

Agriculture & Extension Education/Land & Water Conservation Committee
April 11, 2011
Minutes

Committee members present: Chair Tom Rudolph, Paul Dean, Carol Pederson, Greg Berard, Romelle Vandervest, Bob Evsich, and Eric Snyder (TAG representative).

Others present: Brian Desmond, Nancy Hollands, Jim Winkler, Jean Hansen, Susan Hunter, Erica Brewster, Dan Kuzlik, John Bowman (LNCC), John Gillen (DNR), Phil Puestow (DNR), Tina Werres (OC Fair), Jim Kumbera (OCEDC) and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by Chairman Rudolph noting the meeting has been properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible. Rudolph welcomed Paul Dean back after his illness.

Approve agenda: Motion by Dean/Vandervest to approve the agenda for today -- order of items at discretion of the Chair. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Pederson/Evsich to approve the minutes of 3/14/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) of future meetings:

May 9, 2011	1:30 pm	Extension meeting room
June 14, 2011	1:30 pm	Extension meeting room

Lake Nokomis Lake District Petition Resolution – Written Order of Denial:

Rudolph noted this is not a rehearing on the merits of enacting the proposed Lake District pursuant to Wis. Stat. s 33.26(3). Desmond noted the resolution was denied at the March County Board meeting and he worked with staff to draft the written order of denial. The resolution includes reasons the petition was denied by County Board members and must be submitted at the April County board meeting to meet the six month deadline to comply with state statutes. LNCC has 30 days after the written order is filed to appeal the decision with the circuit court if they desire. They also have the option to re-petition at any time. Discussion followed. Motion by Berard/Vandervest to forward the resolution to county board without a recommendation. All ayes; motion carried.

DNR Tree Shipping/Tree Planter rental: John Gillen, DNR Forester Ranger, reported the DNR has a program giving landowners an opportunity to purchase tree seedlings at a reduced rate and the DNR coordinates shipping from the Hayward nursery at a cost of \$5.00/1,000 trees. Phil Puestow, DNR Forestry Tech, noted this is a good way to help private landowners practice sustainable forestry. Orders are currently at 32,381 trees (oak and jack pine) for 22 different landowners with delivery expected 4/26-28/11. A few landowners are looking to rent the tree planter for \$30/day. Tree planting spuds are also available to borrow free of charge. Staff also provides tree planting tips. Discussion followed. Funds for the program funnel through LWC to cover DNR actual costs.

Staff vacancies: Kuzlik noted County Coordinator Potters approves filling the 4H Secretary and AIS Coordinator with two 600-hour LTE positions. Due to the uncertainty in the state, Kuzlik noted the department is willing to accept LTE positions but stressed these are still important positions. There will be a salary savings for both positions as the pay rate is less and there is no benefit package. Filling these positions with LTEs also allows for hiring before the end of the mandatory vacancy period. Rudolph felt recruitment should target a candidate who may be able fill the position if it goes back to full-time status. Hansen voiced concerns regarding the AIS grant and the need for matching funds to offset the two AIS project assistant summer positions. Discussion followed. Rudolph believes this is a critical position and would like some kind of guarantee the AIS position will again be full-time and/or the six-month timeframe to request a full-time position be extended. Kuzlik believes this is the best scenario afforded at this time. The issue has been placed on the next LRES Committee agenda for approval.

Monthly budget reports: Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve the UWEX monthly budget reports 2010-Close 2, 2010-Close 3, and period ending 3/31/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands reviewed LWC monthly budget reports in detail and noted less than 40% of the department budget is on the county tax levy as most is funded through grants. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the LWC monthly budget reports for 2010-Close 3 and the period ending 3/31/11. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Pederson/Dean to approve the April monthly invoices for UWEX as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the April monthly invoices for LWC as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Pederson/Dean to approve the April monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair update: Werres reported plans are going well and include a raffle and wristband specials for the rides this year. Vendor applications have been mailed and sponsorships are being sought. Local financial institution employees have been recruited to count money each day of the fair. Werres worked on a cooperative marketing plan through Assured Publishing partnering with nine other fairs. Werres thanked the Committee for their support and invited them to attend the planning meetings or to volunteer at the fair.

Fair contracts: None at this time.

Approve fair committee members: Although the committee is now full, Werres requested Eric Britton be approved as an alternate. In the case of a resignation, the vacancy could be filled quickly. Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve Eric Britton as an alternate contingent on a clear background check.

Line item transfer: Vandervest/Berard to approve the line item transfer in the amount of \$4,641 from the NWS investment account to NWS budget to cover expenses. All ayes; motion carried.

National Poster Award recognition: Cael Steinmetz has been awarded 1st place for grades K-1 at the national NACD poster contest. Rudolph has worked with Steinmetz's parents and teacher to coordinate a recognition event at County Board. Hollands will arrange placement on the agenda.

County Cost-Share Program/Update: Hansen continues to work on a prescribed rotational grazing/fencing plan in the Town of Schoepke and will meet with specialist next week. Contractors are gearing up for construction at properties which were signed last year.

LWRM Plan update: Hollands reported the Technical Committee met on 3/11/11 to review the prior plan and update the work plan. Bob Martini, Matt Matteson, Bryan Pierce and Bob Evsich have agreed to serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee but she is still looking for a few additional members.

