

**Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee**  
**Monday, September 12, 2022 Minutes**  
**Courthouse County Board Room & Virtually by ZOOM**

**Committee members:** Chairman Jim Winkler, Bob Thome, Jr. and Tommy Ryden. Collette Sorgel, Linnaea Newman, and John Engel on Zoom.

**Others Present:** Michele Sadauskas, Karl Jennrich, Stephanie Boismenu, Dan Butkus, Jason Hausler, Terri Kolb, Merry Lehner, Beckie Gaskill, and Jonna Jewell.

**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/ represents a valid virtual attendee's signature.

**2. Approve Agenda:** A motion by Newman/Thome to approve the September 12, 2022 Amended Agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

**3. Approve Minutes:** Thome/Ryden motioned to approve the August 15, 2022 minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

**4. Dates /Location of Future Meetings:**

*Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Courthouse County Board Room*  
*Monday, November 14, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Northwoods Center at Nicolet College*

**5. Public Comment:** None.

**6. Wakeboat Update:**

Sadauskas had to reschedule the wakeboat meeting with the three counties. Their scheduled date did not work out. She will follow up next month.

**7. Solar Farm Update:**

Sadauskas wanted to check about the buffer plantings at the Solar Farm in late August or September. A citizen notified her that the site had been mowed. The NRS, Natural Resources Services, in charge of the vegetation control plan, mowed the site in an effort to knock down the weed seed. Winkler noticed some bare spots at the site. Jennrich referenced a letter sent to R&D Solar LLC regarding non-compliance with the CUP conditional use permit. Two conditions were not met, per Jennrich, one being erosion control. They have ten days to contact the department to schedule an on-site inspection. Van Zile, with WPS and/or the landowner, R&D, will need to reply and follow up for a site visit. It is just sand and rock currently, especially in a lowland area to the north.

**8. DNR Grant Resolutions:**

- a. Clean Boats Clean Waters Grant -Boismenu: The 2023 CBCW grant is for the amount of \$18,300 for one year of funding. She will hire three LTEs for 1,124 hours who will receive training to educate the public about AIS and to prevent introduction of AIS into new waters, and control, reduce or eliminate it through watercraft inspections. A total of 200 hours of CBCW will take place at each of the six designated boat landings in Oneida County. Motion by Thome/Ryden to accept 8a as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

b. Lake Monitoring Protection Network Grant- Boismenue:

Oneida County was funded one of the highest amounts by the DNR. The grant is at no cost to the County. The grant is to control AIS through education and a workable plan to prevent introduction into new waters, control, reduce, or eliminate it. They will receive \$22,003 to hire two LTEs to work 475 hours each. Motion by Thome/Newman to accept the LMPN as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

c. Surface Water County Lake Grant.

Sadauskas said this newer grant is for working on a lake classification system. The two-pronged approach for this grant is for lake classification and Healthy Waters Action Program. The latter focuses on high quality waters and healthy watersheds. Oneida County has 56 high quality waters and 52 watersheds. Only four watersheds are not a priority. For example, one of our watersheds ranked 18th in the whole state for healthy watersheds. She will revise the 5-year Work Plan to address recreational pressures and the high priority lakes and healthy watersheds. There will be an updated Financial impact statement for the resolution. They will ask for \$48,600 from the DNR. Motion by Newman/Thomas for the \$48,600. Motion was amended by Newman/Thome to read in the amount of \$48,600 and up to \$50,000 per the original resolution. All ayes; motion carried.

**9. Lake District Updates:**

a. Committee Roles and Expectations:

Winkler wanted to reiterate that there is a statutory role to be present at meetings. If one cannot attend a meeting, please contact the Chair, Winkler, so a substitute can be arranged in your absence. Please review the Lake District publication, People of the Lakes, which addresses common questions and also, read over Elections, which require a written ballot. Winkler asked that instead of giving a synopsis of each report, comment only on updates for the reports.

b. Crescent

c. Horsehead

d. Mid

e. Nokomis

f. Thunder

The Lake District Reports were distributed to the Committee ahead of time for review and there were no further comments on any of the above reports. No further updates were brought forth.

**10. Consent Agenda Items: LWCD**

A review the Monthly Budget report, invoices to pay, no quarterly worker's comp. or line item transfers. For 10a Thome questioned an amount on y-t-d actual of \$45,273 on page 140 of the August Monthly Summary. They will bring it back next month to approve. A motion by Thome/Newman to approve Consent Agenda 10b as presented. All Ayes; motion carried.

**11. LWCD Items for Next Agenda:**

Updates on Solar Farm, Bear Lake, August Monthly Budget Report.

**12. Consent Agenda Item 14 moved by Chair to 12: (UW-Extension).**

A motion by Thome/Ryden to approve items 14a and 14b. All ayes; motion carried.

