

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
April 15, 2013
Minutes

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

Others present: Erica Brewster, Jean Hansen, Tim Brown, Michele Sadauskas, Cara Wanserski, Nancy Gehrig (Fair), Luann Brunette (Buildings & Grounds), Lynn Grube (ITS) Marcus Neseemann (NW River News), and Kerri Ison.

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

Approval of agenda: Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve today's agenda with order of items at Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Martini/Intrepidi to approve the minutes of March 18, 2013 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Date(s) for future meetings:

5/13/13	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
6/10/13	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Updates from Buildings & Grounds: Luann Brunette reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee surveyed all county departments to evaluate current and future space needs as well as future needs for the WPS and former Daily News buildings. A list was created and prioritized based on challenges, liability issues, potential for injury, etc. Space options were researched and it has been determined there is not enough space available at the Courthouse to keep the UWEX and LWC departments co-located to utilize shared support staff. Based on this information, the Administration Committee has instructed Buildings & Grounds to negotiate a lease with the Airport for continued office space for UWEX and LWCD. Brunette provided a copy of the floor plan, with additional space, for review. Discussion followed. It was noted this was the first time the committee and staff saw the proposed floor plan. Concern was raised regarding reconfiguring space, amount of space for current and future needs, air quality and lighting issues. Discussion continued. Brunette will meet with UWEX/LWCD staff, Committee Chair and Airport Manager regarding these issues.

ITS updates: Grube was present to discuss issues the department was having with programs and connectivity, noting it was an issue of timing. She provided a brief overview of current computer setup and future plans of using VDI in a box. Brewster noted staff spoke with Grube following the last meeting and now have Google Chrome and the Google drive folder loaded on the department's machines. These additions will help in working with the new technology provided by the state and with connectivity issues until the department is connected through VDI.

4H/YD position update: Brewster reported a signed contract from Lynn Feldman has been received with start date of 5/16/13. She is a former 4-H leader, is a certified counselor and currently works at Tri-County Council. Erica thanked Mott and Intrepidi for participating in the interview process.

Oneida County Fair update: Gehrig, volunteer Fair Coordinator, reported the logging museum will be open during the fair. One lane of Oneida Avenue will be closed for a craft show, flea

market, Farmer's market and handicap parking, leaving the westbound lane open for local residents and emergency vehicles. Fundraisers include a flea market and craft fair on 7/11/13 (opening day of Country Fest) at Pine Lake Town Hall as well as a Friday Night Fish Fry at the Fair. Gehrig will continue to seek sponsorships. Brown is helping to edit the bylaws, which will be up for approval at the next Fair meeting.

Agency reports:

- Lake Districts: Intrepidi noted Lake Nokomis voted to treat 90 acres of the flowage for weed control. A meeting is scheduled for Saturday to receive input on the project. Rudolph noted the Horsehead Lake District grant application to conduct a lake survey for EWM and pondweed was approved. The DNR plans to plant another 9,000 largemouth bass this year. Recruitment has begun for a new secretary. Mott hasn't been invited to Mid Lake meeting but they read they have been granted EWM treatment monies.
- FSA: Zimbeck noted next meeting will be in June.
- OCEDC: Rudolph noted frost is causing issues for construction at ABX. Printpack thawed the ground in order to pour concrete.
- LWCB: Rudolph noted a Board meeting was held on 4/2/13, followed by forum on frac sand mining and the significant impact it has on land and water conservation department staff and conservation efforts.
- WLWCA: Annual Conference was held in March with over 300 attendees. Mott noted the breakout sessions and speakers were very good.
- RC&D: Rudolph noted the next Lumberjack meeting is scheduled for 4/17/13 in Oconto, with the state meeting scheduled for 4/18/13 in Stevens Point.

Monthly staff reports:

- Sadauskas introduced Cara Wanserski, AIS Project Assistant for 800 hours this summer. Participation in the RHS work experience program was approved at the Administration Committee and the School District Committee earlier this month.
- Hansen provided written report and highlighted an oak wilt issue in the Lake Nokomis area. The joint application for DATCP/DNR grant funding was submitted by the deadline. Auditors reviewed 2012 grant files without issue. LWCD is continuing to be charged for phone lines in the former office space in the Courthouse. Hansen has spoken with B&G and sent several emails regarding this issue without a resolution. The item will be placed on the next agenda.
- Brown noted broadband takes up much of his time. He moderated sessions at the recent Research Summit and is developing an outline for an educational presentation to County Board in late May. He would also like to provide a similar presentation at the town level. Rudolph suggested contacting the Oneida County Towns Association to attend one of their meetings. Brown has been working with Hansen and Sadauskas on "Northwoods Expressions," an arts-related project which would give attendees an opportunity to share poetry, stories and music related to nature and the Northwoods over the summer. They are seeking out partnerships with DRI, Art Start, the Historical Society, etc. to assist with the program. Brown continues to work with OCLRA on the strategic planning process. He also met with Jennrich (Planning & Zoning) regarding septic system inspections. Martini requested Brown also work with Jennrich regarding the shoreline protection ordinance.
- Brewster noted Northwoods Saves has traditionally maintained an account with Oneida County for managing financial transactions. NWS has come to the end of a grant award and having Oneida County as the fiscal administrator has become increasingly burdensome. The NWS Governing Board is requesting the account with Oneida County be closed and an account be opened at a local financial institution. Discussion followed. Motion by

