

**Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee**  
**October 12, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Committee members present:** Chairman Tom Rudolph, Bob Mott, Jim Intrepidi, and Kim Simac. Robb Jensen, Scott Holewinski excused.

**Others present:** Lynn Feldman, Sara Richie, Karl Jennrich, Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, Rosie Page, Jim Tharman, Nancy Gehrig, and Merry Lehner.

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

**Approve Agenda:** Motion by Mott/Intrepidi to approve today's agenda with the order of the items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the minutes of 09/14/15. All ayes; motion carried.

**Date(s) of future meetings:**

November 9, 2015	1:30 p.m.	UWEX Conference room
December 14, 2015	1:30 p.m.	UWEX Conference room

**APHIS-2015 Deer Donation Program:**

Jim Tharman reviewed the APHIS 2015 Wisconsin Deer Donation Program where the county has the option to participate. The Wisconsin DNR and the WDACP venison program agree to fully reimburse the county for all administrative and venison processing costs associated with the program. Committee approval and the Chairman's signature to participate were needed. A motion was made by Intrepidi/Simac to approve and sign the Deer Donation Program. All ayes; motion carried.

**Wildlife Damage Budget:**

Tharman also presented an amendment to the program year 2015 made and agreed upon by the State of Wisconsin where an increase of \$5,000.00 was needed to the 2015 budget for program delivery. There has been an increase in the amount of inquiries into the program and new enrollees. A temporary abatement and fences have been built in the county. A motion was made by Mott/Intrepidi to approve the Wildlife Abatement 2015 budget increase from \$13,405.53 to \$18,405.53. All ayes; motion approved.

The 2016 budget will have an increase of \$3,500 so they will not have to amend for an increase again at year end. The increase is to cover more fencing and to visit and follow up with contacts to the program. A motion was made to approve the 2016 Oneida County Budget request by Mott/Intrepidi. All ayes; motion carried. Tharman was excused at 2:00 p.m.

**Additional Lumberjack RC & D Grant Applications:**

Nancy Gehrig thanked the county and community for their support to the Oneida County Fair. The goal is for the Fair to be self-sustainable and a grant would help in this respect. Pioneer Park needs more electricity for the Fair to continue at that location. This year, seven vendors were turned away due to lack of electrical hook ups at a loss of \$2,000.00. Gehrig obtained an estimate from Gaber

Electric for additional electricity at Pioneer Park. Per Gaber, the main infrastructure already exists to install additional power. The 2016 Gaber estimate is split into two areas. The first estimate of \$7,500 is for the South Pavilion where a new 100 amp feeder would be installed to the existing panel. It would extend power to a new panel with (12) 20 amp receptacles. A second estimate of \$11,000 for the East Pavilion covers installation of a 200 amp feeder and a new circuit breaker panel. The actual Lumberjack project proposal application and format was not completed. Gehrig will submit by Wednesday, October 14. A request for \$10,000 as the maximum amount will be made. The Committee will approve the proposal with the information presented. Mott moved to approve the Lumberjack RC & D grant proposal and forward it on to the Lumberjack Council for electrical infrastructure improvements for the Fair; it was seconded by Intrepidi. All ayes; motion carried.

### **Oneida County Fair Update:**

The Fair held a strategic planning meeting and has many new ideas; but, they will need more people to help with implementation. Preparations are already being made for next year. They will have to book with the McNaughton Crew for set-up services by January, 2016. The Fair budget was approved reflecting the 5% cut which came to \$729.00 reduction. Their final 2015 balance was approximately \$1,500.00. Mott asked for an update about charging \$1.00 per adult for admission. This option is still under consideration. Gehrig was excused at 2:35.

### **LWCD and P & Z Department Merger:**

Karl Jennrich presented the requested organization chart to the Committee. A meeting was held last Friday to develop five-year plan in order to assist Land Water Conservation as they see fit. The Cost Share program, for example, could receive assistance from Planning and Zoning. New employee, Scott Ritterbush, Land Use Specialist, understands survey work and scaled maps and might be of assistance to Land and Water in the future. Jean Hansen said five-year plan is related to the technical staff's work load. Mott commented that the reverse should apply as well, where Planning and Zoning could receive assistance from Land and Water in certain situations. An evaluation process was proposed with the merger as well, and Mott would like to see follow up on this aspect.

### **Cost Share Update/Approval of Projects:**

Jean Hansen asked for approval on Cost Share updates. Projects were reviewed. Butkus –Squash Lake planting project design was completed. The contract will be signed soon and work will start next spring. The Keller-Lake Nokomis and Corsten-Lake Tomahawk deposits have been submitted. Four other updates were given as outlined on handouts. The low cost estimate will need approval today for Butkus. Motion by Intrepidi/Mott made to approve the low cost-estimate for Outdoor Rooms from \$7,226.00. All ayes; motion carried.

### **Additional Lumberjack RC & D Grant Applications:**

Rosie Page, WHIP Coordinator, presented a grant proposal for funding to continue for the coordinator position. They work with both Oneida and Vilas County Land Water and Conservation departments. WHIP has 15 formal partners. They work to share resources to promote the awareness of invasive species and organize invasive species control projects. Their activities range from surveying road sides in the county to monitor and identify the invasive species to mapping plants using tablet technology. They involve youth and adult volunteers to find out what is out there. Most of Oneida County is not part of the Great Lakes initiative, since it does not fall under the Great Lakes Drainage Basin, so they do not receive federal funding. They are requesting \$10,000 for a total of 475 hours. This will be 15 hours per week and equals 8 months of employment. The last grant was for \$10,000

in 2013. A motion to approve this application from WHIP and move it on to Lumberjack RC&D Council was made by Mott/Intrepid. All ayes; motion carried. Page was excused at 2:45 p.m.

