

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
AGRICULTURAL & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Monday, May 11, 2020

Chris Viau called the meeting to order at 10:33 am, via WebEx.

1. The meeting was properly announced.
2. Supervisors present: Merlin Gentz, Mike Hofberger, Joe Mueller, Marilyn Schuh, and Duaine Stillman.
Also present: Carlea Liermann, 4-H Program Educator; Amber O'Brien, Agriculture Extension Educator; Christi Gabriliska, Area 10 FoodWise Coordinator, Chris Viau, Extension Area 10 Director; and Connie Leonhard, Program Assistant.

Introductions were made.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair: Supervisor Gentz was nominated by Supervisor Mueller. Viau called three times for nominations for Chair. Nominations were closed. On a call of votes, Merlin Gentz was elected as Chair, 5-0. Election of Vice Chair: Duaine Stillman made a self-nomination. Supervisor Mueller closed nominations for vice chair. On a call of votes, Duaine Stillman was elected as Vice Chair, 5-0.
5. Moved by Supervisor Mueller and seconded by Supervisor Stillman to approve the agenda for the May 11, 2020, Ag & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried.
6. Moved by Supervisor Hofberger and seconded by Supervisor Mueller to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020, Agriculture & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried.
7. Report of Committee Members
 - a. Reports of official meetings held since the last Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
 - none
 - b. Upcoming Events
 - none
8. Communications
 - none
9. Items for Action or Discussion
 - a. Amber O'Brien, Agriculture Extension Educator -
 - Ag Extension Programming during COVID-19
 - Amber informed the committee of educational programs that are happening virtually including Spanish translation of information.
 - Many resources have been created to address the COVID-19 agricultural crisis and those have been posted on our website and the state agriculture website.
 - More than 200 individuals have been tuning in to the weekly local webinars that are being held on subjects ranging from crops, dairy, farm management, stress, livestock, and Paycheck Protection Programs.
 - b. Carlea Liermann, 4-H Program Educator
 - Virtual 4-H Programming –
 - Carlea updated the committee on Extension's policy of no in-person programming. 4-H programming continues including the 30-day challenge, members projects, highway clean up, and virtual club meetings. The 4-H Camp Committee is continuing to meet and is looking at holding day camps at Camp Forest in Forest Junction. A virtual exchange program is being arranged with Tom Green County, Texas, and a 4-H pen pal program has also been set up with Iowa County, WI, so members can learn the art of the hand-written letter.

c. Christi Gabriliska, FoodWise Coordinator Area 10

- Update:
Christi gave an overview of the Area 10 (Calumet, Outagamie, Winnebago, and Waupaca) FoodWise program. FoodWise educators collaborate with WIC and the Salvation Army to educate low income individuals on healthy foods. Clients attend grocery store tours to learn how to make healthy choices. Next year, education will also be provided in the Chilton Elementary School, which is now eligible because 50% of the students qualify for free or reduced-cost lunch. A Growing Together Grant was obtained to work with the local Master Gardeners. A community garden will be created at Ledgeview Nature Center with produce being donated to local food pantries.
- Review 2021 FoodWise Agreement
 - FoodWise is federally funded through the FoodShare Program, so there is no financial cost to Calumet County. Supervisor Mueller made a motion to recommend that the agreement letter be forwarded to the County Administrator for approval and signatures. Supervisor Stillman seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

10. Report of Department

a. Chris Viau, Area 10 Extension Director

- Administrative/Department Report
 - Summary of Activities/Changes during Telecommuting and Safer at Home Directives
 - All Area 10 Extension Offices closed, but employees are available by appointment as staff are working remotely.
 - Connie Leonhard is working remotely, and in the office when needed.
 - Third floor remodel is anticipated being completed by the end of July. The new office space will have an additional small work area that can be used by FoodWise personnel or Area Director Viau.
- UW-Madison, Division of Extension Update
 - After a nationwide search, Karl Martin was appointed Dean effective May 1, 2020.
 - Telecommuting - mandatory telecommuting for UW-staff. Face-to-face meetings need to be approved through Dean Karl Martin.
 - Financial updates including Furlough, Hiring Freeze, Cost Saving Measures
 - Governor Evers has requested a 5% reduction of the 2020 UW System budget which ends June 30.
 - Three to six furlough days must be taken by UW-staff between May 15 and October 31. Counties will be reimbursed for their portion of the salary savings.
 - There is currently a hiring freeze until the full budget effects are known.

11. Set next meeting date: The next meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee will be held on Monday, June 8, 2020, at 10:30 am.

12. Adjourn

Chairman Gentz declared the meeting adjourned at 11:53 am.