

**Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee**  
**August 14, 2013**  
**Minutes**

**Committee members present:** Chairman Tom Rudolph, Jim Intrepid, Greg Berard and Bob Mott. Absent: Bob Martini and Clint Zimbeck (excused).

**Others present:** Erica Brewster, Lynn Feldman, Jean Hansen, Michele Sadauskas, Kari Lazars, Terri Lindner, Ginger Terzinski, Nancy Gehrig, Greg Andrews and Kerri Ison.

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rudolph at 9 a.m. noting the meeting has been posted according to WI Open Meeting Law and the facility is handicap accessible.

**Announcements:** Rudolph thanked Committee and staff for rescheduling the meeting to allow him to participate in the WCA Resolution Committee meeting in Madison.

**Approve agenda:** Motion by Intrepid/Mott to approve today's agenda with the order of item's at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

**Approve minutes:** Motion by Mott/Intrepid to approve the minutes of 7/8/13 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Dates of future meetings:**

9/9/13	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
10/14/13	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

**Price County ANRE position:** Greg Andrews, ANRE Program Liaison, was present to discuss the Price County ANRE position. Price County's 100% agent resigned quite some time ago. Due to budget constraints, recruitment was done for a 60% position but was unsuccessful both times. Price County is now seeking possible partnerships (20-40%) with other counties with similar scope. Discussion followed regarding scope, costs, and examples of other county shared positions. There could be a lot of dual purpose/synergy with work here with conservation efforts. Andrews provided history of agriculture and additional statistics for Oneida County. Discussion followed. Hansen agreed there would be advantages but is concerned about this position replacing LWCD staff. Rudolph believes this is an opportunity for Oneida County, however it is not the best time to request this position as LWCD is requesting a conservation specialist position. Committee members felt the conversation should be kept open to revisit at a later date. Andrews noted he will try to keep funding for this position within the area but there is a risk of the funding being moved to another county. Lengthy discussion followed.

**Monthly staff report – WNEP program:** Lazars introduced educators Terri Lindner (60%) and Ginger Terzinski (100%). They showcased some of the games/activities they use in the schools, giving the Committee a snapshot of the education WNEP provides at the classroom level. Committee commended staff for a great job.

### **Oneida County Fair update:**

- Nancy Gehrig thanked the County for their support and reported the Fair experienced great weather and attendance, excellent volunteers and has received very positive comments. Berard thanked the volunteers on the Fair Committee as it requires many tiresome hours to get things off the ground. He especially thanked Gehrig (and her husband) for their hard work. Berard noted additional space is needed to expand the event, but perhaps it should be kept as is because it is wonderful just the way it is. Electrical infrastructure would help.
- Brewster would like to have "what's next meeting" with Fair Committee, City of Rhinelander, County Buildings and Grounds Committee representatives, etc. to discuss the following: is Pioneer Park long term; if so, what investments need to be made (buildings, electrical, etc.); do we charge \$1 admission or do a donation box. Brewster reported volunteer's willingness to continue to help if Gehrig continues as Fair Coordinator. Brewster proposed creating a 1,000 hour part-time Fair Coordinator position and request funding from the City as well. Discussion followed regarding charging or donation boxes. Committee directed Brewster to investigate a 1,000 hour part-time Fair Coordinator position. Brewster provided Gehrig a gift of appreciation.
- No contracts.

### **Agency Reports:**

#### Lake Districts:

- Intrepidi noted Nokomis met Saturday at Tomahawk School and approved the budget and new committee members.
- Mott had nothing to report for Mid Lake.
- Berard reported the Bear Lake Annual meeting will be held on 8/31/13.
- Rudolph reported the Horsehead Lake Annual meeting will be held on 8/17/13.

LWCB: Rudolph reported LWCB met last week in Madison and approved extensions for LWRM plans as well as preliminary allocation plan for staffing a cost share funding were approved. He also noted there is a vacancy on the Board which is a Governor's appointment.

WLWCA: Rudolph reported the office manager position has been filled.

RC&D: Rudolph reported the next meeting will be held on 10/16/13 in Shawano County.

