

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
January 16, 2008**

**Members Present:** Chairman Tom Rudolph, Wilbur Petroskey, Matt Matteson, Jack Martinson, Guy Hansen, and Rod Kuczmariski

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Nancy Hollands (County Conservationist); Barb Payne (Land & Water Conservation Secretary); Jean Hansen (Conservation Specialist); Bob Williams (OCLRA); Peter Wolk (County Supervisor); and Kevin Boneske; (Rhineland Daily News)

***Call to Order***

Chairman Rudolph called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room #1 of 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 Matteson, second by Guy Hansen to approve the current agenda and minutes from the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended with the order of agenda items at the discretion of the Chairman. Guy Hansen – aye; Kuczmariski – aye; Petroskey – aye; Rudolph – aye; Matteson – aye; Martinson – nay; Motion carried.

***Set date for next meeting***

Chairman Rudolph noted the next meeting date would be Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

***Public Comments –***

Bob Williams, President of the Oneida County Lakes & Rivers Association (OCLRA), presented a letter supporting the urgency of filling the AIS Coordinator vacancy. Chairman Rudolph read the letter to the Committee. Discussion by the Committee followed. Motion by Matteson, second by Guy Hansen to support OCLRA's letter stating the urgency in filling the Oneida County AIS Coordinator vacancy as soon as possible. Motion carried, all ayes. Mr. Williams reminded everyone present the next OCLRA Meeting would be held on February 11<sup>th</sup> at Oneida County UWEX Office.

***Wildlife Damage Program***

***a. Wildlife Damage Consultant Contract for 2008***

Hollands reported that Oneida County's Wildlife Damage Consultant contract is up for renewal in 2008. The contract requires a \$400.00 retainer fee with an hourly rate of \$14.00 per hour and mileage reimbursement at the State Wildlife Damage Program rate. Hollands informed the Committee that Corporate Counsel would review the Consultant Contract as required by the County. Hollands stated that Bill Ludwig, Wildlife Damage Consultant, would give his annual WDP report at the February meeting. Hollands reported Ron Eckstein, DNR, would be available to report at a future meeting. The Committee decided the March meeting would be the most appropriate. Motion by Petroskey, second by Martinson to approve the renewal of the Wildlife Damage Consultant Contract with Bill Ludwig for 2008 contingent upon Corporate Counsel's approval of the contract. Motion carried, all voting aye.

***b. Deer Processing Program***

Hollands reported she has received documentation from the two participating meat processors. Hollands stated they are still processing venison. Therefore the totals for the amount of venison distributed to area food pantries may not be accurate at this time. Discussion followed by the Committee. Hollands reported she would report on the total amount distributed to the area food pantries at the February meeting.

***County Cost Share Program***

Jean Hansen reported there were five landowners who signed cost-share contracts by the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. Construction started the first part of January on Verstegen's project on Planting Ground Lake in Three Lakes. The contractor finished the rock riprap during the mild weather. Stacy Dehne, DATCP Engineer, approved the rock riprap. The Verstegen's are eligible to receive partial payment for their project. Jean Hansen explained a new product; called Geo-Grid will be used for approximately eight feet in the last phase of the Verstegen project.

The Lader project located on Moen Lake will be using a new product called Envirolok Bags. This will be the first time Envirolok Bags will be used in Oneida County. Another project on Lake Nokomis will also be using Envirolok Bags. A winter survey will be done while the lakes are still frozen. Discussion followed by the Committee.

***Shoreline Tax Incentive Program***

Hollands handed out a memo she had received from Brian Desmond, Corporate Counsel. This memo basically addressed his concerns regarding implementing a shoreline tax incentive program. Discussion followed by the Committee.

***AIS Coordinator Position Vacancy***

Hollands reported that Radley Watkins last day of work was December 31<sup>st</sup>. Discussion followed. Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Matteson to approve filling the AIS Coordinator's vacancy as soon as possible. (Guy Hansen – aye; Petroskey – aye; Rudolph – aye; Kuczmariski – aye; Matteson – aye;) (Martinson – nay) Motion carried.

***AIS Job Description***

Hollands handed out copies of the original AIS Coordinator's job description for the Committee to review. Discussion followed. The Committee made the following changes to the current AIS job description. Under education and/or experience the current job description states that a Bachelors Degree in Natural Resources is required or an Associate Degree in Natural Resources is required. We want to change the word required to preferred. Motion by Martinson to use the original job description without changes in education. Motion failed, due to lack of second. Motion by Matteson, second by Petroskey to accept the changes to the AIS Coordinator job description requirement stating that a Bachelors or Associate Degree in Natural Resources is preferred, not required. (Guy Hansen – aye; Rudolph – aye; Kuczmariski – aye; Petroskey- aye; Matteson – aye) (Martinson – nay) Motion carried. Hollands encouraged the Committee to attend the January 23<sup>rd</sup> LRES Committee meeting to support filling this vacancy as quickly as possible.

