

Agriculture & Extension Education/Land & Water Conservation Committee
June 14, 2010
Minutes

Present: Chairman Tom Rudolph, Greg Berard, Romelle Vandervest, Paul Dean, Carol Pederson, Bob Evsich.

Others present: Dan Kuzlik, Nancy Hollands, Jim Winkler, Erica Brewster, Jim Kumbera, Tom Melnarik, Arthur LaBarge, a local media representative, and Kerri Ison.

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

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

Approve minutes: Motion by Pederson/Evsich to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2010 meeting as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Dates for future meetings:

July 12, 2010	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
August 9, 2010	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Monthly budget reports:

Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the monthly budget report for Agriculture & Extension Education for the period ending 5/31/10. All ayes; motion carried.

Hollands reviewed the budget report and indicated she will speak to Margie Sorenson to request a journal entry. She also noted vacancy savings for the AIS coordinator position has been returned to the County's vacancy/reduction account. Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve the monthly Land & Water Conservation budget for the period ending 5/31/10. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the monthly invoices for Agriculture & Extension Education as presented. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Land & Water Conservation Department invoices. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the LWCD invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Discussion held on the Oneida County Fair invoices. Motion by Pederson/Berard to approve the invoices for the Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Line item transfer for LWCD: Hollands indicated a lake planning grant, in the amount of \$1,556, was received to purchase a dissolved oxygen meter and case. Funds must be transferred from the state aids account to cover the expense. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to approve the line item transfer for LWCD as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Review and approve AIS purchases: Eslinger reviewed the expenses listed on his monthly report. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the AIS purchases as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Select Environmental Education teacher scholarship recipients(s): Hollands reported Trees for Tomorrow holds environmental education classes during the summer for teachers. Oneida County LWCD sponsors scholarships for one to two teachers. To date we have not received any applications and the Committee suggested reissuing a press release alerting teachers of this opportunity. Motion by Dean/Vandervest authorizing Chairman Rudolph to work with Hollands to select scholarship recipients. All ayes; motion carried.

North Central Area reorganization meeting: The North Central Area reorganization meeting of 10 counties in the northern area will be held on June 18 at the VFW in Antigo. A business meeting will be held in the morning with election of officers and speakers in the afternoon. Hollands reviewed agenda. Rudolph encouraged new committee members attend to gain better understanding of LWC issues. Interested committee members should register with Hollands. Those attending will leave from the County Highway Shop at 8:15 a.m. on Friday.

Appoint Oneida County Fair liaison: The Fair liaison attends the Fair planning meetings and reports back to this Committee on a regular basis. Kuzlik noted a replacement is needed due to Petroskey's retirement. Motion by Rudolph/Dean to appoint Vandervest as Oneida County Fair liaison. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve contracts for Oneida County Fair: Ison presented one contract, Derrick Dupler trick horse show, for approval. Cost is \$670 for two shows on Friday, August 6th. Motion by Vandervest/Dean to approve the contract as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

WNEP annual agreement: WNEP provides the education component of the USDA federal food stamp grant program. Programming includes nutrition education, food safety, hand washing, stretching food dollars, etc. WNEP is a federally funded program which draws federal dollars for indirect supports such as office space, computer support, electricity, telephone, salaries, etc. Over the first six months of this year, over 1,500 individual contacts were made. Over \$183,000 in federal funds have been brought in for Oneida and Langlade counties for the current fiscal year (10/1/09-9/30/10).

An annual agreement is required to continue to provide in-kind services such as those listed above to continue the WNEP program in each county. Lazars provided a copy of the written agreement and reviewed with Committee. Lengthy discussion followed. Lazars noted programming has been expanded in both counties for the next fiscal year. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the WNEP annual agreement for the fiscal year 2011. All ayes; motion carried. Rudolph will sign agreement as Chair.

Monthly staff reports: Written monthly staff reports were provided in committee packets.

