

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
August 20, 2008**

**Members Present:** Chairman Tom Rudolph, Wilbur Petroskey, Matt Matteson, Jack Martinson, and Gary Baier

**Members Absent:** Rod Kuczarski (excused absence)

**Others Present:** Nancy Hollands (County Conservationist); Jean Hansen (Conservation Specialist) Barb Payne (Secretary); Jennifer Holman (AIS Coordinator); Pat Hendricks (Secretary); Mike Fugle (Corporation Counsel); John Potters (County Coordinator); and Bob Williams (President of the Oneida County Lakes & Rivers Association)

***Call to Order***

Chairman Rudolph called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room # 1 on the second floor at the Oneida County Courthouse. He noted that the meeting of the Land and Water Conservation Committee has been properly noticed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and meets the Americans with Disabilities Act.

***Approve Agenda/Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings***

Motion by Petroskey, second by Martinson to approve the current agenda and the minutes from the July 15<sup>th</sup> and July 16<sup>th</sup> meetings with the order of agenda items at the discretion of the Chairman. Motion carried, all ayes.

***Set date for next meeting***

Chairman Rudolph noted the next meeting dates would be Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., and October 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The County Poster and Speaking Contest will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2008. Hollands stated the North Central Area Association Poster and Speaking Contest will be held in Wausau on Thursday, October 30th.

***Public Comments***

Bob Williams, President of the Oneida County Lakes & Rivers Association, attended the meeting as he was interested in agenda item 15. He encouraged the County Supervisors to attend as many of the OCLRA meetings as possible. Williams stated the more informed the County is on AIS issues the better we will be able to work together on issues that involve all of us who live in Oneida County and enjoy the County's lakes. Williams handed out the Oneida County Lakes & Rivers Association brochures to the Committee. Williams stated people need to work together in dealing with AIS and other related issues. Committee discussion followed.

***Resolution on proposed Lake Nokomis Lake District Petition***

Hollands stated the purpose of the resolution is to have the county officially go on record to deny the formation of the Lake Nokomis Lake District. The resolution is part of the procedure required by the State Statutes. Motion by Martinson, second by Baier to approve the resolution to recommend denial of the Lake Nokomis Lake District petition, and forward it to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried, all ayes.

***Wildlife Damage Program***

Hollands reported we have received a check from DNR for \$8,205.25, which represents the 25% advance for the 2008 Wildlife Damage Program. Hollands also received notification that shooting permits were issued by Ron Eckstein, DNR Wildlife Biologist. They were issued to the University of Wisconsin Research Station in Starks to harvest ten deer. The other permit was issued to Sowinski Farms to harvest 20 deer. The Sowinski's shooting permit had a stipulation clause included which stated they would not be allowed to do any fall or winter feeding of deer.

***Cooperative Service Agreement for Bear Relocation Services***

Hollands reported this is a renewable annual agreement with USDA, APHIS - WS for the amount of \$500.00. This agreement allows APHIS to trap and relocate problem bears causing agricultural damage to crops. The \$500 is reimbursed 100% through the State Wildlife Damage Program funds. Motion by Petroskey, second by Martinson to approve the Cooperative Service Agreement for Bear Relocation Services with USDA, APHIS - WS in the amount of \$500.00. Motion carried; all ayes.

***County Cost Share Program***

Hansen reported the restoration project on Lake Nokomis is finished. She stated that the contractor, Dave Thomas, did a good job. Hansen is currently working on plans for Broukal, the Makals, and Deletski. Hansen is checking into a small project in Lake Tomahawk which may be done yet this year. A slope survey will be done on the Dorion project located in Lake Tomahawk. This project is contingent upon whether DNR will issue a permit. The Janssen project in Lake Tomahawk went to the Board of Adjustment. There was a lake walkway which wasn't allowed by Planning & Zoning. Matteson reported on Conservation Practices he observed in Adams County while attending the North Central Summer tour.

***LWCD's role in Zoning's subdivision ordinance***

Hansen reported the role of the Land & Water Conservation Department in Planning & Zoning's subdivision ordinance is unknown at this time. Hansen questioned how much assistance could be given in regards to surface drainage and erosion control. Hansen is unsure what our role could be. Hansen stated she checked the LWRM Plan under the goals and objectives to determine where the plan could be implemented. Several areas of assistance could be used in the LWRMP. Hansen stated she could also provide technical assistance through the State DATCP Engineer. Committee discussion followed.

