

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
December 10, 2012
Minutes

Committee members present: Chair Tom Rudolph, Greg Berard, Jim Intrepidi, Bob Martini, Bob Mott and Clint Zimbeck.

Others present: Jim Tharman, Bob Willging, Erica Brewster, Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, Tim Brown, Marcus Nesemann 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 Mott/Intrepidi to approve the today's agenda with order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Martini/Mott to approve the minutes of 11/12/12 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Date of future meetings:

January 14, 2013	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
February 11, 2013	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Oneida County Fair update: Berard reported the Fair Team met last week and have scheduled a potluck/brainstorming/planning session with Brown on 1/12/13. The Team discussed the issue of the Fairest of the Fair not fulfilling required duties, changes in 2013 entertainment plans, and has spoken to KM Amusements regarding issues with non-operational rides during the event. The Fair Team recently hosted a Craft Show fundraiser and had 30 vendors participate.

Wildlife Damage program: Jim Tharman and Bob Willging (District Manager) were present to request a budget amendment (an increase of \$6,000 for program support) to the 2012 budget. There are currently 11 people enrolled in the Wildlife Damage Program, thus requiring Tharman to spend additional time in Oneida County during the third quarter. Any unspent funds will carry forward to the following year. Motion by Martini/Berard to approve the Wildlife Damage Program budget amendment in the amount of \$6,000 for 2012. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair Secretary LTE position: Brewster noted a fair coordinator and treasurer position were requested and approved during the 2013 budget process. Nancy Gehrig has stepped forward as a volunteer coordinator and requested those funds be used to keep a Fair Secretary LTE. The request is for 400 hours (lower pay rate than the coordinator wage). Sue Glentz, current Fair Secretary LTE, is interested in continuing

her role in 2013. Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to approve the Fair Secretary LTE position as requested. All ayes; motion carried.

Agency reports:

Lake Districts: Intrepidi noted an Open Book meeting was held for the Lake Nokomis Lake District last week with only three out of 900 landowners attending. Weed control has been contracted for the spring.

FSA: Zimbeck noted staff is waiting for the Farm Bill to be passed. Loan interest rates remain low. The building which houses the Merrill Office is being sold so the office may be relocated to Antigo or Wausau.

OCEDC: Rudolph noted Jerry VanCamp gave an update on the Printpack project at a recent Rotary meeting. Rhinelander was able to retain their plant, move their operation to a larger facility, upgrade equipment and have space for future expansions.

LWCB: Rudolph reported four LWRM plans were reviewed during a meeting in Madison last week. Planning continues for a forum on the impact of frac sand mining on county LWCD departments. The date has not been set but will be held in conjunction with the regular meeting. Preliminary allocation plan shows an improvement over this year's projections (\$160,000 for Oneida County). A cut is expected next year, having a greater impact on counties. LWCB hopes the Legislature will reconsider cuts and work toward staffing formula funding required by State Statute. The final plan will be up for approval in February.

WLWCA: Rudolph noted the Executive Committee met last week to review performance of the Executive Director. The full board will meet on 12/11/12 in Stevens Point.

RC&D: Rudolph noted the next state meeting is scheduled in January.

Monthly staff reports:

- Brown has spent majority of time learning about the county and meeting with key players. After 1/1/13, the state liaison will assist with developing a plan of work. Brown will lead strategic planning processes for the Fair and OCLRA.
- Hansen has been working to get all Cost Share Program allocations committed. She distributed a new booklet sponsored by WI DNR and UWEX regarding impervious surfaces.
- Sadauskas provided CBCW information, put together by Ted Ritter (Vilas County), indicating Oneida County contributed 16.9% of CBCW hours statewide. The final report for the 2011 DNR grant has been submitted as well as the payment request for reimbursement. The hiring process has begun for the Ice Fishing Outreach LTE position which will begin 1/12/13 and continue for seven weekends. Sadauskas presented the "Icing Your Catch" campaign at the recent State AIS Coordinator meeting. The DNR is now looking to do a statewide rollout of the campaign next spring.
- Brewster thanked the Committee for their support for during 2013 budget process to in restore \$17,000 to the budget for the Youth Development agent position. She will attend LRES on Wednesday regarding this vacancy--several committee members may also attend. Following LRES approval, the state will post the position in

January. Brewster sits on the statewide team to promote the "Raising a Thinking Child" curriculum and provided a handout showing program impact. She hopes to continue the program locally and is currently adapting the curriculum for adults and will pilot "Raising a Thinking Adult" at the jail.

Out-of-county travel:

Brown:

12/14/12	Meet with Vilas County staff	Eagle River*
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Hansen:

12/14/12	WHIP monthly meeting	Vilas County*
1/9/13	Lumberjack RC&D project proposal review	Menomonee County*
TBD	Four-county Conservationist meeting	Forest County*

Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the out-of-county travel requests as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly budget reports:

- Hansen/Sadauskas reviewed the monthly budget report in detail. Discussion followed. Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the LWCD monthly budget report for the period ending 11/30/12. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Intrepidi/Martini to approve the UWEX monthly budget report for the period ending 11/30/12 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices:

- Hansen reviewed the list of monthly expenses in detail. Motion Berard/Intrepidi to approve the invoices for LWC as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Brewster reviewed the list of monthly expenses in detail. Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the invoices for UWEX as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to approve the Oneida County Fair expenses as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Line item transfers: None at this time.

Draft Oneida County AIS Strategic Plan: Sadauskas reviewed the mission, goals, and vision for the AIS program. She combined plans from former coordinators and welcomed suggestions as this is a work in progress. Lengthy discussion followed regarding the need for such a plan and the ability to meet the goals of the LWRM plan. Sadauskas will check with Kevin Gauthier at the DNR to see if the goals listed in the LWRM plan will satisfy the grant requirements.

North Central Regional Annual WACEC meeting: The annual meeting of the Wisconsin Association County Extension Committees (WACEC) is scheduled for 1/23/13 in Keshena and will be held in conjunction with NCR All-Staff Conference. Brewster

sent committee members registration information via email. Registration deadline is 1/11/13.

Cost Share Program:

- Smith project includes replacing sheet piling with rock and soil filled bags and plantings. Motion by Mott/Berard to approve the low cost estimate to DR Thomas for the Smith project. Low cost estimate: \$7,857. 50% cost share: \$3,928.50. All ayes; motion carried.
- Camp Luther III project includes removal of retaining wall, lakeshore plantings using geo bags, etc. Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to approve the low cost estimate to Integrity Landscape for the Camp Luther III project. Low cost estimate: \$25,597. 50% cost share: \$12,798.50. All ayes; motion carried.
- Pitzo project includes rock rip rap. Hansen used averages from past contracts and estimated the project at \$14,495. Estimated 50% cost share: \$7,247.50. Hansen will request cost estimates after 1/1/13 and process a change order if necessary. Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the contract for Pitzo as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

WLWCA Speaking and Poster Contest Survey: An email survey was sent to LWC Departments regarding the future of the Speaking/Poster Contest. Rudolph requested Hansen forward the survey to all committee members so they can also respond. If the speaking contest continues, it will not be held until March 2014.

Public comment/communications: Brewster/Hansen distributed each department's long-range plan for review. Action will be taken at the January meeting. Discussion followed.

Brewster noted the UWEX Office will be closed to the public 1/3-4/13 for office reorganization and cleaning to prepare for new employee(s) and the possible move.

Items for next agenda: Long-range plans, line item transfers, AIS strategic plan.

Adjournment: Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to adjourn at 3:45 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Thomas Rudolph, Chair