Martini/Mott to approve closing the Northwoods Saves account with Oneida County and transfer the funds to a non-profit account. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.

- Brewster would like to offer an educational presentation at each Conservation/UWEX Committee meeting and set up a staff rotation of presenters. Written reports would still be provided. Discussion followed. Committee members were in favor of this new idea.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Brewster:

4/18/13	WEAFCS, ESP and DFD meetings	WI Dells*
4/19-21/13	Group Process and Facilitation Training	Treehaven*
5/9-10/13	Broadband Boot Camp	Madison**

Brown:

4/19-21/13	Group Process and Facilitation Training	Treehaven*
4/24-25/13	New Colleague Orientation	Madison**
5/9-10/13	Broadband Boot Camp	Madison**

Hansen

4/17/13	RC&D meeting	Oconto County*
4/19/13	WHIP	Vilas County*
5/7/13	ROW Invasive Species Training	Forest County*
5/13/13	Meet w/Vilas LWCD & DNR Warden	Vilas County*

Sadauskas:

4/30/13	State AIS Coordinator meeting	Stevens Point*
5/13/13	Meet w/Vilas LWCD & DNR Warden	Vilas County*

Committee:

4/17/13	Lumberjack RC&D Area meeting	Oconto County*
4/18/13	Lumberjack RC&D Board meeting	Stevens Point*
5/23/13	NCLWCA Spring meeting	Antigo*

*county
**region/state

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

Monthly budget reports:

- Motion by Berard/Martini to accept the LWCD monthly budget reports for the periods ending 12/31/12-Close 3, 01/31/13, 02/28/13 and 3/31/13 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Intrepid/Mott to accept the UWEX monthly budget reports for the periods ending 12/13/12-Close 3 and 3/31/13. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices:

- Hansen reviewed list of LWCD monthly invoices in detail. Motion by Mott/Berard to approve the monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Martini/Berard to approve the UWEX monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

- Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair. All ayes; motion carried.

Draft Oneida County AIS Strategic Plan: Sadauskas noted Kevin Gauthier (DNR) indicated the plan looks good. He sent the draft out for review and will follow up with comments as appropriate. She will meet with Gauthier to continue finalizing the plan.

NCWLCA Spring meeting: Hansen noted the next North Central Association meeting has been scheduled for 5/23/13 in Antigo. Rudolph noted there may be conflict as a special County Board meeting regarding broadband may also be held that day.

NCLWCA Summer Tour dates: Rudolph noted it is Oneida County's turn to host the NCLWCA Annual Tour this year. Dates were discussed and it was the consensus to schedule the event for 8/23/13. Hansen requested Committee input for tour sites and planning ideas. Mott offered his property for a site visit. His project was completed in 2012 and there is another site on Pelican Lake that was done several years ago that could be visited. Discussion followed.

County cost share program update/approval: Hansen has plans to do two surveys next week.

Public comment/communications:

- Brewster thanked Committee for their support working with Grube and Brunette.
- Brewster shared arrangements regarding the passing of Supervisor Paul Dean.
- Rudolph attended the WACEC Annual meeting in Madison last week. Sessions included the impact of the Governor's budget on UWEX and its programs and meeting with legislators/aides. Rudolph has served as District 4 President and also served on the WACEC Board. He was not re-elected this term.
- Mott, Martini and Sadauskas attended the Annual Lakes Convention and felt it was excellent.
- Rudolph provided Lumberjack RC&D brochure for review.

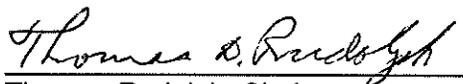
Items to include on next agenda: Fair bylaws, phone lines at former LWCD office, NCLWCA summer tour.

Adjournment: Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to adjourn at 4:07 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary



Thomas Rudolph, Chair