***AIS Grant Application/Resolution for 2008***

Hollands reported the AIS grant application deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Hollands stated that Watkins had started preparing the grant application before he resigned. Hollands asked the Committee for direction as how to proceed with finishing the grant application before the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Discussion followed. Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Matteson to proceed with the grant application for the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, which would include the hiring of two LTE's, and to approve the hiring of Radley Watkins, Northern Environmental, under professional services to complete the grant application. Motion carried, all ayes. Hollands will submit a copy of the professional services contract to Corporate Counsel's for their review and approval.

Hollands handed out copies of the AIS grant resolution for 2008 that will be submitted to the County Board at their February meeting. Discussion followed. Hollands stated that Brian Desmond hasn't reviewed the resolution yet. Motion by Guy Hansen, second by Martinson to approve submitting the resolution authorizing the County to apply for an AIS Grant in the amount \$25,000.00 with the County providing a \$8,333.00 grant match contingent upon Corporate Counsel's approval. Motion carried, all ayes.

***AIS Research Wisconsin Idea Project Grant Cooperation***

A copy of this correspondence was mailed earlier to Committee members. Jeff Maxted, Research Specialist at the Center for Limnology at UW-Madison, explained the need for grant funding to complete future work implementing a plan for preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species in our Northern Wisconsin Lakes. The UW-Madison Center for Limnology and the Oneida County Land & Water Conservation Department staff would be working together. Maxted indicated he would be available to attend the February meeting to further explain their plan. Discussion followed. Everyone was in agreement that Jeff Maxted should attend the February meeting.

***LWCD Staff Training/ Conference Schedule***

Hollands handed out two schedules listing future dates for staff/supervisors who will be attending trainings and conferences in 2008. Discussion followed.

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

***Mid Lake District*** – Petroskey reported Mid Lake holds one annual meeting a year. There are no concerns at this time.

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

**Bear Lake District** – Martinson reported Bear Lake will be having a meeting in June to address their concerns about over development around the lake. Martinson reported a developer would be coming to the June meeting with a proposal. Attorney Larry Heath has been hired to represent them.

**Horsehead Lake District** – Rudolph reported Horsehead Lake has a website available. The aerator in the lake is currently operating this winter.

**FSA** – Kuczarski reported there are still funds available from the Farm Service Agency Disaster Relief Program for farmers whose crops were damaged by drought conditions in production years 2005, 2006, and 2007. For more information, contact the FSA Director Susan Hunter.

**NRCS** – No one was present.

**LWCD** – Hollands reported she has received requests for letters of support from the Post Lake Association, the Three Lakes Waterfront Association, and the Three Sisters Lake Association. Hollands stated she and her staff are currently working on finishing the AIS grant documentation for the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Grant deadlines are also approaching for state DATCP and WDP grants.

**UWEX** – No one was present to report

**DNR** – No one was present to report.

**LWCB** – Rudolph reported the next meeting would be in Madison on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Rudolph reported the LWCB has finally come to the end of approving county Land & Water Resource Management Plans. He said there could be a possible extension increasing the five-year plans to possibly fifteen year plans in the future. This would have to go to the Legislature.

**WLWCA** – Rudolph reported the next board meeting would be held on February 21<sup>st</sup> in Madison.

**RC&D** – Matteson gave out a sample of a farm market produce guide called, “The Farm Fresh Atlas.” He acquired it while attending the Lumberjack RC&D meeting that was held earlier in the month in Langlade County. This farm guide is a produce listing of locations and advertisements of Farmer Markets in the surrounding areas. Matteson suggested listing the Oneida County Farmer’s Market in this guide. Matteson noted the deadline for publication is May 31<sup>st</sup>. Discussion followed. Rudolph reported Kim Goerg, Lumberjack RC&D Coordinator, and Paul Mueller, Forest Inventory Analysis Project Supervisor, provided information about the Lumberjack RC&D and the state’s forests at the January County Board Meeting. Petroskey felt it was a worthwhile effort to provide an explanation about the organization and its function. Rudolph stated the next Lumberjack RC&D meeting would be held in Lincoln County on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Monthly Budget Review**

Motion by Petroskey, second by Martinson to approve the monthly budget summaries for December 2007 for the Land & Water Conservation Department, Wildlife Damage Program, and AIS Program. Motion carried, all ayes.

**Travel Authorization**

- February 1<sup>st</sup>                                      North Central Association Annual Planning Meeting                                      Merrill, Wisconsin
- February 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>                                      Conservation Core Training (Jean Hansen)                                      Madison, Wisconsin

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

**Approval of invoices, purchase orders, and line item transfers**

Motion by Martinson, second by Petroskey approve the invoices as presented. Motion carried, all ayes.

Hollands presented a line item transfer of \$5,800.00 from the State Aid-Wildlife Damage Program Revenue account to the Deer Processing line item for the calendar year 2007 budget. Motion by Petroskey, second by Matteson to approve the line item transfer as presented. Motion carried, all ayes.

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

**Items for the next meeting agenda**

Agenda items will be determined at a later date.

***Adjourn***

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m. motion by Martinson, second by Matteson. Motion carried, all ayes.

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Thomas Rudolph  
Chairman

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Nancy Hollands  
County Conservationist