**13. Agenda item 13 moved by Chair - Educator Report Health and Well Being. Terri Kolb**

Terri Kolb works with Oneida and Forest Counties. For Oneida County, she works with both Extension and the ADRC, where she has a service contract with ADRC. In the past, she shared her involvement in

Behavioral Health field. Her focus in this capacity covered suicide prevention, mental health, and her work with coalitions. She also reported on some of the evidence-based programs she has been teaching such as, We Cope, Adult Mental Health First Aid, and QRP, a suicide prevention program. She spoke about Service Agreement with Oneida County ADRC working with the StrongBodies program. There was a strong need for StrongBodies to continue at the ADRC. She trained for it and offered virtual StrongBodies classes. That is how the ADRC partnership came about as a one-year contract, which accounts for 33% of her time. She was on Up North at 4, recently discussing StrongBodies. This evidence program is designed to improve bone density, balance, and its mental and emotional benefits. There were noted improvements in depression, mood, and sleep problems by participants. The sessions are quarterly and are 8 to 12 weeks long. After class, a short educational session offers information on topics such as nutrition and eating well. Participant ages range from 47-80 yrs. Old. Health benefits include better balance and mobility improved by 90%. Aging Mastery another 10-session class covers exercise, nutrition, and geared to living a healthier life today and into the future. Participants learn to identify the major challenges, and work to improve financial, community involvement, hydration, and other topics hosted by guest speakers. It is a virtual class and the next one is the end of September. Participants reported increased physical activity, better eating, and better follow through on completing financial and health related forms. Stepping On is for people who are frail and cannot currently take the StrongBodies class. It covers medication management, physical therapy, vision advice from experts, and transportation safety. Kolb is fully trained and ADRC is launching the class, starting next week for seven sessions. ADRC sees a need for people to engage in these classes. They will start a “network” of older adults to promote classes and urge people to take advantage of services.

#### **14. Area 4 Extension Director Update – Jason Hausler**

Introduction of Jason Hausler and the CUW Committee members. Hausler is the current Area Extension Director (AED) for Area 7: Marathon, Portage, Wood, and Clark Counties but as September 1<sup>st</sup> is the Assistant Dean for the Northern half of the State, replacing Catherine Neiswender who shifted to Assistant Dean for the South half of the State. He worked in Dunn County as a 4-H Educator for six years and in 2017 served as the AED in Central Wisconsin. He has enjoyed all his roles with Extension, loves the organization and its mission.

1. CDI Position- Scoping Document and Next Steps
  - a. Draft Scoping Document. He thanked Rehberg and Committee for work in past months on the CDI position. Not all points are included that may have been addressed; need to have a position that is scoped to meet needs, but also specific enough to provide new educator with direction and area of focus; knowing that specifics can be added on. If the educator does not have experience in a particular area of need, they can work with and/or leverage the expertise of other Community Development educators or use State Specialists. A lot of work happens across county borders and across the state.
    - i. Programmatic Focus: Organizational Leadership Development with an emphasis on building local leadership capacity. Sarah Schlosser, Organizational & Leadership Development Outreach Program Manager, added the “Youth in Governance” piece to this position, as a requested program, to other local needs of the community by serving in organizations, non-profits, coalitions, schools and local governments. There will be collaboration with local government along with trainings offered through Extension’s Local Government Education Programs, working with Wisconsin Towns Associations, and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities. Connect across the geography. As issues emerge, they can be added to the educator’s role, who can then dig in and make things

happen with State contributions. The big issues are housing and broadband. The goal is to start on one path and build out.

- ii. Thome asked for a more simplified Scoping document for County purposes for communication to the County Board Supervisors in an effective way. Newman asked for a 30-second summary. Hausler will produce a summary sheet for the County.

2. Communication Plan Update:

- a. Packets included an Upcoming Oneida County Extension Program schedule. Rehberg will give an Annual Report next month. Extension is working well in reaching out to the media. 4-H distributed fall programming information. Terri worked on the Suicide Prevention Campaign. Another Coalition is the 988 Program, a Suicide and Crisis Line. The newly created suicide prevention program collaborated with the VA and made stickers that offer support to at-risk youth and individuals with disabilities. Coffee shops put the stickers on their cups. There is no Extension Monthly Report this month and it will be available next month.
- b. Collaboration with Nicolet. Rehberg met with Jodi Fox about continuing and community education and outreach, which is their focus for the upcoming year, along with leadership development in the workforce. They want to continue to collaborate with the Extension Community Development educator. There is a possibility of youth collaboration for the future. Extension offered the Real COLORS program to 25 people at the Oneida County Public Health Dept. It is a fun class where people get to know the personality traits of colleagues better.

3. FY 2023 Contract

- a. It was a procedural note that Corporation Counsel will have to review and approve the contract first before it comes to Committee. There is a 3% increase in the fee schedule. The fee is \$44,900 per educator. With the \$10,000 discount, the total is \$42,000. They do not go position by position. The fee structure used to be a percentage between the County and the State at 60/40 as an example. It is now a flat fee structure. It looks at what can Extension support and what the County can. This contract has remained fundamentally the same for 5 yrs. Only changes are in section 3.2, the FoodWise staff has always had a separate agreement and it is now rolled into one contract. Extension supports FoodWise with computer/technology, a physical office, and office supplies. The State and County will work together to coordinate technology. Section 3.3 provides office space for AED or State specialists along with IT support through the County.

Motion to approve the contract as presented pending Corporation Counsel approval made by Thome/Ryden. All Ayes; motion carried.

**15. Extension Items to include on next agenda.**

Approval of Contract, CDI Scoping document, Staffing, Communication Plan, Nicolet Collaboration.

**16. Public Comment:** None.

**17. Adjournment:** 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

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Jim Winkler, Committee Chair