

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
Monday, July 11, 2022 Minutes
Courthouse County Board Room & Virtually by ZOOM

Committee members: Chairman Jim Winkler (Zoom), Bob Thome, Jr., Collette Sorgel, Linnaea Newman, Tommy Ryden, and John Engel-Farmer Rep.

Others Present: Michele Sadauskas, Karl Jennrich, Stephanie Boismenu, Amber Rehberg, Anne Williams, Terri Kolb, Merry Lehner, and Jonna Jewell. Zoom: Debbie Pulver.

1. Call to order and Chairperson's Announcements:

Chair Winkler called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was properly posted and handicapped accessible and ADA compliant. The symbol /s/ indicates a valid virtual attendee's signature.

2. Approve Agenda: A motion by Thome/Sorgel to approve the July 11, 2022 Agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

3. Approve Minutes: Thome/Newman motioned to approve the June 13, 2022 minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

4. Dates /Location of Future Meetings:

Monday, August 15, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Courthouse County Board Room
Monday, September 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Courthouse County Board Room

5. Public Comment: None.

6. 2023 Staffing Requests LWCD: Michele Sadauskas

Each year the budget process is begun by submitting Staffing Requests for their LTE's. Most are grant funded except for the part-time Administrative Support position, for Jonna Jewell, which is County funded. Most of the staffing is the same as last year. Motion by Sorgel/Newman to accept the Staffing Requests as long as the grant dollars are received. All ayes; motion carried.

7. WI Deer Donation 2022 Program participation:

Oneida County participates in this voluntary program each year. It is no cost to the County. They work with the DNR for reimbursement in this program. There is a processor in Oneida County in Lake Tomahawk. The DNR works out the arrangements. Winkler/Engel motioned to support the 2022 WI Deer Donation Program. All ayes; motion carried

8. Cost Share Update:

a. Pulver project. Boismenu shared photos on this project located on the Wisconsin River near McNaughton. The original project consisted of over 400 feet of shoreline stabilization. This large project was split in two phases due to the expense involved. Last year's phase one covered 220 feet with three stream barbs, root wads, rock riprap and native plantings. This year, phase two will cover the remaining footage with root wads and stream barbs. A portion of shoreline was lost that had to be stabilized. There is a ten-year obligation by the owner to maintain the vegetation and shoreline.

b. Framke project approval. A property owner contacted LWCD about an old seawall on Lake Nokomis.

Because of the flowage, they want to replace it as a priority and because of sediment loading. Work next year will involve installing rock riprap and vegetated bag walls and plantings on steep slopes. Motion by Thome/Newman to approve the 2023 Pulver and Framke Cost Share projects as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

c. Dibbs project. No approval today, it will be presented August 2022.

d. Mack/Shnowske. These are two parcels on the Willow Flowage where approval of Cost Share Reimbursement is being requested. Rock rip -rap and vegetative bags, and plants were all placed correctly. Everything is completed and once all receipts are received, they will reimburse the landowners. The Mack property received both DNR funding and Cost Share funds, which is noted under invoices. The Shnowske reimbursement was only Cost Share funds. Motion to approve reimbursement will appear under the Consent Agenda item 11.

8. CAFO Moratorium Update:

Karl reviewed what the Planning & Development Committee stated regarding the moratorium on livestock facilities that expires September 1, 2022. He asked if they wanted to extend it for revisions to the zoning ordinance. They did not want to extend the moratorium. Mr. Holewinski requested how long the moratorium was in place and the CUW minutes when they voted not to adopt the MSO. The MSO is separate from the CAFO moratorium. The Planning and Development Committee would be the one to hold a public hearing on the CAFO moratorium as a provision of Chapter 9.

9. Lake District Reports:

The Committee member's comments on their report on the Lake Districts are listed below.

a. Thunder- Sorgel. Their meeting was July 8 and notes will be shared at August CUW meeting.

b. Mid - Winkler. The Commissioner's meeting was on July 2. See notes included in packet.

c. Horsehead - Winkler. Commissioners meeting was on July 2 and there was discussion on aerators. Treasurer, Dave Averbeck, received an email asking for an open records request on employees of the District. There are no paid employees; it is all volunteer work. Their Annual meeting will be in August.

d. Nokomis – Newman. The meeting was June 16 and they celebrated their first year as a Lake District. A new pesticide to treat E. milfoil is being tested in a small area. Policy and procedures reviewed. Next meeting is July 21, 2022 where they will set a date for the annual meeting and lake management plan.

e. Squash – Thome. The Commissioner's meeting was on July 10. Treasurer reported that cash on hand is \$49,000. The Annual meeting is scheduled for August 10. A slight increase on the post-tax levy is due to costs involved to address E. milfoil. Manual pulling of weeds by divers is funded by a grant by the DNR who pay \$40 per hour. If divers do not work a certain number of hours, the District has to refund the grant.

f. Crescent – Thome. Meeting on July 6. They used an exclusive AIS response team to monitor the E. milfoil on the lake, headed by Terry Goldbach, who has done a great job. They discussed the budget and herbicide treatment, which costs \$45,000 and use of DASH boats. In 2022, there are no divers available and the DASH boat is dry-docked. They will contract for the work. Next meeting: July 19 to finalize annual meeting details and will select a date.

