

Agriculture & Extension/Land & Water Conservation Committee
July 18, 2011
Minutes

Committee members present: Chair Tom Rudolph, Bob Evsich, Paul Dean, Carol Pederson, Greg Berard and Romelle Vandervest.

Others present: Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, Kari Lazars, Tim Plude, Michael Stinebrink, Jim Winkler, Erica Brewster, Susan Hunter, Jim Kumbera and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Rudolph at 1:30 p.m., noting meeting has been properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible.

Approve agenda: Motion by Dean/Vandervest to approve the agenda with order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Evsich/Berard to approve the minutes of the 6/20/11 joint meeting with the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the 6/20/11 regular monthly meeting. Discussion followed. Correction: Insert "He" in last sentence, Page 3, Paragraph 5 of regular monthly meeting minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Date of future meetings:

8/8/11	5:30 p.m.	County Board Room (LWRM Public Hearing)
8/15/11	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
9/12/11	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Fair updates: Werres noted all entertainment contracts are in line and new vendors continue to come in. Donations are down and she believes there will be less carryover funds than in past years, but plans to continue work on sponsorships after the fair. Electrical work is currently being done and should be finished prior to the event. Werres invited all county board supervisors to participate in opening ceremony at 5 p.m. on August 4th. Discussion followed. The Committee thanked the Fair Planning Team for their hard work.

Fair contracts: A list of contracts was provided for committee review. Werres noted there is one additional contract for sound/lights assistance from Spotlight Studio (\$1,280) as Tom Swearingen is unable to handle the entire task due to health reasons. Contract services include stage lighting setup and tear down, monitoring/maintenance of sound system during the fair and use of additional equipment to supplement what the fair already has in place. Discussion followed. Werres noted most of the entertainment is local. Motion by Pederson/Dean to approve the fair contracts as presented including the Spotlight Studio contract. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair invoices: Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the monthly fair invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly staff reports: Brewster continues to program at Frederick Place and the Job Center for W-2 clients. She is also assisting with the Healthy People/Healthy Oneida County work plan. Applications for Leadership Oneida County are being accepted. Registration deadline is 8/12/11.

Winkler noted Family Fishing Fun Day was very successful with 17 educational stations and activities for families with over \$1,000 in prizes distributed. Nine youth attended the two-week STEM Academy in Minocqua -- one additional youth attended sporadically throughout that time period. Curriculum focused on science and technology topics.

Lazers noted staff is busy planning lessons for schools this fall. Every five years the USDA looks at current research to tweak dietary guidelines. MYPLATE has been introduced and staff has begun translating information into teaching concepts. She noted that due to the 4-H agent vacancy in Langlade County, her department head duties there have been increased to 25%.

Sadauskas included a breakdown of her hours with her staff report and highlighted the AIS strategic plan that will be included with the final report for the 2010 AIS grant. The new 2012 grant application is due August 1, 2011. She is currently working on the 2010 final report, carrying out deliverables for the 2011 grant and drafting the 2012 grant for submission.

Plude has spent 150 hours at boat landings and distributing napkins and placemats. He noted the biggest issue at boat landings has been the removal of water from boats and live wells. Most people are aware of removing weeds but not water. He has received mixed reception while distributing placemats, noting a majority of places seem interested in using them only for children.

Schedule public hearing for 5-year LWRM plan: Hansen distributed comments from FSA and DATCP regarding the LWRM plan. If DATCP recommendations are followed, the plan should be approved in Madison without issue. Comments taken at the public hearing will be incorporated into the plan for County Board and state approval.

Hansen noted Fred Heider, NCWRPC, suggested holding the hearing after 6 p.m. to allow public to attend. After discussion of dates, the hearing was scheduled for 8/8/11 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room at the Oneida County Courthouse.

Draft plans will be available for review online, at the public libraries in Rhinelander, Minocqua and Three Lakes, and also at UW-Extension and Oneida County Clerk's office prior to the public hearing. Sites will also be listed in the publication of the public hearing as well as contact information for UWEX/LWC.

