

**Ag & Extension/LWC Committee
November 21, 2011
Minutes**

Committee members present: Chair Tom Rudolph, Paul Dean, Bob Evsich, Carol Pederson, Greg Berard and Romelle Vandervest.

Others present: Dan Kuzlik, Michele Sadauskas, Jean Hansen, Erica Brewster, Jim Winkler and Kerri Ison.

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

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

Approve minutes: Motion by Dean/Berard to approve the minutes of 10/10/11 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Future meetings:

December 12, 2011	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
January 9, 2012	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Agency reports:

Lake Districts: Rudolph reported Horsehead Lake met on 11/17/11. Weed harvest, aerator repair and milfoil control were discussed. The next meeting will be held in April.

FSA: Bob Evsich noted he is up for election in April.

LWCB: Rudolph noted the Board is in the process of prioritizing forums for 2012.

WLWCA: Rudolph reminded Committee the Executive Director resigned and the Association is working with reduced staff.

RC&D: Rudolph noted and Executive Committee meeting is set for 12/1/11 to review proposals to help expedite start dates for projects. The next state meeting will be in January. Lumberjack Council will meet 1/13/12 in Florence.

DNR: The DNR manages the equipment that LWCD rents out to landowners. Manny Oradei reported the timber bridge needs to be re-decked and typically students from the high school and college assist with the project. He noted most local sawmills are not cutting to appropriate lengths at this time; however, he did receive a quote from Park Falls Hardwoods for \$1,260. Discussion followed. Motion by Vandervest/Berard to use remaining funds in 2011, including a line item transfer if necessary, to cover the repair. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried. Rudolph requested rental fees be used to offset repair expenses. Evsich suggested the rental rates in the contracts be reviewed.

Monthly staff reports: Brewster provided evaluation results for the Poverty Simulation -- 42 participants and 14 staffers participated. Feedback was positive and the event received great media visibility. Lincoln County will host a simulation on 1/14/12 in Tomahawk. "Raising a Thinking Child" classes finished last week; evaluations are being compiled now.

Sadauskas is working to implement a project-based learning opportunity on Manson Lake with RSD students and hopes to have it ready to kickoff in the spring. After sending an online survey to area schools, the AIS poster contest is looking very positive. She received 45 responses and plans to implement in the spring.

Winkler asked for Committee input regarding budget issues at County Board. Vandervest felt that having the youth speak on behalf of 4H was extremely helpful and providing the monthly reports to County Board is also helpful. Rudolph noted everyone needs to continue to be vigilant and continue promoting the department.

Kuzlik facilitated a statewide webinar regarding how "big box" stores affect downtowns. He also attended a metallic mining training in Ashland noting it is a statewide issue.

Hansen and Sadauskas submitted projects for consideration by this year's Leadership Oneida County class. She is also working on a project proposal for an invasive specie survey of all county highways and forest roads. This was done in Shawano County this past summer and provided useful information to aid in controlling the spread of terrestrial invasives.

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

Brewster:

10/17-19/11	ND All Staff meeting	Ashland*
12/7-8/11	WI Leadership Academy	Madison**

Kuzlik

12/1/11	WCEA Board meeting	Stevens Point*
12/7-8/11	State LWC Conference	WI Dells*

Winkler:

12/12/11	ECO Team Meeting	Stevens Point**
12/14/11	ND 4H Youth Dev. Training	Hayward*

*county expense
**district/state expense

Fair update: A budget summary was provided for review. Kuzlik plans evaluate the Fair Manager, Fair Secretary and Fair Planning Team. Winkler noted the 4H Leader's Association is purchasing a 30'x60' tent to be used as Exhibit Hall at the Fair. The current tent can be used for entertainment reducing future rental expenses.

Approve monthly budget reports: Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the UWEX monthly budget report for the period ending 10/31/11. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the LWC monthly budget reports as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve monthly invoices: Motion by Berard/Vandervest to approve the UWEX monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Evsich/Vandervest to approve the LWC monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Vandervest/Berard to approve the monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve line item transfers: Ison reviewed the UWEX line item transfers in detail. Motion by Berard/Vandervest to approve the line item transfers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Hansen reviewed LWC line item transfers in detail. Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to approve the LWC line item transfers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Impact of final County budget on UWEX/LWC budget: Rudolph felt the rumors regarding cuts to the department affect all staff and that factual information is not the basis for the threat of cuts. He suggested the committee and department staff work to educate the public and county board about programs to help stave off such attacks in the future. A lengthy discussion followed.

Kuzlik noted his appreciation for staff members' preparation for the budget hearing at County Board. He thanked Ginger Terzinski and the two 4H'ers for taking it upon themselves to attend. He reiterated the department gave up 2.0 positions and reduced the budget by approximately \$100,000.

County cost-share program update: Hansen reported the possibility of four additional contracts by year end. Motion by Evsich/Pederson authorizing Committee Chair to approve low-cost estimates for county-cost share contracts for the remainder of the year. All ayes; motion carried.

AIS Grant project AEPP-259-11 as match for EPA GLRI federal funds:

Sadauskas received a written request from the State seeking permission to use the 2011 DNR grant funding to receive matching funds from Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). Doing so will not affect DNR funding to the Oneida County AIS program. Discussion followed. Motion by Vandervest/Evsich to use the 2011 DNR grant funding as a match for EPA GLRI federal funds. All ayes; motion carried.

Lumberjack RC&D Council nomination: Committee discussed nominees for Lumberjack RC&D. Nomination are due by December 28, 2011.

2012 budget update: Nothing further to discuss.

Public comment/communications: LWCD received letters from the Town of Schoepke that Giemer Road will be discontinued and from the Town of Pine Lake vacating a portion of Shady Lane.

Items for next agenda: Line item transfers, LWRM plan update, LWRM plan resolution, WHIP proposal for county road right-of-way proposal, Lake Nokomis Lake District.

Adjournment: Motion by Vandervest/Pederson to adjourn 3:27 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair