

Lumberjack RC&D Council Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2021 – 9:00AM – Virtual Via Zoom

COUNTY	VOTING MEMBERS (includes first seat, alternate or proxy)	OTHERS PRESENT
Florence	<i>Yvonne Van Pembrook</i> – LCC	Scott Goodwin
Forest	<i>Larry Sommer</i> – LCC	Steve Kircher – LCD
Langlade	<i>Carol Feller-Gottard</i> – LCC	Chris Arrowood – LCD
Lincoln	<i>Bill Bialecki</i> – LCC <i>Wayne Plant</i> – Past President	Amanda Kasparek – LCD
Menominee	<i>Jeremy Johnson</i> via proxy	
Oconto	<i>Bart Schindel</i> - LCC	Ken Dolata – LCD
Oneida	<i>Jim Winkler</i> - LCC	Michele Sadauskas – LCD
Shawano	<i>Arlyn Tober</i> – LCC	Marvin Klosterman – LCC Scott Frank - LCD
Vilas	ABSENT	
At-Large	<i>Dick Gilles</i> – Oconto Co <i>Bob Hermes</i> – Menominee Co <i>Claudia Baker</i> – Oneida Co <i>Ted Ritter</i> – Vilas Co <i>Steve Heimerman</i> – Oconto Co	Guests: Becky Gaskill, Staff: Tracy Beckman, Paul Mueller, Alix Bjorklund, Rosie Page Guest Speakers: Ron Hayes, Barb Mendoza, Connie Przyblski, Richard Ferfecki, Al Benson
Al Large EXCUSED	<i>Solin, Yadro</i>	

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Hermes at 9:07am. Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS: Those present introduced themselves and a roll call appears in these minutes.

REVIEW/APPROVE AGENDA: Gilles/Winkler moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried (14/0).

PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS: Hermes announced it was learned from the WI State Attorney General’s office in October that the Lumberjack Council is considered a ‘quasi-government organization’ so is subject to Wisconsin’s Open Meetings Laws. The meeting today was noticed and will be run according to those laws. This discovery will require some policy and bylaws changes which will be presented at future meetings.

MINUTES: Secretary Sommer directed members to review the minutes of the 7/30/2020 Council meeting and the 9/14/2020 and 10/14/2020 Executive Committee meetings. With no changes, Bialecki/Winkler moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Carried (14/0).

TREASURER’S REPORT: Members reviewed the Treasurer’s report/budget update. Baker stated the 12/31/2020 checking balance was \$52,608.50 as shown on the balance sheet and total assets as of 12/31/2020 were \$945,426.96. Motion by Plant/Van Pembrook to approve the 12/31/2020 Treasurer’s report/budget update. Motion Carried (14/0).

Members reviewed the Current Project Update which shows all 2020 projects and those granted extensions, have been paid except for less than \$100 due WHIP & TIP which will be spent in January 2021.

CD Renewal – Hermes explained a CD has matured and would roll over at only 1% interest. He asked members to try and secure a better rate. In the meantime, Treasurer Baker will direct the bank not to renew the CD and the funds will be placed in the CoVantage CU Savings Account. The value is approximately \$110K.

2021 Proposed Budget - Members reviewed 2021 Proposed Budget. Beckman explained differences from prior years. Motion by Gilles/Plant to approve the 2021 Proposed Budget as presented. Hermes requested a roll call vote. Members voted 14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent/Excused. Motion Carried.

APPROVE AUTHORIZING RESOLUTIONS:

Tri Co Aquatic Program (TPAC) - Beckman explained the WDNR grant that will fund the TPAC Program (for which Lumberjack will act as fiscal agent), requires an authorizing resolution by Lumberjack’s governing body. Beckman presented the resolution for approval via roll call vote: 14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent. Resolution is approved.

Butterfly Dock – Beckman explained the WDNR grant that will fund survey/control of the prohibited invasive species, Butterfly Dock (found along an unnamed stream bed in Oconto County) requires an authorizing resolution by Lumberjack’s governing body. Beckman presented the resolution for approval via roll call vote: 14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent. Resolution is Approved.

PROJECT PRESENTATIONS:

In July of 2020, according to the funding policy formula, the Lumberjack Council approved \$73,901.73 for 2021 projects. The deadline to submit proposals was October 1, 2020. Six projects were submitted totaling \$42,959.40. At today’s meeting, five-minute presentations were given by the project coordinators and then 10 minutes was given for council questions. Ron Hayes presented for the Oconto River Pedestrian Bridge, Al Benson presented for Inland Lake ADA Piers, Tracy Beckman presented for the TPAC Program, Richard Ferfecki presented for the Town of Krakow Drainage Project and Barb Mendoza presented for the F.R.E.S.H. project. Following the Q&A, Hermes called for discussion/vote on each project. Discussion items included whether Lumberjack’s mission and/or project grant program should include municipality infrastructure items that would normally be funded by taxpayers, such as the pedestrian bridge and the drainage improvements. Members requested a sub-committee meet to discuss; other members suggested reviewing the mission statement to see if changes there could alleviate this discussion in the future. Ritter reminded the group that in 2017, the Grant Committee (a sub-committee) revised policy and the mission statement and both were approved by the Council. Hermes will convene a meeting of the Grant Committee before the October 2022 project deadline. Roll Call Vote and grant funding for 2021 projects is as follows:

2021 Grant/Project Funding		Amount Approved	Vote
Available Per Funding Formula: \$73,901.73			
1	Oconto Pedestrian Bridge	\$ 10,000.00	11 Aye, 3 Nay and 3 Absent
2	Inland Lakes ADA Docks	\$ 7,942.00	14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent
3	Tri Co Aquatic Program	\$ 3,000.00	14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent
4	Langlade Co Water Monitoring & Education	\$ 2,017.40	14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent
5	Krakow Drainage Improvements	\$ 10,000.00	10 Aye, 4 Nay and 3 Absent
6	Expanding the F.R.E.S.H. Projects	\$ 10,000.00	14 Aye, 0 Nay and 3 Absent
TOTAL APPROVED for 2021 PROJECTS:		\$ 42,959.40	
2021 Excess		\$ 30,942.33	
Prior Years' Excess		\$ 48,047.47	
EXCESS PROJECT FUND BALANCE 01/14/2021		\$ 78,989.80	

PUBLIC COMMENT: Hermes again stated that it would be a good idea for the Grant committee to meet again and review some of the items brought up during the project vote, specifically whether Lumberjack grant funds should be used to reduce municipality tax burden.

ADJOURN: Motion by Winkler/Sommer to adjourn at 12:05pm. Motion Carried.

Submitted 1/15/2021 by Larry Sommer, Secretary