

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date of Meeting: March 13, 2017

Meeting called to order by: Glen Borland, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Members Present: Borland, Hartz, Kannard present. Patrick and Zastrow joined the meeting shortly after it was called to order.

Agents Present: Jones and Georgson

Others Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator; Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist

Certification of Open Meetings Law: The agenda has been duly posted and the door is open.

Roll Call (establish a quorum): Quorum present

Approval of Agenda for Possible Rearrangement: None

Approval of February 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Motion made by Kannard, seconded by Hartz, to approve the February 13, 2017 minutes as printed.

Motion unanimously approved.

Communications: None

Public Comment: None

Item: Update, Discussion and Input on the nEXT Generation Model

Wehmeier shared that Extension is moving forward with the significant change of hiring the Area Leaders despite feedback received from the Counties. This is a disappointment to both Wehmeier and Chairman Schroeder. With the start of hiring people, it is the thought that the plan is in place although they have expressed that there will be time for feedback. Jones shared that he attended the State 4-H Conference last week and learned a few things like the cost savings that will support the Area Administrators comes from that there are currently 35 full time equivalent positions that are responsible for administration and with the change there will be 22; the interim positions will be extended through

the end of the year; there is currently a hiring freeze so our open positions will remain open until the first of 2018; people holding interim positions will be considered external applicants when positions are posted. Wehmeier shared that the Administrator's response to the Dean regarding the Area Leaders was that UW-Extension is prioritizing administration over education and you are the University. Georgson shared that UW-Extension anticipates having budgetary numbers available in May. Discussion occurred. Question was asked by Borland, What does this mean for us? Wehmeier explained that first we still have concern why the Area Leaders and secondly, with what has been provided, there is no way to complete a fiscal impact within the county. Georgson also stated that UW-Extension has had difficulty sorting out how many people work for Extension due to the handshake agreement, multiple assignments, etc. Wehmeier stated that the Dean has stated that the County will have a menu of options to choose from; each option will have a price associated with it. This has not yet been developed. Discussion occurred on the partnership between the County and Extension and could the office function without state Extension support.

Item: Update of Jefferson County Farm Technology Days

Georgson stated that we continue to get volunteers. Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Assistant, has developed two forms for volunteer registry; one to use now and one as we get closer to the show. Tent City has been mapped out on paper with assistance from Land Information. Georgson stated they now need to establish a good relationship with the Sheriff Department to determine traffic patterns for the event. This spring, fields will be seeded with alfalfa for tent city. Things continue to move ahead. Discussion occurred.

Item: Convene Into Closed Session

Motion by Patrick, seconded by Kannard, to convene into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., Considering the employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to review annual accomplishment reports of employees (affirmative roll call vote required). Borland-aye; Hartz-aye; Kannard-aye; Patrick-aye; Zastrow-aye.

Hartz excused himself for work responsibilities at 9:30 a.m.

Reconvene into open session. Roll call vote: Borland-aye; Kannard-aye; Patrick-aye; Zastrow-aye.
Passed unanimous.

Zastrow motioned to accept the annual accomplishment reports of Bruce Jones and LaVern Georgson and determined them successful. The committee also expressed their appreciation for the work done. Seconded by Kannard. Unanimously approved.

Upcoming Agenda Items and Meeting Dates:

Future Agenda items: nEXT Generation; Farm Technology Days; 4-H enrollment fee/budget line item.

Adjournment:

A motion was made Kannard, seconded by Zastrow, to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m. Motion passes.