***Staffing Request for Calendar Year 2009***

Hollands stated she has two staffing requests for 2009. The Conservation Specialist position was reduced in calendar year 2006 from 100% to 65%, as the State cost-share funds for landowner projects were reduced in 2006. Hollands stated the position is currently 73% in the Land & Water Conservation Department and the remaining 27% being used in working for Planning & Zoning. The Committee felt the Conservation Specialist position should be restored to 100% in the Land & Water Conservation Department. The Committee felt the remaining 27% of Hansen's time could be used to establish a Terrestrial Invasive Species program for Oneida County. The Conservation Specialist would also provide assistance with implementation of the goals listed in our state approved five-year plan. Motion by Baier, second by Petroskey to approve the staffing request to restore the Conservation Specialist position from 73% to a 100% in the Land & Water Conservation Department. Motion carried, all ayes (Kuczmarski – absent). The Committee signed the staffing request which will be forwarded to LRES for their consideration.

Hollands stated the second staffing request for 2009 is to request the permanent part-time Typist II position be increased to a full-time position. The Typist II currently works 1,128.50 hours (63%). The request would increase the hours worked to 1,950.00 (100%). Hollands stated the Typist II has already devoted 619 hours of her time to the AIS program. Hollands stated when the Typist II position was approved in 2001 there was only herself as County Conservationist, and her secretary. The Conservation Specialist was an LTE position with 600 hours each summer and there was no AIS position. The Typist II provides the support needed for not only the County Conservationist but also for the AIS Coordinator and the Conservation Specialist. Her work allows the County Conservationist, the Conservation Specialist, the AIS Coordinator, and the Secretary to accomplish their primary responsibilities. Motion by Petroskey, second by Matteson to approve the staffing request to make the Typist II a full-time position. Motion carried, (3 – ayes & 2 – nays) (Rudolph – aye) (Petroskey – aye) (Matteson – aye) (Baier – nay) (Martinson – nay) (Kuczmarski – absent). The Committee signed the staffing request to be forwarded to LRES for their consideration.

***Furniture/Equipment Request for Calendar Year 2009***

Hollands stated we would not be requesting any furniture or equipment for 2009.

***AIS Transportation Ordinance/Dry Fire Hydrants/Signs***

Holman handed out draft notes from the dry hydrant meeting/conference call on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Holman stated she recently met with Brian Gehrig, President of Oneida County Fire Departments, on the dry fire hydrant issue. She also participated in a conference call. Holman stated things are definitely moving forward on the protocols on AIS Transport and Dry Fire Hydrants. The use of the dry hydrants may contribute to the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species in Oneida County. The Dry Fire Hydrants may possibly go Federal. Motion by Baier, second by Martinson to approve the General Code of Oneida County Ordinance Amendment § 10.05 regarding Dry Hydrants and forward it to the County Board for approval. Motion carried, all ayes.

Holman handed out samples of the signage the County could use at the boat landings notifying lake users about the Oneida County Ordinance banning transport of any aquatic vegetation on any water recreational equipment. Committee discussion followed. Motion by Matteson, second by Petroskey to approve moving forward with the procurement of signage and to continue working with the DNR under the grant guidelines. Motion carried, all ayes.

***Letter from Mississippi River Basin Panel***

Holman handed out copies of an invitational letter she received from the Mississippi River Basin Panel. They want to invite Oneida County Land & Water Conservation to be a member. Committee discussion followed.

***Update/Action on AIS Grants/Budgets/Activities***

Holman handed out copies of a public hearing notice which is being held in Wausau on August 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Holman stated she will be part of the testimony. The Committee requested the County van be reserved. Petroskey and Matteson expressed interest in attending the hearing with Holman. Holman stated it is very important for as many to attend as possible. Holman reported there are 180 types Aquatic Invasive Species, with only six in Oneida County. Holman stated she felt grant monies could be used to do research on the chemicals such as 24D an herbicide used for EWM treatment. Holman stated there needs to be more data on how these types of treatment affect the environment. Holman reported Kevin Gauthier will change the scope on the AIS 2007 grant so we will be able to get full reimbursement from the DNR.