DATCP grant application for calendar year 2012: The grant application is due April 15, 2011. DATCP plans to provide a preliminary allocation plan to the counties by August so they can plan for the next budget cycle. The grant is based on 2010 actual expenses. Oneida County should be eligible for \$133,000 in 2012, contingent upon available state funding. The cost share grant is for \$100,000. Discussion followed. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the DATCP grant application for 2012 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Environmental Education Scholarships: Hollands noted \$200 is budgeted for youth scholarships and \$400 for teacher scholarships. A list of camps and educational opportunities were reviewed. Motion by Pederson/Evsich to market the environmental education scholarships available through LWC. All ayes; motion carried. Kuzlik recommended sending information to Kim Swisher, Community Education Coordinator for the Rhinelander School District.

Monthly staff reports:

Brewster: "I Can Problem Solve" curriculum is being taught at Frederick Place with plans to begin working with W-2 participants.

Hollands: Oneida County is hosting the Lumberjack RC&D meeting on 4/28/11 at the Northwoods Banquet Center. An agenda will be sent when available. Rudolph urged committee to attend, especially since it's local. Hollands circulated stewardship promotional materials for review.

Kuzlik: About 68 people attended the Research Summit. Bob Evsich was a presenter and it was covered by TV-12. Written evaluations were supportive. Additional telephone interviews are scheduled for the YMCA director position with final interviews being held in May.

Winkler: Introduced Eric Snyder TAG and Teen Court representative. Snyder noted he likes both Teen Court and TAG -- both are great learning experiences. Winkler is working on a two year Teen Court report to submit to the judges. The Oneida County Teen Court recidivism rate is currently lower than the state and national averages. A Teen Court training is scheduled at the end of April as several panelists will graduate this year. Winkler believes the program will pay dividends to the community in the future – not only for the youth offenders but for the youth that serve on the Teen Court panels. Youth must apply, interview and attend training to serve on the panels. Teen Court program expenses are covered by donations/grants, with the exception for Winkler's time and limited support staff time. Vandervest noted TAG participation has been down and it has been noticed by county board members. Winkler will address the issue.

Hansen: Oak wilt information was circulated for review. A case has been reported near Cranberry Lake in Three Lakes.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Brewster:

4/14/11	Healthier Community Action Team meeting	Lac du Flambeau*
4/20-22/11	Leadership Academy	Milwaukee**
5/3/11	"Raising a Thinking Child" training	Wausau*
5/9/11	Family Living Poverty Team meeting	Portage**

Hansen:

TBD	Native vegetation list meeting	Vilas County*
5/3-4/11	DATCP Rock & Earth training	Appleton*

Kuzlik

5/3/11	WI Economic Dev. Assn. meeting	Wausau***
5/4/11	Centergy Economic Summit	Stevens Point****
5/5/11	WCEA Board meeting	Mosinee*
5/5-6/11	ND Agent meeting	St. Germain*

Winkler:

4/19/11	Counselor training planning session	Elcho*
5/25/11	ND 4-H/YD Planning meeting	Phillips*
6/27/11	Deliver youth to state conference bus	Medford*
6/20/11	Pickup youth from state conference bus	Medford*

Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the out-of-county travel requests as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

*county expense
**district/state expense
***other expense

Agency reports:

Lake District: Rudolph reported the Horsehead Lake meeting was cancelled.

FSA: Susan Hunter reviewed written report in detail. She reminded committee members Earth Day is 4/22/11.

OCEDC: Kumbera reported the ABX project is approximately 25 days behind schedule. The floor has been poured and sealed, the building is up and work is currently focused on HVAC/electric. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for Speedee Delivery on 4/29/11 at 9 a.m. with landscaping/paving on tap in May. The OCEDC Annual Luncheon is also scheduled for 4/29/11 at Holiday Acres. The keynote speaker is Don Nelson, owner of Speedee Delivery. Pre-registration is required. Tia Nelson, Board of Commissioners of Public Lands, will be touring ABX on 4/29/11 as well as the Speedee Delivery ribbon cutting and OCEDC Annual Luncheon. Twenty-six applications were received for the Executive Director position. Eight candidates will be interviewed via telephone this month with final interviews scheduled for May/June.

LWCB: Rudolph reported LWCB met last week in Wausau and hosted a forum on the implementation of NR115 and shoreland ordinances with over 40 in attendance. Another forum addressing the spread of septage on farm fields is set for August.

WLWCA: Rudolph noted the Ad Hoc Committee is working to merge WLWCA with WALCE.

RC&D: Rudolph indicated it appears that funding for 2012 has been eliminated from the federal budget. He circulated information highlighting the accomplishments of RC&D and urged committee members to contact legislators. He also urged committee members to attend the Lumberjack RC&D meeting at Northwoods Banquet Center on 4/28/11.

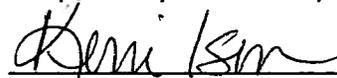
WACEC: Kuzlik noted meetings were scheduled with state representatives and participants were able to meet with legislative staff. A major topic of discussion was the separation of the UW Madison campus from the UW System. The president of the UW and the Deans from both the two and four-year campuses are not supportive of the separation.

Public comment: None.

Items for next agenda: DATCP grant contract for calendar year 2011, staff vacancies.

Adjournment: Motion by Vandervest/Pederson at to adjourn at 3:45 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary



Thomas Rudolph, Chair

