

Agriculture & Extension Education Committee
August 11, 2009
Minutes

Committee members present: Chair Paul Dean, Tom Rudolph, Romelle Vandervest, Wilbur Petroskey, and Denny Thompson.

Others present: Dan Kuzlik, Jim Kumbera, Jim Lillis, Jim Winkler and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman Dean.

Approve agenda: Motion by Vandervest/Rudolph to approve the agenda as printed. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Petroskey/Vandervest to approve the minutes of July 14, 2009 as printed. All ayes; motion carried.

Date of future meetings:

September 3, 2009	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
October 13, 2009	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

OCEDC monthly update: Kumbera is working on an application to receive stimulus funds to install an expanded broadband system in the region. OCEDC is still working with SonicNet on the initial broadband program in which funding was approved by the County, however the expanded project would provide fiber optic cable along major thoroughfares and tie into wireless that would cover the balance of the area not being served by the initial program.

The lead applicant will be Prospect One and providers will be SonicNet and ChoiceTel (formerly Northern Net Exposure). These service providers are local, tech support will be local and the monthly bills will be paid locally to support our local economy. Kumbera expects that other proposals to provide broadband services will be submitted by Cellcom, Packerland Cable, and a consortium of ATT, Verizon, and Frontier--however their main goal is making money, not quality services to area businesses.

The is a \$20-\$30 million project and a 20% match is needed in order to receive stimulus funds. Kumbera is exploring various options to meet that 20% match (inkind and cash). The project area has been expanded to include Forest, Lincoln, Langlade, Vilas, Oneida and Menominee Counties and includes native tribes in those areas. This expanded system would be a true benefit to the entire region providing long-term economic activities for industries, tourism, recreation, etc. The plan provides technology of last year not of tomorrow but will be beneficial to government, private citizens, retailers, industries, new development, tourism, etc. Discussion continued.

The application deadline is 5 p.m. on August 14, 2009 and must be submitted electronically. Kumbera is seeking personal letters of support listing why the service is needed, how it will affect people personally, and how it will help this area.

Motion by Rudolph/Petroskey authorizing Kuzlik to draft a letter on behalf of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee in support of the application for broadband service. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve monthly budget report: Motion by Vandervest/Thompson to approve the monthly budget report for the period ending 7/31/09 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Petroskey/Thompson to approve the monthly departmental invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair invoices: Motion by Vandervest/Rudolph to approve the invoices for the Oneida County Fair. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair Planning update: Kuzlik reported Pioneer Park has undergone a major transformation in the last few days. This year's attractions will include a full midway, free music, free family land activities for smaller children, beer tent, and numerous vendors and exhibits. Fair Planning Team members have been working hard to put together a successful event.

Petroskey urged Committee members to thank the City--they've really stepped up as an active partner. Kuzlik agreed and noted there are a lot of partners and volunteers who are making this event possible.

Approve fair contracts: Motion by Vandervest/Thompson to approve the entertainment contracts for the 2010 Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Vandervest excused at 2:15 p.m.

2010 personnel requests: The Department is requesting the continuation of two LTE positions for 2010 -- Fair Secretary (400 hours per year) and Summer Horticulture Assistant (280 hours for 10 weeks). Committee members reviewed the written request and fiscal impact information for each position.

Motion by Petroskey/Rudolph to approve the 2010 staffing requests for the Fair Secretary and Summer Horticulture Assistant LTE positions and forward to the LRES Committee for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

2010 Buildings & Grounds requests: None.

2010 budget: Not available at this time.

Teen Court: Winkler noted the Teen Court youth panels are learning skills about asking questions in order to get all information from the participants to help decisions that are the most beneficial to the offender. Both Minocqua and Rhinelander Teen Courts continue to meet on a monthly basis. Winkler report several alcohol offenders who went through Teen Court recently will travel with the Teen Court panel to the different school districts to talk about alcohol issues as part of their sanctions. Winkler believes they will do a much better job getting through to their peers than an adult. Discussion followed.

Monthly agent reports: Motion by Petroskey/Rudolph to approve the monthly agent reports. All ayes; motion carried.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Kuzlik:

9/1-2/09 ND Department Head meetings Spooner*

*county expense

Motion by Thompson/Petroskey to approve the out-of-county travel requests as submitted. All ayes; motion carried.

Public Comment: Kuzlik noted the ordinance amendment authorizing the change in the number of members to the Fair Planning Committee will be addressed at the August County Board meeting. On the advice of Bob Bruso, Kuzlik requested a member of this Committee amend the resolution on the County Board floor to alter the wording on Line 23 to read up to 14 additional citizen members. This would allow the Fair Planning Committee to continue conducting business if there becomes an issue filling all vacancies.

Rudolph noted the resolution to merge LWCC and UWEX will be up for approval at the August County Board meeting. He asked for Committee support and assistance in fielding questions.

Items for next agenda: Budget, fair update.

Adjournment: Motion by Rudolph/Thompson to adjourn at 2:37 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Paul Dean, Chair