

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
December 14, 2015
Minutes

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

Others present: Lynn Feldman, Sara Richie, Myles Alexander, Karly Johnson, Pete Wegner, Michele Sadauskas, Matt Peplinski, Anne Williams, 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 11/9/15 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Jensen/Intrepidi to approve the CNRED Position meeting minutes of 10/26/15. All ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) of future meetings:

January 11, 2016	1:30 p.m.	UWEX Conference room
February 8, 2016	1:30 p.m.	UWEX Conference room

LWCD and P & Z Department Merger:

This will remain on agenda for next month where Karl Jennrich will give an update on Planning and Development Committee.

Cost Share Update/Approval of Projects:

Michele Sadauskas gave an update on the status of Cost Share participants. The Butkus contract has been signed. Deposits are in for the remaining participants and contracts will be finalized for the Committee Chair to sign before December 31, 2015. Approval will be needed to carryover allocated Cost Share money from 2015 to 2016, when the projects will be completed. Approval will also be needed on the cost estimates as presented. Per the 2015 Cost Share Participant sheet distributed, it will not be a 50/50 percent as in previous years. There was additional money available since the cap of \$7,500.00 was removed for 2015. Previously the Committee voted to keep the money within the county and allocate this money to the other existing projects. As such the money will be distributed as follows: \$10,000 will be the cost share amount for the Keller project, \$13,877 for Bergman, and \$7,500 on the Rebholz project. Mott/Intrepidi moved to authorize to Committee Chair to sign off on the contracts and to request to carryover cost share money from 2015 to 2016 as stated in agenda under 7 b. and c. All ayes; motion carried.

For 7 a. Pete Wegner gave an update on a zoning issue on the Corsten condominium project. As units have turned over, additional piers and walkways have been added along the shoreline. The areas need additional vegetation to comply with the county mitigation plan. One of the piers also needs to be moved. DATCP monies cannot be spent to correct any violation. No cost-share monies

will be delegated to fix any violation or correct a previous mitigation plan. County mitigations will be completed in conjunction with cost share improvements. Wegner was excused at 1:50 p.m.

Consent Agenda Items-Land and Water:

The Consent Agenda Items were approved as presented for out of county travel, monthly budget reports, and invoices. Motion by Holewinski/Jensen to approve items a, b, and c. All ayes, motion carried.

Agency Reports:

FSA: Matt Peplinski reported that from Dec 1 - Feb 26, the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) sign-up is available nation-wide. CRP is a land conservation program administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. Washington is promoting this program to sign up people who will agree to plant cover crops for a ten year commitment. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat. Four types of annual cover crops will be offered. Peplinski wanted the county to know that any contract that is signed in Oneida County will need to come before the CUW Land and Water Committee for approval.

Lake Districts: No new reports.

WACEC: North Central Region meeting will be held Friday, January 8th, 2016 where Committee members are urged to attend. Jensen will sign-up to attend.

Consent Agenda Items – UW-Extension:

Expense reports were updated with additional vouchers for both the Extension and the Fair. Feldman explained the Skynet program to the Committee, where she and Zastrow are invited to attend a conference the first week in January in Florida in recognition of their efforts. Out of County travel requests should be submitted beforehand whenever possible. Some events were posted that occurred between meetings. Every effort will be made to make requests ahead of time. Motion made by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the UW-Extension Consent agenda items. All ayes; motion approved.

Introduction of new WNEP Coordinator

Karly Johnson officially started December 1, as the WNEP Coordinator in Langlade and Oneida Counties. This program helps those with limited resources chose healthful diets through education. Options on wise food purchases and preparation, as well as food safety are offered through the program. She will work with local agencies to provide nutrition education to low income residents and to supervise local nutrition educators. Johnson grew up in Crandon so is familiar with the area. She is a recent graduate from Stevens Point with a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics. She recently worked as an intern at the Forest County Health Department offering nutrition education. She established a community garden in Forest County. Johnson grows and cooks her own food. She enjoys dabbling with new recipes and modifying them to be more healthy and keeping them within a budget. All of this will help her pass on good nutritional benefits to the community.

Agent Report: Anne Williams – Soil and Water Testing

Soil Testing - UW-Extension of Oneida County offers a soil test at an affordable price of \$15.00 from a state certified lab. Soil testing is the only reliable method for assessing plant needs for lime, phosphorus, and potassium. Gardeners can bring in a soil sample that our office can to send to the

lab for analysis. Only about a cup of soil is needed and the directions on how to collect it are included in the Learning Center brochure A2166 offered by the Cooperative Extension. Crop soil testing is also available for farmers. The soil analysis from the lab will be sent back showing what the soil lacks and how to correctly amend the soil. Our office can also contact the soil scientists to help answer any questions you might have. Learning Store also offers many publications that address questions.