11. Consent Agenda Items: LWCD

They reviewed the Monthly Budget report, invoices to pay, and to approve the Mack/Shnowske Cost Share and DNR Grant funding. A motion by Thome/ Ryden to approve Consent Agenda as presented. All Ayes; motion carried.

12. LWCD Items for Next Agenda:

Thome to report on LWC Board meeting in August. Budget 2023, Thunder Lake District report.

13. Area 4 Extension Director Update: - Amber Rehberg

a. Extension Update regarding office support work and on the Community Development position. A new LTE, Jean McNaughton was hired mid-June.

i. Office Support: Rehberg had Lehner and McNaughton perform a time study on daily tasks. In the summer, staff spends at least 30% of their time with visitors to the office and taking phone calls. A summer (Hort) horticulture position took inquiries in the past, and was cut from the budget. The staff processes Water and Soil Tests sent to State labs for analysis. Lehner handles Hort inquiries as Master Gardener Coordinator. Plant disease, insect identification, and specific issues go to Madison specialists. She performs administrative duties, monitors the budget, invoices, takes Committee minutes, and the County Report. Without the Fair duties, a bit more time is freed up to support the educators with program registration, correspondence, copying, printing, and newsletters. Inadequate support staff results in the educators taking on additional work.

ii. Community Development Educator:

Madison is specifically asking what this CDI position would entail. Previously, an educator performed a needs assessment and then they would build out programs. The institute, no longer wants a generalist viewpoint. They want to hire someone with a specific knowledge base according to the needs. The benefit is that Extension can connect with University resources to address the needs of the entire County. Rehberg asked for Committee input on County needs last month.

The Committee agreed that housing, maintaining a workforce to perform area jobs, and lack of adequate childcare are big concerns. Ryden noted Minocqua has a 300 plus waiting list for daycare. Sorgel said Three Lakes is working with Grow North to staff a facility for the Dream-up Grant funding for daycare. The CDI educator can facilitate and follow through on grants. Extension can help write grants, form the collaborations, and follow up on post grant reporting. Additionally, broadband development and reliable service, economic and workforce development, needed to bring in skilled people.

b. Communication Plan: Extension continues to turn out news releases to the media for outreach. Recently both Allison Wilson was on TV working with the Hodag Food Wagon and Anne Williams was promoting the Children's Theater. Extension posts updates to the website and to County and local bulletin boards.

Signage: Rehberg shared a sample of what Nicolet presented as a decision for the main sign on Highway G. The Extension sign will hang below the brown Nicolet main sign at the entrance.

14. 2023 Staffing Requests:

Rehberg presented two request options. Option 1. Hire a full-time Educator, which is the preferred option. A 100% full-time Office Manager/Program Coordinator. One person would have better efficiencies. Currently we have one part-time at 80% and a LTE at 20%. The LTE position has a high turnover and having to continue hiring during a workforce shortage, along with training costs, makes one full-time position a better choice. Option 2 is two part-time office support positions to handle Administrative and the other Program Support for the educators. Lisa Charbarneau from LRES visited the meeting and advised that part-timers have pro-rated benefits and health insurance, and pay more out of pocket. Lisa recommended the full-time option; they are easier to hire and maintain. The Committee agreed to full-time position at 40 hours; the dollar amount and fiscal impact are correct.

A motion by Newman/Ryden recommend a full-time office support position for \$63,432 at 40 hours, to be forwarded to the County Board. All ayes; motion carried.

15. Educator Report 4-H. Anne Williams

Winkler complimented William's work on the recent 4-H partnership with the Missoula Children's Theater, who put on the play The Emperor's New Clothes on July 2.

Williams gave a presentation on "What is Oneida County Doing to Help Youth in Oneida County".

1. 4-H offers positive, engaging spaces for quality hands-on learning opportunities, with focus on youth belonging, and for youth to explore their interests and passions to gain new skills.
2. 4-H provides service-learning opportunities for young people.
3. 4-H provides youth leadership opportunities.
4. She is working to make it easier for Oneida County youth and families to access and participate in 4-H programs.

4-H Fosters youth-adult partnerships, Volunteer opportunities, and Reduces Risky behavior. It helps youth thrive and be successful in life, in school, interact better with others, networks, and personal responsibility in careers. Winkler asked about TAG being included in future programming.

16. Consent Agenda Items: (UW-Extension).

A motion by Thome/Sorgel to approve items a and b. All Ayes; motion carried. Note that the professional development fee is less due the CDI vacancy.

17. Items to include on next agenda.

Follow up on CDI, 2023 budget. Staffing, Communication.

18. Public Comment: None.

19. Adjournment: Motion at 3:40 p.m. to adjourn the meeting by Winkler/Thome. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

Jim Winkler, Committee Chair