

Land Information, Conservation and University Extension Committee  
Minutes of Wednesday, August 13, 2008  
Land Resource Center Meeting Room  
1106 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merrill, WI 54452

Members present: Frank Saal, Carl Short, Wayne Plant, Dave Fox and John Bailey

Visitors: Amanda Kostman, Debbie Moellendorf, Brenda Janke, Beryl Vandre Emerich, Minori Furuhashi, Sarah Koss, Peter Lloyd, Brenda Herrell, Dallas Seiwert, Michael Bergman, Tom Cadwallader, Erin Riddle, Marissa Borchardt, Diane Hanson and Joe Turner

**1. Call to Order**

The Land Information, Conservation & UW-Extension committee meeting was called to order by Chair Frank Saal at 9:00 a.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes from the July 9, 2008 Committee Meeting**

**Motion** by Bailey, second by Short to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2008 committee meeting. Motion carried, all ayes.

**3. Discuss and Set Next Meeting Dates and Time**

The next Land Information, Conservation and UW-Extension committee meetings will be held on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 and Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 9 a.m. in the Land Resource Center Meeting Room.

**4. Public Comment**

No comments

**Register of Deeds**

**5. Q&A on Register of Deeds Monthly Budget Report**

The Register of Deeds Monthly Budget Report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review. Supervisor Short inquired about whether the public is able to obtain documents online at this time. Sarah Koss informed the committee that the IT department wanted to wait until the move had occurred to the new building to make this service available to the public.

**6. Q&A on Register of Deeds Monthly Written Report**

Register of Deeds Written Report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file.

**7. Discuss/Action on 2009 Register of Deeds Budget**

Sarah Koss reviewed the 2009 Register of Deeds Budget with the committee. Discussion followed regarding decrease in Real Estate Recordings and the potential impact on the department budget and staffing for the department.

**Motion** by Saal second by Short to approve the 2009 Register of Deeds Budget and forward to Finance. Motion carried, all ayes.

**UW-Extension**

**8. Review Extension budget monthly report**

Debbie Moellendorf indicated the expense and revenue reports with a detailed explanation for June & July 2008 were included in the committee packet for their review. She indicated that she has received the 133 contract amendment for educators and has been forwarded to

Nancy Bergstrom for review. She will bring this to the September meeting for committee action.

Supervisor Saal spoke about the administrative assistant position which had been eliminated from the extension budget for 2008. He indicated that this elimination was only temporary and that his understanding was that a shared position was to be created upon the move to the new building. Debbie will follow up on this, since this had not been communicated to her.

**9. Discuss/Action on 2008 Budget Modifications**

Debbie Moellendorf provided an overview of the two budget modifications requesting. The CPAG account had been over estimated and the professional development account was pulled out because the money will be distributed directly from the state level rather than forwarding it to the county.

**Motion** by Bailey, second by Short to decrease the budget in these two areas as presented. Motion carried, all ayes.

**10. Q&A on Agriculture Development Agent Written Report**

Tom Cadwallader's written report for June and July were included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Supervisor Bailey requested additional information on the avian influenza workshop Tom was involved in. Tom shared with the committee how exercises like this really assist the various departments in be prepared for an actual outbreak of animal and/or human health issue.

**11. Q&A on Community and Economic Development Educator Written Report**

Art Lersch's written report for June and July was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Debbie Moellendorf reported that Art is currently out on family medical leave.

**12. Q & A on Family Living Educator Written Report**

Brenda Janke's written report for July was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Brenda indicated that with the increased cost of food, she is receiving more requests for food preservation assistance. As a result, she has spoken to individuals in charge of the Farmer's Market and will be going there over the upcoming weeks to provide food preservation assistance. This is a way to reach people where they are versus having them come to the department. She also indicated that her last probation and parole financial workshop was very successful and participants demonstrated an improvement of their financial skills. She also shared that she has been contacted by a high school teacher here in Merrill about conducting a financial skills simulation for high school students. A third need that Brenda has been working with the Family Resource Center, Social Services, Good Samaritan Health Center is in the area of parenting education. This group is exploring how they can partner to provide parenting education in this time of shrinking resources.

**13. Q & A on Wisconsin Nutrition Education Written Report**

Brenda Herrell and Karen Thell's written report for June and July was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Brenda indicated that Karen has been reaching a large number of seniors through the Farmer's Market voucher program run through Commission on Aging. They are seeing nearly 100% of these vouchers utilized. Supervisor Short indicated that he felt the Farmer's Market needed to have better signage at their new location. Staff will share this with those in charge of the Farmer's Market.

**a. Update on Lincoln and Marathon County Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program to begin October 1, 2008**

Brenda Herrell indicated that Tammy Hanson has submitted the grant for the upcoming year. Tammy will be starting the process to hire the 50% educator for Lincoln County as soon as she is able. In the meantime, Tammy and Jenny, an

educator in Marathon County, will be covering the program here beginning on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Brenda Herrell and Karen Thell's last day of programming in Lincoln County will be on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Saal thanked them for the great work they have done in Lincoln County and wished them well as they move forward with the Taylor and Clark County programs.

**14. Q & A on 4-H Youth Development Program Advisor Written Report**

Amanda Kostman's written report for June and July and was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Amanda highlighted the great work and leadership skills the older youth who served as camp counselors utilized in adjusting the camp schedule and activities as a result of the high water situation. She also indicated that she received many positive comments about the role and visibility of the 4-H Ambassadors during and after the Lincoln County 4-H Fair. Amanda then introduced Minori Furuhashi to those present. Minori is one of five youth from Japan that are currently being hosted by Lincoln County 4-H families as part of the International 4-H Exchange program.

**a. Overview of Lincoln County Teen Court Program and Mock Trial**

Dallas Seiwert, Michael Bergman, Erin Riddle and Marissa Borchardt, and Amanda provided an overview of Lincoln County Teen Court and the positive impact it has had on both the respondents, panel members and the community. The four youth then conducted a mock trial to demonstrate how an actual Teen Court session would be handled.

**15. Q & A on 4-H Youth Development Agent/Department Head Written Report**

Debbie Moellendorf's written report for June and July was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. She shared with the committee an update on the Lincoln County Hazardous Waste Collection Program to be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 7 p.m. at the Lincoln County Landfill. This program is a collaborative effort of many county departments and the City of Merrill Water department through a grant.

Supervisor Fox left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

**Land Information and Conservation**

**16. NR 198**

Diane Hanson briefly described the proposed changes to NR 198 related to aquatic invasive species grants. Discussion followed. Diane will provide written comments regarding the rules and submit them to DNR.

**17. NR 40**

Diane Hanson briefly reviewed NR 40 related to Identification, Classification and Control of Invasive Species. Diane informed the committee that a public hearing related to this rule will be held on August 26<sup>th</sup> in Wausau.

**18. Update on Aquatic Invasive Species – Illegal to Transport Ordinance Proposal**

Diane Hanson updated the committee on the status of the proposed ordinance. Diane has discussed this proposal with Nancy Bergstrom and will be gathering further information. The committee requested that this item be placed on next months agenda.

**19. Lincoln County Lakes and Rivers Association Update**

Peter Lloyd provided an update of recent activities of the Lincoln County Lakes and Rivers Association. Peter distributed a copy of a resolution passed by the association requesting an Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator. Peter will be presenting this to the full County Board at their meeting on August 19, 2008.

**20. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Bailey second by Short to adjourn at 12 noon. Motion carried all ayes.

Minutes prepared by: Sarah Koss, Debbie Moellendorf, Beryl Vandre Emerich and Diane Hanson