

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date of Meeting: November 13, 2017

Meeting called to order by: Lloyd Zastrow, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Hartz, Kannard, Nelan, Patrick and Zastrow were present.

Members Absent: None

Educators/County Staff Present: Georgson; Jones; Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator; Chrissy Wen, Area Director; Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist

Others Present: Anita Martin, City of Lake Mills; Alexa Zellner, Daily Union

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: Motion by Zastrow, seconded by Hartz, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion approved.

Approval of October 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Motion made by Kannard seconded by Hartz, to approve the October 9, 2017 minutes as printed. Motion unanimously approved.

Communications: None

Public Comment: None

Item: Update of nEXT Generation Model

Chrissy Wen referred to the letter and draft MOU that were included in the meeting packet. First, she spoke on the contract. This used to be referred to as the 133 Contract; the agreement between UW-Extension and Jefferson County for the educators within the office. This contract is currently at the Office of Financial Services being drafted. The 2018 budget numbers are the numbers that are being utilized. Items are very similar to the 133 contract but it is now called the 136 contract. Wen anticipates that the committee will see the contract at their December meeting. Wen stated that the included MOU is a draft. This has been provided to the County so that they have a chance to see it and give feedback. This document will not be signed until

2019 and will be signed for three years. We are not intending for it to be signed this year. We are just wanting you to see it.

Patrick joined the meeting.

Wen informed the committee that last Thursday the Board of Regents confirmed that UW-Extension will now be part of UW-Madison. Wen stated that she believes this is a good branding move that we can be in touch with the research. The change will happen in July 2018. Wen believes you will see very little change at the local level and believes it will be really positive in the end for local programming. Questions were asked: Are there any positions that would be at the University then? Wen stated that all 72 counties will continue to have an office. None of the local offices will be moved. Will administration change in that our committee would not exist? Wehmeier stated that would require a statutory change which is not foreseeable at this time.

Item: Discussion and Possible Action on Educator Positions

Wen shared that she has been working with Will Andreson who is willing to conduct another visioning session for Jefferson County for the CNRED educator position. The session is scheduled for January 11, 2018 from Noon until 3 p.m. at the UW-Extension, Jefferson County Office in Rooms 8 and 9. Wen is currently working with the Jefferson Office on the invite list.

Item: Update of Jefferson County Farm Technology Days

Georgson stated that the committees are continuing to form. The leadership on the Fundraising Committee has changed and they have spent a lot of time to get things moving. Publicity is working to start promoting the event and recognizing all the opportunities available within the County. The collectable toy model is moving ahead; a solid proposal is expected by December. The order for the toy model needs to be placed by January 1. Other committees have met. Georgson is attending a number of the committee meetings which helps coordinate items. Some committees are meeting weekly. All the committees are staggered throughout the timeframe. Kannard made a comment that the sign along Hwy A on the host farm is very nice.

Item: Review of 2017 Departmental Budget

Georgson stated that we are in good shape. We are within where we should be.

Item: Discussion and Possible Action on 2018 Budget

Wehmeier stated there are no supervisor amendments. Hartz asked about the budget regarding the open position. Wehmeier stated that the monies are in a contingency line item that would require Finance Committee approval but not full County Board approval for use.

Item: Discussion of Monthly Agent Reports

Georgson reviewed his written report with the committee. Every week a little more time is spent with Farm Technology Days. A Master Gardener Level 1 Training Class will be offered in Jefferson; Walworth and Rock Counties are also offering one in Whitewater. Crops programming and federal farm programs have affected some people. There have been crops and cover crop questions. There have been a lot of immature crops and questions on how long do you wait. Currently we are urging people to harvest corn due to stalk damage signs that are being seen. They will have more costs for drying. Corn yields are at 200-220 bushels per acre. The range for soybeans is lower this year; 50 would be the midmark. This past year was a challenge for the sprayers because it was rainy and windy. Weed control continues to be a problem. In Dairy & Livestock programming, for dairy farmers the pessimism is growing. Georgson was able to attend a worthwhile session at World Dairy Expo. Milk is very fluid from where they are purchasing it. We are at or near capacity in the processing plants. Questions were asked regarding milk prices. Wisconsin is limiting the amount of milk that producers can sell. Our system is more cooperative by the way they are structured they have to portion it evenly throughout the process.

Jones reviewed his written report with the committee. October started with National 4-H week. Currently there are approximately 650 youth registered; only one missed the November 1 deadline. 286 volunteers are registered. Six clubs have changed their organizational leader. The Palmyra clubs have merged together; Live Wires merged with Oak Hill Hustlers. There is also the possibility of three new clubs this year which Jones has been working with the potential club leaders. New members have until March 1 to join. We are at the point we were at this time last year. Charters are due by Wednesday this week including taxes. In leadership development, Jones has been working with several issues with committees within the program. For one issue, Pam Hobson, 4-H youth liaison needed to be called in to remind volunteers that committees are under the 4-H educator's direction.

Jones attended a retirement celebration and meeting for e-forum trainings; five individuals went to Fall Forum; a family received a grant through Monsanto for the 4-H program in the amount of \$2,500. An educational event for youth in agricultural careers is being looked at to utilize the grant money. Last Saturday we had the 4-H Awards Celebration at Fair Park to celebrate volunteer and member achievement.

Upcoming Agenda Items and Meeting Dates: Future Agenda items: Update on Jefferson County Farm Technology Days, Update on nEXT Generation, Monthly Reports

Adjournment: Adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Note: Next scheduled meeting is Monday, December 11, 2017.