

Conservation/UW-Extension Committee Meeting
CNRED Position Description Priorities
October 26, 2015
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Tom Rudolph, Robb Jensen, Jim Intrepidi, and Kim Simac.

Others present: Tom Schmitz, Lynn Feldman, and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rudolph at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, October 26, 2015 at the UW-Extension Office Conference Room. The meeting was properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible.

Approve Agenda: Motion by Jensen/Intrepidi to approve today's agenda. All ayes; motion carried.

Review Job Description for CNRED Position:

Tom Schmitz reviewed the five pieces of the job description of the agent as was discussed and approved by the Committee in the previous meeting regarding this position. They are:

1. Natural Resources and Recreational Trail Development
2. Attracting and Retaining Young People in the Community
3. Community Organizational Development
4. Broadband Development
5. Community Vision

Discuss and Update Further Priorities:

Tom Schmitz gave an update that Myles Alexander is currently working on a grant with Kansas State in Coaching Coalitions. This project will wrap up in five months. The State has agreed to off-set his agent salary by 5%. This is the estimated percentage of time it would take away from his role as the CNRED Agent. All agents are required to work toward tenure and this project will be completed by the end of March. The salary adjustment will be for the first five months of his position. Experience gained while working on this grant can be shared with the Extension Staff. Coaching and support techniques will be passed on to Richie and Feldman. He will have a 4-5 day conference to attend related to Coaching Coalitions in December.

Schmitz had a meeting with Feldman and Martin Havlovic, Head of the Cooperative Extension CNRED Agents, regarding resource development. They assigned Art Lersch, the CNRED agent from Lincoln County, who is involved in community development, as a mentor to Alexander.

Outline any Adjustments for Review:

The initial position focus reveals that the agent will be responsible for a very broad area of concerns. The Committee had specific areas of concern from the five areas:

Natural Resources Protection and Trail Development Issues

- Silent trail versus motorized trail development
 - Identify what interest groups exist for agent to contact
 - Silent Sports and Motorized ATV trails must be distanced from each other
 - Grooming/maintenance management for the different types of trails
 - Heal Creek not finalized until end of year; trails not even developed yet
- CNRED agent involvement with trail issues
 - Agent is to find the best strategy and fill in the gaps to support trail groups
 - People have to know who CNRED agent is before they can recognize efforts
 - Effort shall be put forth to meet with Committee and some County Board Members
 - Agent does not decide trail issue but works with groups and organizations
 - Agent builds capacity for groups to make a decision

Attracting and Retaining Young People

- What groups will the CNRED Agent approach?
 - Manufacturing groups
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Tourism
 - Address this to OCEDC
- Key Partners recommended by Brown to successor.
 - Grow North-dedicated to economic development of 8 counties of Northeast Wisconsin.
 - Northwoods Entrepreneurs
 - Rhinelander Young Professionals
 - Leadership Oneida County
 - Fellow CNRED agent
- Agent will spend time with different groups to listen to what they need
 - Create visibility
 - Agent should build capacity for groups to make a decision
 - Find out what is happening and where there are gaps
 - How can the Committee help
 - Educate people on new information and research

Rudolph commented that the spring elections for the county board would be coming up. The new agent will have to be active at this time in May to meet new board members. Schmitz offered several suggestions and general comments. This position, what the CNRED agent does, is not a duplication of other areas in the county. He recommended that each Committee Member meet separately with Alexander before the Committee meets again as a group. It will give the agent the opportunity to receive input from the Committee members. These general conversations will help in understanding the role of the agent. This will give each person a chance to share their concerns, what challenges they see, and know what assets are available. The Committee wants the Agent to know what priorities and objectives are expected and want a tentative plan in place. The Extension is good at goal setting and what steps are required to achieve the best results. It was agreed that all members will meet individually with Alexander before the next meeting.

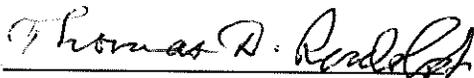
Schedule Follow-up Meeting:

The tentative date for the follow-up meeting is Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Jensen/Intrepid to adjourn at 9:48 a.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,


Merry J. Lehner, Recording Secretary


Thomas Rudolph, Committee Chair