### **AIS Grant Resolution:**

Michele Sadauskas went over the Resolution that will need to be signed by the Committee today. The resolution is very similar to the resolution that has been in effect for the last three years. The Land Water and Conservation Department must apply for a grant for the Aquatic Invasive Species program through the Wisconsin DNR to receive funding. The grant is for one year not to exceed \$50,000 and must be submitted by December 10. Motion was made by Intrepid/Mott to approve the AIS Grant resolution to move on to the County Board Meeting in November. All ayes; motion approved.

### **Consent Agenda Items-Land and Water:**

The Consent Agenda Items were approved as presented for Out-of-County Travel. Jean Hansen reviewed the budget report and pointed out that North Central Regional Planning figure of \$7,500.00 was paid by them but they will be reimbursed by DATCP. Monthly invoices were approved as presented. Mott/Intrepid moved to approve the Land and water consent agenda items as proposed. All ayes; motion approved.

### **Agency Reports:**

Lake Districts: Horsehead Lake Association meets on Nov 12th, Lake Nokomis will meet in two weeks, and Mid Lake had no new report.

FSA: Simac reported that the cranberry and potato crops are doing very well for farmers. They are now getting their second cuttings of hay crops.

OCEDC: Roger Luce just sent out information regarding broadband to the contributors of the 2014-2016 Grant where tomorrow will be the one year mark since they submitted it. It will be sent to the Committee for review. They applied for another public service commission grant. There were 4.4 million dollars in requests for the 1.5 million that is available. Their request is for \$146,000 to upgrade the three towers of pilot project. YMAX will need to upgrade to YMAX LTE for better coverage. If they receive the grant they will do that upgrade. The other project applied for was for a tower in Malvern, east of Rhinelander. They will try to add onto a tower that is there. They will have to calibrate the towers and see if the funds will be available. Due to topography issues the amount of megabytes received depends on if there is a low lying area where additional relay is then needed. Squirrel Lake was an example of this discussed before.

Lumberjack RC&D: The next meeting will be on October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Quality Inn, Rhinelander.

WACEC: A joint meeting was held on Sept 20-22 with the Wisconsin Counties Association in La Crosse. There were several good break-out sessions. The Dean, Richard Klemme, spoke regarding the reduced budgets that impact UW-Extension and pending strategies. There will be a Webinar available on Wednesday at 10 a.m. and all are urged to listen in on the presentation. Feldman and Richie will offer the archived Webinar for viewing here at the Extension office for interested Committee and County Board Members. They also had a WACEC annual meeting where Rudolph was awarded for 20 years of service. Mott added that Bob Krause mentioned the meeting for next year will be in Wausau. They are looking at ideas and activities for that meeting. Hansen, Sadauskas, and Jennrich were excused at 3:30 p.m.

**Phone Update:** The phones are still on track for wiring to be completed on October 24. The installation will start October 26 through 28, 2015. Transition for the telephone numbers from Frontier to Charter are currently in progress.

**Air Quality Update:**

No diesel fumes reported for this month. There are no further updates and they have not tweaked the negative pressure fan yet. There is a meeting scheduled for November 3, 2015 where Tom Schmitz from the state and Joe Brauer will be dialed in to an air quality call will be held at 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. with the State Department of Hygiene. Tom Rudolph will be invited in on the call. Feldman will forward info to Rudolph.

**UWEX Report to Committee:**

Richie and Feldman gave an abbreviated version of the presentation that they will give to the County Board on October 20. They presented an overview of UW-Extension’s Purpose, Educational Priorities, Services, Program Areas and Outcomes. It showed how there is value in the programs that are offered. Funding was reviewed where 60% is state funded 40% is through the county tax levy of \$1,887.47. An average cost is \$8 per resident from state but in Oneida County the average is \$5 per resident. It was agreed it gives a good overview, given some of the numbers and highlighting specific programs. The presentation was approved by the Committee to present to the County Board meeting.

**Consent Agenda Items – UW-Extension:**

Out-of-County Travel and UW invoices were presented. No other invoices have come through for the Fair; the only pending expenses are outstanding payroll and some supplies for next year. Motion was made by Rudolph/Mott to approve the UW-Extension Consent agenda items. All ayes; motion approved. Rudolph was excused. At 3:50 p.m.

**Public Comments**

The budget came in at 3 cents per thousand increases, if approved. They started at \$78,000 over and now they are in the positive numbers today. Healthcare costs were reduced from 12% to 5%. It was a smooth process because there was prior discussion where all were involved in working at reductions.

Request to schedule a special meeting on Monday, October 26, at 8:30 a.m. at the Extension Conference Room. Discussion will be on the Priorities for New CNRED Agent. The new agent will start November 1, 2016.

**Items to include on next agenda**

Items for next agenda are updates on: Deer Program, Cost Share, Broadband, LWC /P&Z update, follow up on joint meeting between LRES with LWC and P&Z, Air Quality, and Phone installation.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Intrepidi/Simac to adjourn at 4:00 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Merry J. Lehner*  
Merry J. Lehner, Recording Secretary

*Thomas D. Rudolph*  
Thomas Rudolph, Committee Chair