Staff report highlights:

- Hollands reported youth camp scholarship was awarded to one applicant.
- The District Conservationist position with the local NRCS office is vacant. Hollands has been asked to assist with the interviews, along with other county conservationists from Forest, Florence and Vilas Counties.
- A LWCD staff member had outpatient surgery and will be out for about a week.
- Winkler noted Family Fishing Fun Day was very successful. Approximately 400 people participated with 240 youth registered. Over \$2,500 in prizes were given away including a kayak, canoe, wood carving, savings bonds, 1/2 -day guided fishing service, free fish mount, and numerous smaller prizes (fishing supplies). The Walmart Team was a great partner and helped make the event a great success. Over 60 organizations donated money, time, etc.
- Teen Court was highlighted on TV-12. Winkler plans to provide a report to county board sometime this summer since the program has been in existence for one year. Discussion followed.
- Eslinger noted the summer LTEs started May 17th and have been implementing the Clean Boats - Clean Waters (CBCW) program throughout the county with landing users being very cooperative. He has now completed three CBCW workshops throughout the county training approximately 35 participants. Based on data collected so far the number one source where people get information regarding AIS and the laws is from the volunteers at the landings, with signs at landings being the second source.
- Rudolph highlighted the WHIP informational meeting on Tuesday, June 29, 2010 in Minocqua. Jean Hansen represents Oneida County on the WHIP Committee.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Brewster:

6/3/10	UWEX Poverty & Food Insecurity meeting	Stevens Point**
6/9/10	ND Family Living/WNEP meeting	Phillips*
6/22-24/10	State Prevention Conference	WI Dells* (mileage)
7/6/10	Data analysis meeting	Lac du Flambeau*

Hanson:

May 21, 2010	Vilas County LWCD	Eagle River*
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Hollands:

6/18/10	NC Assn. Reorganization meeting	Antigo*
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Ison/Lindner:

6/9/10	Horticulture training	Wausau*
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Winkler:

6/14/10	Camp Staff training @ Camp Susan	Langlade County*
7/5-9/10	4-H Camp @ Camp Susan	Langlade County*
7/16-17/10	Leadership WI graduation	Stevens Point* (mileage)

Committee:

6/19/10	Northwoods Lakes Workshop	Nicolet College*
6/25/10	Conservation Observance Day	Marathon County*
6/29/10	WHIP Informational meeting	Minocqua*

*county expense

**district/state expense

***other expense

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

Agency reports:

Lake districts: Berard will attend Bear Lake District meeting this week. Rudolph reported the next Horsehead Lake District meeting is in July.

FSA: Evsich provided a written report noting the next FSA meeting is June 15. Thunder Lake is still very low as is the Rainbow Flowage and Three Lakes Chain. Cranberry crop is three weeks ahead of normal and his farm is getting 140 beehives to help pollinate the crop.

NRCS: Tom Melnarik, NRCS, and summer intern Arthur LaBarge were introduced. Office is located in the state building on North Stevens Street south of Menards. NRCS is part of USDA and works closely with Land Conservation Departments statewide on conservation projects. They provide cost-share programs and work with agriculture producers including cranberry growers, tribal communities and farmers in the four-county area. He also reported the District Conservations position in the office is currently vacant. Evsich noted that although the NRCS office provides cost share funding, the staff is very knowledge on many technical issues that affect "farmers" such as road building, structures, etc.

OCEDC: Jim Kumbera, Executive Director of Oneida County Economic Development Corporation was introduced. OCEDC office is located across the hall from UW-Extension. He reported OCEDC is currently in the process of building a facility to lease to Spee-Dee Delivery to retain the business in Rhinelander. Final bids are expected this week. Kumbera will be requesting for tax incremental financing (TIF) from the City.

Advanced Barrier Extrusion (ABX) needs to expand their facility at a cost of approximately \$2 million. Project includes facility expansion, purchase of machinery and will add approximately eight employees. OCEDC is helping to underwrite the project and will be requesting TIF from

the County for the site and site prep expenses. Construction is expected to begin in September. Kumbera expects to make presentation to the County Board in August.

OCEDC continues to be involved in the Wausau Chapter of SCORE business counseling. Discussion followed.

WLWCB: Rudolph noted the last meeting was 6/1/10. Hollands provided news articles from *The Country Today* regarding federal funding for Land and Water Conservation.

WLWCA: Rudolph noted the next board meeting is scheduled for June 25th in Marshfield. Elections will be held for board members in August. Hollands provided a copy of newsletter.

Public comment/communications: Rudolph asked for feedback regarding meeting structure -- most felt meetings are going well. Rudolph urged committee members to review written reports prior to the meeting.

Items to be included on next agenda: Departmental information document update, AIS grant, WHIP recommendation/resolution.

Adjournment: Motion by Pederson/Dean to adjourn at 3:36 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Submitted by,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair