

LUMBERJACK RC&D COUNCIL MEETING  
 JULY 17, 2013  
 RHINELANDER, WISCONSIN  
 MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order by President Plant at 10:18 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
<b>Florence</b>	Yvonne Van Pembrook - LCC	
<b>Forest</b>	Jim Stormer – LCC	Cindy Gretzinger - LCD
<b>Langlade</b>	Gene Kamps – LCC Dave Solin - LCC	Marie Graupner - LCD
<b>Lincoln</b>	Wayne Plant - LCC	Diane Hanson - LCD
<b>Menominee</b>	Bob Hermes – LCC	
<b>Oconto</b>	Dick Gilles – LCC	Ken Dolata – LCD Mary Lemmen – LCC Darrel Pagel – LCC Bill Grady – LCC
<b>Oneida</b>	Tom Rudolph – LCC Bob Mott - LCC	Claudia Baker – Lumberjack Paul Mueller – Lumberjack John Preuss – Lumberjack Jean Hansen – LWCD Kerri Ison - LWCD
<b>Shawano</b>	Richard Ferfecki - LCC	Scott Frank – LCD
<b>Vilas</b>	Dennis Nielson - LCC	Carolyn Scholl - LCD
<b>At-Large</b>	Mary Platner – At Large	

**REVIEW AGENDA**

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

Plant passed a get well card for Erhard Huettl to all participants.

**MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2013 council meeting, mailed to all board members, was made by Gilles/Kamps. Motion carried.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **AG/ENERGY COMMITTEE**

Kamps stated that as the committee had no action items, they discussed several issues, particularly invasive species.

Kamps asked Jean Hansen to report on the status of the Oneida-Vilas County R.O.W. Invasive Species Survey project and The Town of Three Lakes Invasive Survey project. Hansen also reported that the Oneida-Vilas County Management Plan is near completion and will be available at the next meeting.

Kamps then asked Graupner to give an update on the Langlade Invasive Species survey project.

Platner informed the council that the Vilas County Highway Department is working with WHIP to control/manage the spread of invasive species.

### **FINANCE/CONTRACTING COMMITTEE**

Rudolph told the council that preliminary audit reports were available for review.

### **FORESTRY COMMITTEE**

The recipients for the Sustainable Forestry Awards were announced by Hermes. They are:

- Friends of Forestry Award – Rezner Family
- Forest Steward of the Year Award – George Lehrer
- Chairman's Special Achievement Award – Langlade County.

Motion to approve the award recipients made by Van Pembroke/Mott. Motion carried.

The committee is in favor of continuing the awards program for another five years with the following changes:

- Nominations will be requested in the fall.
- Solin has volunteered to do a follow-up with forestry departments to encourage nominations.
- If award recipients cannot come to the Lumberjack meeting to receive their award, either the Executive Director or Council President will present the award at a county meeting or in the recipient's home.
- Nominations will be active for two years if not selected in the first year of submission.
- The nominator will be asked to be present at the award ceremony.

A motion to approve continuing the award project for five years; with the suggested changes made by Gilles/Kemps. Motion carried.

Mott asked for a show of hands if board members went to their county's forestry department to promote the awards nominations. Several board members raised their hands.

#### **PERSONNEL/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE**

Plant reported that the vacation benefit as written in the personnel policy manual can be interpreted two ways. Baker will have a payroll lawyer/specialist check on how the current policy should be interpreted and wording for any possible changes to be sure Lumberjack's interpretation is legal.

#### **RECREATION-TOURISM/RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Van Pembroke called on Diane Hanson to inform the council on a 2014 project entitled "River Bend Trail of Merrill". The committee recommends the project be included for approval of 2014 grant funding. Discussion followed.

### **NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **REPORT ON APRIL 18, 2013 AND JULY 10, 2012 STATE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

Baker, Huettl, Plant and Rudolph attended the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and Plant and Rudolph attended the July meeting.

April meeting: Plant and Rudolph informed the council about several issues. A discussion was held on open meeting laws. The new NRCS state conservationist, Jimmy Bramblett was in attendance. Bramblett mentioned that the Upper Peninsula RC&D of Michigan may want to join with the Wisconsin State Association.

July meeting: Notice was given out that a Wildfire/Fire Control Conference will be held in August. Notification will be sent to county conservationists to distribute to fire departments. Hosting the National Conference in June of 2012 was a break-even undertaking for the state association. Baker will print raffle tickets for the state association to save money. Rudolph urged everyone to help sell tickets for the raffle as this is the only financial support the state association has.

**FIA/WICFI REPORT** Mueller updated the council on the current status of the programs. There have been several changes in DNR personnel. Due to budget cuts, the plot cycle may be changed from a five-year cycle to a seven or ten year cycle. A decision should be known in August. Mueller will announce the decision at the October meeting. The current contract will have to be rebid in September, 2014. Jeff Nyquist, Inventory Forester for 13 years has quit Lumberjack to work for the DNR. Dustin Gibbons, an LTE has gone to full time.

The planned **TIMBER POLICY** presentation was not given as Schuessler was unable to attend the meeting.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> in Shawano County.

**ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Kamps/Hermes. Motion carried.  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Van Pembroke, Council Secretary