Water Testing – The Extension office has water testing kits available for residents. A Homeowner Package will make eight different analyses for a cost of \$49.00. The office provides a sterile bottle for collection of the sample with directions on how to collect it and where to send it. The tests are available for both private well owners and residents who have municipal water. There are additional tests available such as a metal package. A special acidified bottle will be provided by the lab to collect water to test for lead or copper and other metals. A metals package costs \$45.00. For \$17.00 individual metal tests can be obtained. Testing for arsenic levels and pesticide analysis is also available. For more information see the website: www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/weal or call 877-383-8378. Williams was excused at 2:50 p.m.

OCEDC Broadband:

Luce reported that grant money they applied for was not received. There were 4.4 million dollars of requests for 1.5 million of actual funding. The Public Service Commission felt that there is a disparity geographically where the funding has been granted North of Highway 29 up to this point. Luce was asked to submit a new grant request just using the town of Newbold tower construction that costs approximately \$77,000. They will know sometime next week. There is a group in the town of Three Lakes who is raising \$70,000 from the community to put up two towers and use one existing tower. This is what it costs to put up a tower and the equipment if the height is less than 280 feet. They will pay for some of the equipment that goes onto the tower and lease it back to Northwoods Communications. There seems to be a trend for piecemeal construction of broadband. There is a monthly report produced for the work done already from previous grant money. Those installations will be upgrading to WiMax LTE which adds more electricity; it was not available for the tower in the town of Lynne before. The Malvern area has an existing tower that could also have equipment put up on it. Finding towers and getting the equipment installed is where the focus is needed for broadband to progress. Further discussion on how to fund further broadband development ensued.

Air Quality Update:

There are still air quality issues where seven reports were received. The fumes come from the East side of the building by the luggage tugs. Daniel Karamanski with the State Department of Risk Management and Safety has visited and wanted to inspect the layout. He spoke with Joe Brauer and is making arrangements for the State Department of Hygiene to conduct additional tests with their equipment. Karamanski wasn't familiar with the Fire Department testing equipment and preferred to test with State equipment. The University will pay for these tests. The last testing done in 1989 by Northstar, was in the spring of the year. The issue with fumes occurs mostly during cold weather. The testing performed two years ago was performed during fair weather as well. A request by the Committee is to know when they will test, what will be tested and the type of the equipment that will be used. Air flow does not seem to be consistent among the different offices within the Extension layout. The negative air pressure fan should resolve most of issues. Arcad will not be making adjustments and Brauer said it is functioning as it should. Alexander stated he has no air coming into his office and questioned what modifications have been made to the HVAC system. It was advised to

check the wind direction on days where fumes are reported. The airport should be able to report on wind direction and log that with complaints. Air Quality will be kept on the agenda.

Oneida County Fair Update:

Fair money is down to about \$1,500 and one more payment will go out to the two limited term employees for December. The Fair will continue with K&M Amusements and they will need to negotiate wrist band sales. It will be a one year contract. The County was offered a better deal than other county contracts. The Fair does not want to charge at the gate. Logistically, it would require too many people who would have to volunteer at the gates. It also would require the intake of money and making change. Fencing issues were another reason they felt collecting admission would be difficult. The Fair Planning Committee reasoned the fair is not structured well enough to make admission charge feasible. The final Fair budget will come out in January from the County. The Fair Treasurer will be submitting her final report to the state the end of this month. The Committee would like to see a breakdown of expenses and revenue. The report the Treasurer is submitting to the state will be the most suitable for the Committee to receive. DRI will not run the beverage tent this year. The Tavern League may do it this year. Any liability issues regarding this will be looked into by Brian Desmond.

Public Comments:

The WACEC North Central meeting is on January 8, 2016 at the Waters in Minocqua. Jensen will be in attendance. Registration is due by December 23.

Items to include on next agenda

Cost Share, LWC /P&Z update, Air Quality, Fair, broadband update.

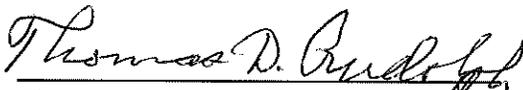
Adjournment

Motion by Intrepid/Jensen to adjourn at 3:50 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Merry J. Lehner, Recording Secretary



Thomas Rudolph, Committee Chair