### **Out-of-county travel requests:**

#### Brewster:

9/4/13      NCR Department Head meeting      Wausau\*\*

#### Brown:

8/27/13      Regional Broadband meeting      Eagle River

#### Feldman:

8/15-16/13      Native American Task Force      Lac du Flambeau\*

9/6/13      Regional Teen Court meeting      Stevens Point\*

9/13-15/13      Aerospace project training      Williams Bay\*

9/17/13      NCR 4-H agent meeting      Wausau\*\*  
TBD          Meeting with Mentor          Lincoln County\*\*

\*county expense  
\*\*regional/state expense

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

**Monthly budget reports:**

- Motion by Intrepidi/Berard to approve the monthly budget reports for Land Conservation as presented. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Mott/Intrepidi to approve the UWEX monthly budget reports for the periods ending 6/30/13 and 7/31/13 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Monthly invoices:**

- Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the LWC monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the UWEX and Fair invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Approve blanket purchase order(s):** Motion by Berard/Mott to approve the blanket purchase order for CenturyLink as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Staffing requests:**

- Sadauskas presented renewal of three LTE positions. Grant funding covers wages, mileage, supplies, etc. Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the staffing request as presented.
- Brewster presented renewal of the summer horticulture LTE, Fair Secretary LTE and Fair Treasurer LTE positions. Motion by Berard/Intrepidi to approve the staffing requests as presented.
- Hansen presented draft justification for full-time Conservation Specialist position, emphasizing the LWRM plan and the technical duties not being accomplished. Essential job functions are also listed. Fiscal impact was included for both full-time and 50% time, including DATCP staffing grant funding options. She has also submitted this as a budget priority. She noted the overall five-year LWRM plan was ranked high in the county priorities. Discussion followed. Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve a full-time Conservation Specialist position and forward the request on to LRES/County Board for approval. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.

**Agents 133 contracts:** Copies were provided in the packets. Discussion followed. Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the UWEX Agents 133 contracts. All ayes; motion carried.

**Office space update:** Brewster reported a meeting was held last month to discuss office space at the Airport. At that meeting, she explained the need to utilize OCEDC office space

to fulfill space needs for UWEX/LWC. Ideas were discussed including use of the Airport Conference Room, OCEDC space, moving OCEDC to current Airport offices upstairs with new Airport Offices being constructed at the former Frontier counter area. Brewster also reported that since that meeting, the NWS coordinator has resigned and the Governing Board has decided they would like to have two part-time positions. Also, there may be an opportunity for a VISTA volunteer for the UWEX office, thus changing space needs. Lengthy discussion followed.

**2014 budget priorities:** Conservation specialist position was discussed under staffing requests.

**2014 AIS grant resolution:** Sadauskas reviewed the resolution in detail. Amount being requested is \$46,859. Motion by Intrepid/Berard to forward the AIS grant resolution to the County Board for consideration. All ayes; motion carried.

**NWLWCA Summer Tour:**

- Hansen noted the Summer Tour arrangements are set and she reviewed itinerary. Rudolph urged all committee members to participate.
- Ison noted a waiver of insurance was needed from the Administration Committee for the Bowen's Bus contact. It was approved at their 8/13/13 meeting and the contract is now signed.

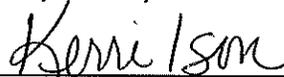
**County cost-share update:** Hansen discussed the possibility of charging a fee for technical services for the cost-share program. In 2008 staff put a tremendous amount of work at a site, only to have the property owner decide against completing the project. Discussion followed. Committee felt a non-refundable deposit to develop a plan and assist with the grant application process would be in order. Committee requested a fee schedule be discussed at next meeting.

**Public comment:** Sadauskas reminded Committee of the Annual AIS awards banquet on 8/22/13 beginning at 5 p.m. at Holiday Acres. Cost is \$10 and includes dinner.

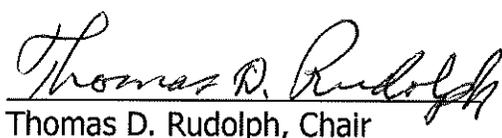
**Items to include on next agenda:** Budget, cost-share program fee schedule.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mott/Intrepid to adjourn at 12:06 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary



Thomas D. Rudolph, Chair