***Lake Districts/Agency Reports (FSA, NRCS, LWCD, UWEX, DNR, LWCB, WLWCA, & RC&D)***

***Mid Lake District*** – Petroskey reported the Mid Lake District holds one meeting per year.

***Thunder Lake District*** – Baier had nothing new to report.

***Bear Lake District*** – Martinson reported Bear Lake District is still working to resolve their concerns about development on the lake. The Bear Lake District will be having a meeting at the end of August.

***Horsehead Lake District*** – Rudolph reported the Horsehead Lake District had their annual meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Rudolph reported the lake study report was given. EWM was removed earlier from the boat landing and so far there hasn't been any additional EWM found. Rudolph stated Christy Nemcek is the newest commissioner for the Horsehead Lake District.

***FSA*** – No one present to report.

***NRCS*** – No report was given this month.

***LWCD*** – Holland reported she is currently working on the budget. Hollands reported it has been a busy summer AIS issues. Hansen summarized the Cost Share projects are good and strong. The Carryover projects from 2007 are being completed. Hollands stated the Land & Water Conservation Department sponsored a booth at the Oneida County Fair. Hansen prepared the Land & Water Conservation Department display. Holman also had an AIS display. The staff helped with the displays. Hollands reported that approximately 150 people spoke to the Warden who manned the AIS Display booth on Saturday. Holman reported the Land & Water Conservation Department Staff/Committee hosted an Awards Ceremony recognizing the watercraft inspectors who volunteered at the boat landings. Several important speakers were also present. Holman personally thanked the staff in the Land & Water Conservation Department for their hard work. Hansen reported she had recently attended Conservation training in Green Bay. Hansen stated she is still working with Erosion Control Project on Town Line Park. Hansen reported she had received an update on the Emerald Ash Borer. She stated several counties including Ozaukee and Washington are currently quarantined. Hansen is providing assistance to the Chairman, Duane Means in the Town of Lynn in completing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Summary Plan (SWPPPS) for a gravel pit.

***DNR*** – No one present.

***LWCB*** – Rudolph reported the LWCB is in the final stages of developing their Comprehensive Plan for the future. Revision of the state statutes is long overdue. There will be changes in The Farmland Preservation Program. The next meeting in Madison will be the first week of October. The Dane County LWRMP will be reviewed. AIS concerns in Dane County waters will be discussed. Rudolph reported approximately 10,000 tons of weeds are harvested in Dane County waters each year.

***WLWCA*** – The WLWCA held a board meeting in Baraboo on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Two new board members were elected. Rudolph stated they now have a full board again. Rudolph reported he was re-elected to the board again as Vice President.

***RC&D*** – Matteson reported there is still time to advertise in the Farm Atlas and encouraged businesses to advertise. The final deadline for advertising in the Farm Atlas will be October 29<sup>th</sup>. Rudolph reported the RC&D Strategic Plan Update will be available at the next RC&D meeting. This update is for the next 5 – 10 years.

**Monthly Budget Review**

Motion by Petroskey, second by Martinson, to approve the monthly budget summary for July 2008 for the Land & Water Conservation Department, Wildlife Damage Program, and AIS Program. Motion carried, all ayes.

**Travel Authorization**

Motion by Petroskey, second by Matteson to approve attendance at the following meetings. (Rudolph – aye) (Petroskey – aye) (Matteson – aye) (Martinson – nay) (Baier – nay) and (Kuczarski – absent) (3 – ayes and 2 - nays). Motion carried. Committee discussion followed.

- August 26 NR40 Public Hearing Wausau (Staff & Committee)
- September 11 -12 Wisconsin Association of RC&D's Conference Oconomowoc, Wisconsin
- September 29<sup>th</sup> Working Lands Initiative Stevens Point, Wisconsin

**Approval of invoices, purchase orders, and line item transfers**

Motion by Petroskey, second by Matteson to approve the invoices as presented. Motion carried, all ayes. A list of the approved bills is attached to the minutes.

**Items for the next meeting agenda**

Agenda items to be determined listed at a later date.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. motion by Baier, second by Petroskey. Motion carried, all ayes.

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Thomas Rudolph  
Chairman

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Nancy Hollands  
County Conservationist