

Land Information, Conservation and UW-Extension Committee
Minutes of Wednesday, February 11, 2009 9 a.m.
Lincoln County Service Center Meeting Room
801 N. Sales Street
Merrill, WI 54452

Members present: Carl Short, Frank Saal, John Bailey and Arlen Anderson

Members excused: David Fox

Visitors: Tammy Hansen, Brenda Janke, Art Lersch, Tom Cadwallader, Debbie Moellendorf, Amanda Kostman, Beryl Vandre Emerich, Diane Hanson, Jeremy Irish, Robert Sumnicht

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Approval of Minutes from January 13, 2009 Committee Meeting**

Motion by Bailey second by Short to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2009 committee meeting. Carried all ayes.

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

The next Land Information, Conservation and UW-Extension committee meeting will be held March 11, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Lincoln County Service Center Lower Level Conference Room

4. **Public Comment**

None

Land Information and Conservation

5. **Wildlife Damage Program**

a. **Review and Take Action on 2008 WDP claims.**

Jeremy reviewed the 2008 WDP claims with the committee. Discussion followed.

Motion by Saal second by Short to approve the 2008 WDP claims. Carried all ayes.

6. **Review and Take Action on 2008 Budget Modification**

Diane reviewed the 2008 budget modifications for summer intern wages. Diane reviewed the projects completed by the summer intern and stated that she did a great job.

Motion by Anderson second by Bailey to approve the 2008 Land Records Internship budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

Motion by Saal second by Anderson to approve the 2008 Land Records Telephone budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

Motion by Bailey second by Short to approve the 2008 Land Records Printing Allocation budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

Motion by Anderson second by Saal to approve the 2008 Land Records Training budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

Motion by Short second by Bailey to approve the 2008 Surveyor Printing Allocation and Fuel budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

Motion by Saal second by Short to approve the 2008 Land Conservation Printing Allocation and Fuel budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

Motion by Bailey second by Anderson to approve the 2008 Lakes grant budget modification. Carried, all ayes.

7. **Review and Take Action on 2008 Carryover Requests**

Diane reviewed the 2008 carryover requests with the committee.

Motion by Bailey second by Anderson to approve the 2008 carryover requests. Carried all ayes.

8. **Review and Take Action on Representative to the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Advisory Committee.**

Diane reviewed the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Advisory Committee with the committee. Jim Alber previously served on this committee and is interested in continuing to serve on this advisory committee. Discussion followed.

Motion by Bailey second by Anderson to appoint Jim Alber to the Grazing Conservation Initiative Advisory committee as a representative for Lincoln County. Carried all ayes.

UW-Extension

9. Review Extension budget monthly report

Debbie Moellendorf provided an overview of the expense and revenue reports for January 2009 which were included in the committee packet. The committee had no questions regarding the report.

10. Overview of Department Staffing

Debbie gave an overview of the department mission statement, services provided to the county and staffing within the department.

11. Discuss/Action on 2009 Contract between Lincoln County and Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System

Debbie explained that our department receives funding through the county, state and federal government for staffing. She then reviewed the contract and the cost share between the county and University for the five positions included.

Motion by Bailey second by Short to approve the 2009 Contract between Lincoln County and Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System. Carried, all ayes.

12. Q&A on Agriculture Development Agent Written Report

Tom Cadwallader's written report for December and January were included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Tom indicated that with the decrease in milk prices and economic decline many farmers are having a difficult time. This has resulted in an increase in requests in farm management and financial issues recently. He also highlighted the work that Art and he are beginning with the county comprehensive planning process.

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

Art Lersch's written report for December and January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file.

a. Overview of Leadership Lincoln County Program

Art provided an overview of the Leadership Lincoln County program. Leadership Lincoln County is a capacity building program created three years ago as a result of needs assessment indicating the need for more leaders in our communities/county. Leadership Lincoln County includes both skill building and current issues information. The Leadership Lincoln County program is a fee program. Many employers and non-profits are covering the fees for individuals to attend. As a result of this program, participants have taken on new leadership roles and even gone for additional training. In the future it is hoped that community projects may result. Hope to encourage more individuals from Tomahawk to participate in the future.

14. Q & A on Family Living Educator Written Report

Brenda Janke's written report for December and January was distributed at the meeting for the committee's review and will be placed on file. Brenda indicated with the downturn of the economy the number of requests she is receiving for personal financial assistance and training has increased. She is currently working on plans for training financial institution employees in the area of personal finances so that they can provide assistance to individuals who are requesting assistance from them. Brenda also continues to work with the Drug Free Coalition focused in the area of educating parents. She also anticipates that there will be an increase in food preservation requests during the upcoming season due to the economy so she will be working on plans for how to provide these resources, such as being at area Farmer's Markets to answer questions, test canners and provide information.

15. Q & A on Wisconsin Nutrition Education Written Report

Tammy Hansen's report for December and January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Tammy indicated she spent time during December to complete the hiring process for the Nutrition Educator position. Deb Warren started in mid January. She has been teaching at Women, Infants and children (WIC) sites, the "After the Bell" program, Washington Elementary School, and both Merrill and Tomahawk Head Start programs. Tammy also indicated that Kate Goodrich Elementary school now meets the requirements for WNEP to provide programming. She will be working on incorporating programming with them into the next grant.

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

Amanda Kostman's written report for December and January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Amanda highlighted her work with the 4-H Ambassadors who have started 4-H after school clubs at Washington Elementary School and Prairie River Middle School. She also indicated that this year's club officer training was very successful and the ambassadors helped conduct the training. Teen Court has been very busy the last couple of months with cases and recruiting this year's panel members. The first panel training session was held on February 6th in Merrill and the second day will be February 19th in Tomahawk. Teen Court offers an excellent option for kids to learn a healthier way of managing their behavior and learning from their mistakes

through restorative sanctions. She also indicated that the economy may be influencing some parents to choose this option since it is less costly than paying a fine through the juvenile court system.

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

Debbie Moellendorf's written report for December and January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Debbie indicated that the youth who have joined the Tomahawk 4-H after school club are very excited and participation doubled between the first meeting in December and January's meeting. Based on her conversations with youth, she believes that many of them would have a difficult time participating in a community club due to lack of parental support so this after school club is providing them an opportunity to experience 4-H. She indicated that the Lincoln Hills 4-H club is off to a great start with almost 40 members. In addition to providing this positive experience while youth are at Lincoln Hills School, the assistant principal will be contacting the local county 4-H agent when a young person is released to facilitate that individual becoming involved in 4-H in their home community in an attempt to connect them to positive influences when they return home. Debbie indicated that during the past two years, we have seen a significant increase in the number of youth enrolling in 4-H. Again, this may be due to the tight economy and families looking for affordable programs to involve their children in and new efforts highlighted earlier.

18. **Adjournment**

Motion by Bailey second by Anderson to adjourn at 11:30 am. Carried all ayes.

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