

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE CALUMET COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Monday, July 12, 2021

Chairman Gentz called the meeting to order at 10:30 am in Room #015 of the Calumet County Courthouse.

1. The meeting was properly announced.
2. Members present: Merlin Gentz, Mike Hofberger, Joe Mueller, Duaine Stillman, and Marilyn Schuh. Also present: Carlea Liermann, 4-H Program Educator; Amber O'Brien, Agriculture Educator; Chris Viau, Extension Area 10 Director; Todd Romenesko, County Administrator; and Connie Leonhard, Program Assistant.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Moved by Supervisor Stillman and seconded by Supervisor Schuh to approve the agenda for the July 12, 2021, Ag & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried 5-0.
5. Moved by Supervisor Mueller and seconded by Supervisor Schuh to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021, Agriculture & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Public Participation - none
7. Report of Committee Members
 - a. Reports of official meetings held since the last Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
 - Supervisors Stillman and Schuh reported on their Sundae on the Farm attendance. Supervisor Stillman also attended the Fond du Lac County Breakfast on the Farm.
 - b. Upcoming Events
 - none
8. Communications
 - Amber O'Brien's letter of resignation was received.
9. Items for Action or Discussion
 - a. Carlea Liermann, 4-H Program Educator
 - Adventure Camp -
 - Adventure Camp was condensed to a one-day event, July 7, at Camp Forest. Campers from Grades 3-8 were divided by age into four groups to cycle through the learning stations. Although it was a very soggy day, the rain didn't dampen the campers' spirit as they were able to do tie-dye, archery, paper circuits, challenge courses, and make smores over a campfire. "Ray of sunshine" bags (everything in the bag was yellow) were put together as a community service project. Campers were encouraged to give their bag to someone outside of their household. Adventure Camp for youth in Grades K-5 through 2 will be held on July 27.
 - b. Amber O'Brien, Agriculture Extension Educator
 - Program updates for summer 2021 and beyond -
 - Amber's last day with Extension is July 14. Most of Amber's responsibilities with the field days and grants have been delegated to other individuals. Committee members expressed their thanks to Amber for the outstanding work she has done in Calumet County.

10. Report of Department
 - a. Chris Viau, Area 10 Extension Director
 - Division of Extension Ag Institute statewide staffing plan - Chris has had conversations with Todd Romenesko and Heidi Johnson (Ag Institute Director) concerning a regional model. Conversations will need to continue regarding the options available.
 - Department Report - The FoodWise Growing Together gardens have been built as a joint effort between FoodWise, Ledgeview Nature Center, and Calumet County Master Gardeners. 4-H volunteers will begin weeding and harvesting produce from the garden.
 - Area/State Updates - State budget has been signed by Gov. Evers. There is funding for statewide agricultural outreach specialists and CALS (College of Agriculture & Life Sciences) specialists to help replace some of the vacant positions at the state level.
11. Set next meeting date: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee will be held on Monday, September 13, at 10:30 am.
12. Adjourn
Chairman Gentz declared the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.