

# MINUTES OF THE LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Oneida County Courthouse – 9:00 a.m. – Committee Room 1

**Members Present:** Vice Chairman Wilbur Petroskey, Matt Matteson, Jack Martinson, Gary Baier, and Robert Evsich

**Members Absent:** Rod Kuczmariski (excused absence) and Tom Rudolph (excused absence)

**Others Present:** Nancy Hollands (County Conservationist); Barb Payne (Secretary); Lawrence Eslinger (AIS Coordinator); Susan Hunter (Farm Service Agency) and Kevin Boneske (Rhineland Daily News).

## ***Call to Order***

Vice Chairman Petroskey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room #1 on the second floor 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***

Motion by Martinson, second by Matteson to approve the minutes from the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion carried; all ayes. Motion by Matteson, second by Baier to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at the discretion of the Vice Chairman. Motion carried; all ayes.

## ***Set date for next meetings***

Vice Chairman Petroskey noted the next meeting date will be Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Hollands reminded the Committee the May meeting would be the start of the joint meetings for the newly formed UWEX/LWCC. Committee discussion followed.

## ***Public Comments***

No public comments.

## ***Wildlife Damage Program Services***

Matteson attended the annual Deer Herd Management meeting hosted by the DNR on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at the James Williams Middle School. Matteson provided deer herd management materials for the Committee to review. The Committee requested that Ron Eckstein, DNR Biologist, be invited to attend the next meeting to give a report. Committee discussion followed.

## ***County Cost Share Program Update***

Hollands reported in Hansen's absence. The Skye project located on the Rhineland Flowage will require an individual DNR permit. The Waldinger project located on Manson Lake will be using part rock rip-rap and will require an individual DNR permit. Another proposed project located on Bear Lake will also require an individual DNR permit. The DATCP 2010 allocation plan for the county cost-share program shows a slight increase in state cost-share funds from 2009. Hollands stated we should have the DATCP 2010 contract by the next meeting. Committee discussion followed.

## ***DATCP Grant Application for Calendar Year 2011***

Hollands reported that we are working on three different calendar years. Currently we are finishing reports for 2009. We are doing work for 2010, and DATCP requires that our 2011 grant application be submitted by April 15<sup>th</sup>. The reason for the early deadline is that DATCP can then provide our tentative grant figures for 2011 by mid August so we can incorporate these amounts into our 2011 county budget. For 2010 we will receive \$62,926.00 for cost share dollars and \$113,110.00 for staffing grants. Committee discussion followed. Motion by Martinson, second by Matteson to approve the DATCP grant application for calendar year 2011 in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the county cost-share program and to also authorize the Chairman to sign the 2011 grant application. Motion carried; all ayes.

## ***Environmental Education Scholarships for Teachers***

Hollands reported there is \$435.00 budgeted for teacher scholarships this year. Trees for Tomorrow is offering 4 – 5 workshops for teachers this summer. Motion by Matteson, second by Martinson to approve the Environmental Education Scholarships for teachers. Motion carried; all ayes.

***Update on Soil & Water Conservation Stewardship Week***

Hollands handed out a sample of the letter and materials that were sent to all the municipal clerks and the city clerk as requested at the last meeting.

***Update/Status of AIS Grants/Budgets/Activities***

Hollands reported we currently have a DNR – AIS grant for 2010 in the amount of \$47,147.00. This grant will cover the cost of our operational expenses, and the cost of the Limited Term Employee's salary and fringe benefits. We are still waiting to hear from the DNR about the Dissolved Oxygen Meter grant we applied for in February.

***Report from AIS Coordinator on current activities***

Lawrence Eslinger, Oneida County's AIS Coordinator, reported on his activities and accomplishments since he started. Committee discussion followed.

***Report on Terrestrial Invasive Species Week Meetings***

Hollands stated that no WHIP meeting will be held in March. The next meeting will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> in Rhinelander.

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

***Bear Lake District*** – Martinson had nothing new to report.

***Mid Lake District*** – Petroskey had nothing new to report.

***Thunder Lake District*** – Baier had nothing to report.

***Horsehead Lake District*** – Rudolph was absent so no report was given.

**FSA** – Susan Hunter, FSA County Executive Director, was present and handed out the Farm Service Agency March report. Hunter went over the various programs with the Committee and answered questions. Hunter reported she is in the process of producing the newsletter on a local level, instead of the State publishing the newsletter. Committee discussion followed.

**NRCS** – Hunter stated that the District Conservationist from Marathon County would be assisting the Rhinelander NRCS Office with the District Conservationist vacancy.

**LWCD** – Hollands reported Hansen will be partnering with Stacy Dehne, DATCP Engineer, and Carolyn Scholl, Vilas County Conservationist. They will be presenting a three-hour workshop on Shoreline Erosion 101 at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay. Hollands reported the department is currently finishing up year-end reports for 2009. The County auditors will be coming the week of April 5<sup>th</sup>. We have been busy finishing up the final DATCP reports for 2009. We are currently working on the 2009 DATCP Activities Report which is due April 15<sup>th</sup>. We are currently in the process of obtaining a municipal license for the anchor chain scarifier trailer. We have also been working with Lawrence on various AIS activities. We have received the Soil & Water Stewardship Bulletin Inserts. We have submitted them to the printer. The two Limited Term - AIS employees will be hired soon. Hollands stated Kuzlik, Eslinger, and herself will be reviewing applications for hiring two AIS Limited Term Employees who will be working 600 hours each this year.

**UWEX** – Dan Kuzlik wasn't present to report.

**DNR** – No one present to report.

**LWCB** – Rudolph was absent so no report was given.

**WLWCA** - Rudolph was absent so no report was given.

**RC&D** – Rudolph was absent so no report was given.

***Monthly Budget Review***

Motion by Martinson, second by Baier to approve the monthly budget review for December Adjustment II for the Land and Water Conservation Program, the Wildlife Damage Program, and the Aquatic Invasive Species Program. Motion carried; all ayes. Motion by Matteson, second by Martinson to approve the monthly budget review for February for the Land and Water Conservation Program, the Wildlife Damage Program, and the Aquatic Invasive Species Program. Motion carried; all ayes. Motion by Matteson, second by Martinson to approve doing the budget review every six months, instead of every month. Motion carried: all ayes.

***Travel Authorization***

Motion by Matteson, second by Evsich to approve attendance at the following meeting (s). Motion carried; all ayes.

- March 2, 2010 Meeting with Ted Ritter (Recommended by Kuzlik) – Eslinger Eagle River, Wisconsin
- March 25, 2010 Volm Erosion Control Open House – Hansen Antigo, Wisconsin
- April 7, 2010 Annual DNR/Guides Meeting (Recommended by Kuzlik) – Eslinger Eagle River, Wisconsin
- April 9, 2010 WHIP Group Meeting Rhinelander, Wisconsin
- April 14, 2010 Trainer the Trainer Workshop – Hansen/Eslinger Phillips, Wisconsin

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

Motion by Baier, second by Petroskey to approve the March invoices as presented. Motion carried; all ayes.

A list of the approved bills is kept on file and is available upon request. Motion carried; all ayes.

***Items for the next meeting agenda***

Items will be determined as suggested during current meeting.

***Adjourn***

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 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