Out of county travel requests:

Brewster:

7/13/11	Oneida County In-service workshop planning	Treehaven*
7/27/11	Point-in-time unsheltered homeless count	Eagle River*
8/8-12/11	Master Food Preserver training	Superior*

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

Committee:

7/21/11	RC&D Lumberjack Council meeting	Shawano*
8/12/11	North Central Association Tour	Portage Co.*

Motion by Berard/Dean to approve the out-of-county travel requests for committee/staff. All ayes; motion carried.

Agency reports:

Lake Districts: Rudolph reported the Horsehead Lake District annual meeting will be 8/20/11.

APHIS: Vandervest reported the fencing project for JJ Acres was approved by the state.

FSA: Hunter reviewed written report in detail and noted due to budget cuts funds are not available for travel, newsletters or other mailings. Early retirement has been offered and about 16 employees throughout the state have taken advantage of the offer.

NRCS: Stinebrink provided list of 2011 Environmental Quality Incentives Program through NRCS to help market their programs to agricultural producers. Ag producers include those who have \$1,000 of gross farm income or owners of forest land which could be harvested.

OCEDC: Kumbera reported the ABX project is completed. The SpeeDee Delivery project is almost complete -- landscaping still needs to be done. Manufacturers are doing well and are at full capacity. Several projects are in the works which will retain and/or add 350 employees in the area. Roger Luce will replace Kumbera upon his retirement and is already attending meetings. He is the former executive director of the Wausau Region Chamber of Commerce and Marathon County Economic Development Corporation and plans to relocate to the area. Kumbera's retirement date has been moved to 9/30/11. He has enjoyed working in Oneida County and with the County Board supervisors. He believes the county and city have made significant strides in economic development over his tenure. Committee wished Kumbera well in his retirement.

Vandervest was excused at 2:48 p.m.

LWCB: Rudolph reported the next meeting is 8/1/11 in Madison which will be followed by a forum focusing on spreading septage on agricultural lands.

WLWCA: Rudolph reported the group is still working on the merger and development of bylaws for the combined organizations. The next meeting is scheduled for 8/9/11. The North Central Association summer tour will be in Portage County on 8/12/11. Registration information is forthcoming.

RC&D: The next RC&D Lumberjack Council meeting is 7/21/11 in Shawano. Their local office has moved to the second floor of the Curran Professional Park on Oneida Avenue.

Update on Lake Nokomis proposed Lake District: Staff has been asked to provide file information, emails, etc. to the Corporation Counsel office to assist in preparation of the lawsuit.

AIS Grant application/resolution 2012: Sadauskas provided draft of project goals and objectives as well as a projected budget. The grant is needed for programming expenses and staff needs direction from the Committee regarding grant submission. Deadline is August 1, 2011. Motion by Pederson/Dean to move forward with the 2012 AIS grant application not to exceed \$50,000. All ayes; motion carried.

Hansen noted in the past the DNR has allowed the resolution to be approved at the August County Board meeting although it is after the August 1st application deadline. A copy of the resolution without the costs or fiscal impact was presented for review. Discussion followed. Ison noted the Committee is meeting on 8/8/11 for the LWRM public hearing and could review/vote on the completed resolution at that time. Committee felt staff could input the necessary data. Motion by Berard/Evsich to approve the AIS grant resolution and forward to County Board for approval in August. All ayes; motion carried.

Cost share program update: Hansen provided the McLaughlin grazing plan which includes fence, heavy use protection, livestock watering facility and pipeline for approval. Applicant requested to complete the work and was required to get one additional estimate. Motion by Dean/Berard to authorize the low-cost estimate for Jim McLaughlin in the amount of \$24,268. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly budget reports: Motion by Evsich/Dean to approve the UWEX monthly budget report as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Dean/Pederson to approve the LWC monthly budget report as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Pederson left at 3:33 p.m.

Approve monthly invoices: Motion by Evsich/Dean to approve the UWEX monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Sadauskas/Hansen reviewed list of LWC invoices in detail. Motion by Dean/Berard to approve the LWC monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve line item transfers: Motion by Berard/Dean to approve the line item transfer for the AIS program as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Public comment: Hansen shared a thank you card from Stephanie Belanger for the scholarship to conservation camp.

Items for next agenda: Fair report, LWRM plan, AIS grant, AIS strategic plan, update on county conservationist position and AIS coordinator position, staffing requests, buildings and grounds requests.

Adjournment: Motion by Dean/Berard to adjourn at 3:49 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair