

**MINUTES OF THE
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
March 19, 2008**

Members Present: Vice Chairman, Wilbur Petroskey, Matt Matteson, Jack Martinson, and Guy Hansen

Members Absent: Chairman Tom Rudolph and Rod Kuczarski

Others Present: Nancy Hollands (County Conservationist); Jean Hansen (Conservation Specialist); Barb Payne (Secretary); Jennifer Holman (AIS Coordinator); John Potters (Oneida County Coordinator); and John Gillen (DNR Forester).

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Petroskey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room at the Oneida County Courthouse. He noted that the meeting of the Land and Water Conservation Committee has been properly noticed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and meets the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Approve Agenda/Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion by Martinson, second by Matteson to approve the current agenda and minutes from the February 20th meeting with the order of agenda items at the discretion of the Vice Chairman. Motion carried, all ayes.

Set date for next meeting

Vice Chairman Petroskey noted the next meeting date would be Wednesday, April 23rd at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comments

None

DNR Tree Shipping Account

John Gillen, DNR Forester, reported there are approximately 54,000 trees to be shipped to Oneida and Vilas County during the last week of April. Oneida County will be receiving 36,500 trees. The tree planter is available for rental when a landowner purchases a minimum of 3,000 trees or when they order a packet of 1,000 trees. The packets are approximately \$80 each.

Lake Nokomis Lake District Petition

Hollands reported supervisor Gary Baier contacted her in regards to the Lake Nokomis Association becoming a Lake District. Lake Nokomis submitted a petition to the County Clerk, Bob Brusco. County Coordinator, John Potters, reported briefly on the procedure involved with a public hearing and the required notices. The public hearing, according to the State Statutes, is to be held no later than 30 days after the petition is submitted to the County Clerk. Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Matteson to authorize the County Conservationist to proceed forward with scheduling a hearing date on the Lake Nokomis Lake District Petition with the approval of Corporate Counsel. Motion carried, all ayes.

Wildlife Damage Program

a. *Wildlife Damage Consultant Contract for 2008*

Hollands reported Corporate Counsel has reviewed the WDP Consultant Contract. The County requires the WDP Consultant's automobile policy to show the Consultant has a \$1,000,000 worth of liability coverage. Ludwig uses his automobile as part of consultant services.

County Cost Share Program

Hollands reported a payment was received from DATCP in the amount of \$48,822 for reimbursement to the County for payments made to landowners. The County received another payment from DATCP in the amount of \$105,470 for 2007 staffing expenses. Hollands reported that DATCP funding for 2008 cost share projects is for \$62,330. Jean Hansen reported a survey would be done on Upper Post Lake when the ice is out. Hansen answered questions asked by Petroskey on some property located on Lake George. Hansen developed a bulletin describing the Cost Share Program and what's available. Hansen recently did a telephone interview with John Burton of WHDG radio about Oneida County's Cost Share programs. Hansen reported she and DATCP engineer, Stacy Dehne did a survey on Townline Park located on County K near Rhineland. Hansen stated Townline Park needs soil erosion control. The engineers will be using a Topographical

map to determine the amount of erosion that has occurred in the last two years. The Forestry Department is not pursuing cost - share funds for this project, as they don't want to take funds away from the landowners. Jean commented she would be working with Planning and Zoning on Tomahawk Lake concerning a pavement violation. The Planning and Zoning regulations require the pavement be removed down to the water. Jean stated that she and Stacy Dehne, DATCP Engineer, will provide technical assistance at this site.

Environmental Education Scholarships (Youth & Teacher)

The Youth Camp will be held in Bruce, Wisconsin on June 17 – June 20, 2008. We offer scholarships for two students from Oneida County to attend the youth camp at a cost of up to \$100 for each student. Two other youth camps are being held throughout the state this summer.

A scholarship(s) is available for Oneida County teachers at Trees for Tomorrow, which is located in Eagle River. Oneida County usually sponsors one to two teachers to attend workshops that are held throughout the summer. Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Martinson to authorize the Oneida County Land & Water Conservation Department to offer the Youth Camp and Teacher Scholarships. Motion carried, all voting aye.

DATCP Grant Application for Calendar Year 2009

Hollands reported the 2009 grant application for staffing would be available. The Committee agreed that we should apply for \$100,000 for the County Cost Share program. Discussion followed from the Committee. Hollands reported she has received information concerning Paul Sowinski, Sowinski Farms. Sowinski has approximately 1,500 acres that may be eligible for a Nutrient Management Grant. Hollands stated that NRCS – EQIP funding may be available to fund Sowinski's nutrient management plan.

Introduction of new Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

Hollands introduced Oneida County's new AIS Coordinator, Jennifer Holman, to the Committee. Holman gave a brief outline on AIS. Discussion followed with the Committee.

AIS Transportation Ordinance

Hollands reported Brian Desmond, Corporate Counsel, contacted her about an AIS Transportation Ordinance. The Attorney General's Office reply was the County does have the authority to have a county ordinance. Polk County has an ordinance that can be used as a sample. Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Martinson to authorize the Land & Water Conservation Department to work with Corporate Counsel on the development of an AIS Transportation Ordinance. Motion carried, all ayes.

Update on AIS Grants/Budgets/Activities

Hollands reported an application for a \$25,000 AIS grant was submitted by February 1st to the DNR. She said there were some changes required for this year. The DNR ranks the applications and informs the county of their grant status within two months.

Hollands reported there was surplus funds in the amount \$15,000 in the AIS budget for 2007. The Finance Committee approved the carryover of these funds in the amount of \$15,000 from the 2007 AIS budget to the 2008 AIS budget for two LTE Watercraft Inspectors.

Hollands reported on AIS activities this past month. We interviewed and hired an AIS Coordinator.

Lake Districts/Agency Reports (FSA, NRCS, LWCD, UWEX, DNR, LWCB, WLWCA, & RC&D)

Mid Lake District – Petroskey reported the OCLRA would be having a meeting on April 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Oneida County Airport. Petroskey reported Mid Lake has been cutting plants where needed. He also asked that the AIS Coordinator, Jennifer Holman, try to attend the Mid Lake annual meeting in July.

Thunder Lake District – Guy Hansen had nothing new to report.

Bear Lake District – Martinson reported Bear Lake District is currently dealing with a group who wants to develop condos. The Board of Adjustment currently vetoed this type of development. Now this issue will go on to Circuit Court.

Horsehead Lake District – No report was given, Rudolph was absent.

FSA – No report was given. Kuczarski was absent.

NRCS – No report was given.

LWCD – Hollands reported she and her department has been busy completing the year-end budget reports, the reconciliation of the 2007 budget, the AIS position vacancy, and soil and water stewardship materials. Jean Hansen reported she and the staff has been working on compiling a native plant database for Oneida County.

UWEX – No one present.

DNR – John Gillen, DNR Forester, attended this month's meeting and his comments appear under agenda DNR tree shipping account.

LWCB – No report was given, Rudolph was absent.

WLWCA – No report was given, Rudolph was absent.

RC&D – No report was given, Rudolph was absent.

Monthly Budget Review

Motion by Martinson, second by Matteson to approve the monthly budget summary for December 2007 – Adjustment II for the Land & Water Conservation Department, Wildlife Damage Program, and AIS Program. Motion carried, all ayes.

Motion by Matteson, second by Guy Hansen to approve the monthly budget summary for February 2008 for the Land & Water Conservation Department, Wildlife Damage Program, and AIS Program. Motion carried, all ayes.

Travel Authorization

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| • April 16 | Lumberjack RC&D Meeting | Lincoln County |
| • April 17 | Annual Sustainable Forestry Conference | Florence County |
| • April 22 | Core Conservation III Training | Hixon, Wisconsin - Jean Hansen |

Motion by Matteson, second by Guy Hansen to approve attendance at these meetings. Motion carried, all ayes.

Approval of invoices, purchase orders, and line item transfers

Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Martinson to approve the invoices as presented. Motion carried, all ayes.

A list of the approved bills is attached to the minutes.

Matt Matteson left the meeting at 10:30 a.m. to attend an Oneida County Emergency Management Meeting, and returned to the LWCC meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Items for the next meeting agenda

- **Phosphorous Fertilizer**

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. motion by Martinson, second by Matteson. Motion carried, all ayes.

Thomas Rudolph
Chairman

Nancy Hollands
County Conservationist