. Winkler suggested another possible candidate who could run for election is John Engel.

**Update on mosquito spray chemical effects:**

Mott had requested to check with the County Health Department and DATCP to see how mosquito spraying affects human health. Sadauskas checked with the Health department and they had no information. DATCP is out of the EPA and there is a register where you can sign up and be notified if someone in your neighborhood is spraying near your property. A report out of the California Department of Health Sciences on Safety of Pesticides Used to Control Adult Mosquitos was included in the packet to the Committee. Pesticides used to control mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus are Pyrethrins, extracted from Chrysanthemum cineriaefolium, Pyrethroids, a synthetic pesticide similar to pyrethrins, and Peperonyl butoxide (PBO). Another report shared a Product Toxicity Comparison out of Texas A&M University Extension office. It lists commonly sold product names, their active ingredients, and what the toxicity/threat is to humans. It also addresses effects on aquatic life, birds, bees, and pet, soil mobility, and environmental persistence. A graph rates the toxicity or threat as low, moderate, high, highest, unknown, or earth-wise. LWCD has a small amount of money and hours remaining in the Pollinator Project Grant and Baerbel Ehrig will be devoting those to mosquito spraying outreach. They will post the product toxicity comparisons on the department website.

**Resolution to Support the Submission of a Lake Classification Grant:**

Mott introduced for discussion on the Lake Classification Grant. It authorizes the County Conservationist, to submit an application for a two year grant to the WDNR not to exceed \$50,000 in grant funds for Shoreline Protection, Cost Share and Healthy Lakes grant projects. The position will support LTE position for 1200 hrs./yr. Jensen/Winkler made a motion to support the resolution to apply for the WDNR Lakes Classification Grant through the Conservation department that Chairman Mott will move forward to the full County Board of Supervisors for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

**Resolution to Support the Submission of a River Planning Grant:**

This is a small one-year grant for \$10,000 to inspect the County and Town culverts in the Towns of Lake Tomahawk, Woodruff, and Hazelhurst, Lynne, and Minocqua. An LTE will assess and Prioritize an estimated 90 culverts. The surveys will look at different culverts to use for fish passage or erosion issues. Winkler/Van Raalte made a motion to support Chairman Mott's submission of the River Planning Grant to the full County Board for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

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

The Wildlife Damage budget increase for fence installation in the Town of Stella, which is covered through APHIS. Van Raalte/lves moved to approve consent agenda items a, b, c, and d as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Jennrich excused at 1:45

**County Fair Report/ Update/Discussion – Jim Winkler:**

Jim Winkler announced a new amusement provider and had Fred Andrist speak further about a new contract with Tri-State Carnivals rather than K & M Amusements. They are working with Tom Weinch and will present it to Committee in December. The new carnival provider will be used as a major fund raiser for the Fair. They are planning a carnival (rides only) be held in Three Lakes or Minocqua to raise funds for the Fair. Tri-State Carnivals offers different choices of rides and more of them. Andrist will lead the contracts, Josh Skubal, Fair Vice President will help put the contracts together.

Skubal has experience in contract writing and is recommended by Andrist. At the next Committee meeting Mott asked that they discuss how the Fair President, or Vice President can be representative of the Fair with Corporate Counsel on all Fair Contracts. In the past, the Fair Coordinator was the contact person. Andrist would prefer to lead the contract discussion, rather than Fair Coordinator, Barnett, who has done it in the past. The Committee will discuss further next month. The Fair books final balance was (\$2,581) and one more Coordinator payment will be made. K& M Amusements brought in \$7,400 this year and a grant was received for \$3,500. During budget hearings it was suggested that more income needs to be generated for the Fair. Mott again reminded the Fair about an admission charge. The additional carnivals being offered in other towns will bring in additional money. As the year ends, they will send out an evaluation form on the Fair Coordinator position. They will have one Fair board member attend the Annual Fair conference in January. Elections are next month. They will have at least one new member.

**Fair Contract Update:**

Andrist has two contracts to be discussed with Brian Desmond. The specific contracts are regarding garbage pickups and portable toilets, which needs some questions addressed. Andrist will check up on it before the next meeting and report.

**Consent Agenda Items Fair:**

A motion made by Van Raalte/Jensen to accept agenda items a and b, as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**DRAFT**

**Extension Facilities Discussion:**

Mott and Nelson reported on the on-going discussion with the State regarding Extension moving to Nicolet College. The figure for rent at the Airport is \$40,000 and \$18,000 for rent at Nicolet. In 2020, Extension has funding for nine months through the State at Nicolet. Jensen asked about the amount of \$4,500 in contingency for Extension to cover the move to Nicolet, if everything works out. Nelson said that the mechanism to handle that is to include the \$4,500 bill in the County Educator contract. Nelson said that the State asks that the contract be complete by December 15, 2019 for 2020. This committee, except for the \$4,500, approved the contract. It will pick up for rent balance, moving, and phone installation. The \$4,500 would be split out into two payments by the County to pay the State Educator Contract. In 2021 and beyond, the County would work with Buildings and Grounds to pay the rent to Nicolet. This will give the Airport time to adjust in 2020. Mott spoke to Leitner at the Airport who will be looking to reduce his budget for 2020. In 2021, Mott said Leitner may absorb the cost or find a renter. In 2021 and beyond, Buildings & Grounds will work with Extension to pay the \$18,000 rent at Nicolet. A question posed is who gives notice on ending the lease at the Airport and whether it is the County, this Committee or Extension. The County is responsible to provide a place for Extension. They can further discuss after the County Board Meeting tomorrow. Mott will check afterwards on what needs completion by January 1, 2020. There will be three committee approvals needed: Administration, Buildings and Grounds, and the CUW committee. It was noted that any change in the wording of the contract needs to be reviewed by LRES.

**Office Air Environment:**

There were four reports for diesel fumes for the month of October.

**Educator Reports:** The Health and Well Being position was posted and it will close on the November 12. The interviews are on December 3 in Vilas County from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m. They will be in-person interviews. A committee member from Vilas County has come forward and Nelson asked for one of our committee members to be present. Mott will attend the interviews.

**Extension 2020 Budget:**

The motion for a zero increase to Extension was put forth at the budget hearings. The Extension budget was adjusted by reducing four existing operating line items; details were included in the information packets. Nelson said that according to County Statutes, Extension educators are employees of both the County and the State. With the merger, the language on the contract state, referencing a different Statute, which regulates County Board function, the Board can contract with the State. With the County being able to contract for services with the State, zero increases cannot continue because costs will go up. It will be like eating an elephant bite by bite. Eventually, there will be nothing left. That contract line item sometime will need to be treated like support staff or employees because there will be cost increases, such as insurance, or pay rates, etc. It becomes unfair to say that it is part of the operating and it is the contract. With County

employees, it does not affect the overall budget; it is part of operating costs. The educator's salary did not go up as much as the county employee salaries. Costs continue to go up.

**Consent Agenda Items – Extension:**

The second educator contract of the year is \$3,500 less as it reflects the vacant Health and Well Being position. Van Raalte/Winkler moved to accept item a and b as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Myles Alexander stated that the Efficiency Report shows the support staff only and only a portion at that and not the State in the ranking. A final report was requested with information that is more complete.

**Items to Include on next Agenda:**

FSA Representative, Cost Share update, LWCD update, Lake District Reports as needed and project approvals. County Fair Report/Discussion, Fair contact for Corporate Counsel, Fair/City Contract, Facilities Discussion, Educator Reports, Office Air.

**Adjournment:**

Mott adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

---

Bob Mott, Committee Chair