

LUMBERJACK RC&D COUNCIL MEETING
 OCTOBER 16, 2013
 GRESHAM, WISCONSIN
 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order by President Plant at 10:19 AM. Facing the flag of the United States, the attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Self introductions were conducted. All attendees registered on the sign-in sheets.

COUNTY	BOARD MEMBERS/ALTERNATES	OTHERS PRESENT
Florence	Yvonne Van Pembrook - LCC	Margie Yadro – LCD
Forest	Jim Stormer – LCC	Cindy Gretzinger - LCD
Langlade	Gene Kamps – LCC Dave Solin - LCC	Marie Graupner - LCD
Lincoln	Wayne Plant - LCC	
Menominee	Bob Hermes – LCC	
Oconto	Dick Gilles – LCC	Ken Dolata – LCD Bill Grady – LCC
Oneida	Tom Rudolph – LCC	Claudia Baker – Lumberjack Paul Mueller – Lumberjack John Preuss – Lumberjack Jean Hansen – LWCD
Shawano	Richard Ferfecki – LCC Arlyn Tober - LCC	Scott Frank – LCD
Vilas	Dennis Nielson - LCC	Ted Ritter - LCD
At-Large	Mary Platner – At Large Wayne Thoma – At Large	Guests: Dennis & Sherry Rezner Eric Roers, WI DNR Mr. and Mrs. George Lehrer

A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS HELD FOR ERHARD HUETTL

REVIEW AGENDA

Solin/Hermes made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2013 council meeting, mailed to all board members, was made by Hermes/Grady. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rudolph reviewed highlights of the financial reports. A motion was made by Tober/Kamps to accept the treasurer's report pending an audit. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AG/ENERGY COMMITTEE

Kamps requested Graupner inform the council about the Langlade County's 2014 Invasives Management/Control project. The committee recommends the full council place this project on the list of potential grantees for 2014. Gilles/Tober made a motion to send this project to the January meeting for final review. Motion carried.

FINANCE/CONTRACTING COMMITTEE

Rudolph reviewed the CFI budget as approved in committee. After some questions, Van Pembroke/Hermes made a motion to approve the budget for the contract fiscal year. Motion carried.

The FIA budget was also approved in committee. A motion to approve the FIA budget for the contract fiscal year was made by Nielsen/Hermes. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

The committee approved awarding the standard wage increases to Caleb Wolden and Zack Klessig. A motion was made by Hermes/Van Pembroke to accept the committee's recommendation. Motion carried.

The committee reviewed the interpretation of the current vacation policy by Epiphany Law and from WIPFLI's professional HR consultants. All said the vacation policy as written implies the payout of accrued vacation time upon termination. As there is opposition to the standards of paying out accrued vacation time, the committee recommended sending the vacation policy to the next Executive Committee meeting to develop options. The options of new wording of the vacation policy will then be voted on by the full council at the January meeting.

FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Hermes requested Solin give a synopsis of Langlade County's project to survey county highways for invasive species. Langlade will use the data from this past summer's survey of state highways and this project as a pre-cursor to the invasive management/control project reviewed by the Ag/Energy committee. Gilles/Kamps made a motion to send this project to the January meeting for possible approval of 2014 grant funds. Motion carried.

Hermes provided a review of the Sustainable Forestry Conference. The dollars used were less than half of the amount requested. The conference was again a success.

RECREATION-TOURISM/RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Van Pembroke reviewed the WHIP Coordinator Position Extension project. Ritter and Hansen also spoke on the project, Lumberjack's history with WHIP and answered council member's questions. The committee recommended adding the project to possible projects for 2014 grant funding. A motion was made by Gilles/Rudolph to move the project forward. Motion carried.

A new project proposal for improvements to the Florence Community Garden was presented. Yadro stated that the Florence County LCC has given approval of the project. A motion was made by Nielsen/Van Pembroke to include this project for possible grant funding in 2014. Motion carried.

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

Plant requested the council members sell more raffle tickets for the state association.

Baker answered some questions regarding Lumberjack's granting policy. The dollar amount for 2014 will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting for approval of the full council in January.

Stormer spoke on a fire seminar he attended with his interpretation of home owner insurance changes. Gilles, a retired insurance agent who is still an active consultant informed the council that he believed these changes were not imminent as the companies he works with had not given any notice of these changes.

Rudolph requested help in selling state association tickets. He encouraged the council members to pick up more books to sell.

APPOINTMENT OF HERMES AS INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT.

Plant informed the council that he had asked Bob Hermes to step in as interim Vice President to fill the position left vacant with the death of Erhard Huettl. Bob accepted his request. Tober/Grady made a motion to accept Hermes as Vice President. Motion carried.

INTERPRETATION OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The term limit language of the Constitution and Bylaws was discussed. Two interpretations were mailed to the full council. Rudolph made a motion the council use Option B as the correct interpretation. The motion was seconded by Nielsen and the motion carried. Option B offers the following interpretation: The position of President and Vice President after election to the initial term may be followed by two more consecutive terms.

FIA/WICFI REPORT Mueller updated the council on the current status of the program. Due to budget cuts, the plot cycle is being changed from a five year cycle to a seven year cycle. Fewer plots will be inventoried each year, resulting in a decrease in the administration fees paid to Lumberjack. The current contract will have to be rebid in September, 2014.

NEXT MEETING

The next quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 in Vilas County.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Rudolph/Gilles. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Van Pembroke, Council Secretary

Following the meeting, Eric Roers, of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and nominator of the Dennis Rezner Family; gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the reasons he nominated the Reznors for an award. Hermes presented the Reznors with a plaque as Lumberjack's Friends of Forestry for 2013.

After a recap of the nomination, Hermes presented the Forest Steward of the Year Award to George Lehrer.

Hermes and Solin spoke on the accomplishments of Langlade County in positive promotion of forestry; most specifically, the Wood Technology School built in Antigo. Hermes presented Solin with the award for Langlade County as the 2013 Chairman's Special Achievement Award for Outstanding Contributions in Forestry Education.