

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: March 9, 2020

Meeting called to order by: Zastrow called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Members Present: Herbst, Kannard, Roberts and Zastrow were present.

Members Absent: Kelly

County/Extension Staff Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator; LaVern Georgson, Ag; Kara Loyd, 4-H Coordinator; Steve Chmielewski, Community Educator; Michelle Scarpance, Natural Resources; Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist.

Others Present: None

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

Public Comment: None

Roll Call (establish a quorum): Quorum present.

Approval of Agenda for Possible Rearrangement: None.

Approval of February 10 Meeting Minutes: One change was noted that Wen needed to be added as present during the meeting. Buchholz will make that change to the minutes. Motion by Kannard, seconded by Roberts, to approve the February 10, 2020 meeting minutes with one correction. Motion approved.

Communications: Georgson let committee members know that Wen apologizes that she is unable to attend the meeting today due to car issues.

Final Review of 2019 Departmental Budget

Georgson handed out copies of the final 2019 department budget to committee members. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Review of 2020 Departmental Budget: Buchholz stated that a copy of the 2020 Departmental Budget, monthly expenditures, were not available at this time.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports: (Written reports attached.)

- Michelle Scarpance provided a brief oral summary of her oral report which was distributed to committee members. Scarpance has been involved in the planning of a number of conferences and meetings. Refer to the written report for more details.
- Kara Loyd provided an oral report from her written report. Please refer to her attached report for more details.
- Steve Chmielewski provided an oral report from his written report. Please refer to his report for more details.
- LaVern Georgson provided an oral report from his written report. Please refer to his report for more details. Georgson ended the meeting with announcing to the committee that he will be retiring in mid-July. He also indicated that due to scheduling this would be the last meeting that he would attend with the committee.

Next Scheduled Meetings: April 13 and May 11, 2020.

Adjourn – Motion by Kannard, seconded by Herbst, to adjourn at 9:35 a.m. Motion approved.

Minutes recorded by Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist

Michelle Scarpace
Natural Resource Educator
Report Activity from Jan.-March, 2020

Over this past quarter, I have been working on the following projects:

- Strategic Planning with Dodge County Alliance for Healthy Soil & Water
 - Formulated a structure and voted in a board of directors
 - Two Chairs (one farmer, one lake), Secretary, Treasurer, Lake rep, Farmer Rep, At-large
 - Work with board of directors to develop by-laws and form goals and vision statement
- Worked with Erin Conway (Positive Youth Development Educator in Rock County) to deliver groundwater workshops to 7th and 8th grade classes at Clinton Middle School.
 - Educated 4 classes totaling over 100 students
- Farmer-to-Farmer Webinars: Partnering with DATCP and Discovery Farms to host webinars for farmer-led groups to connect and learn from each other. I obtained funding from the Natural Resources Institute to conduct evaluation on webinars and create a 'lessons learned' document from these webinars.
- Dodge County Farmers Soil Health Expo, Feb. 5th. I helped in evaluation of the workshop. Some takeaways from surveys:
 - Over 160 attendees, with 75% identifying as farmers
 - 66,345 farmed acres represented, of which 52,512 acres are not tilled, and 18,783 acres have cover crops planted
 - 68% of respondents saw benefits from no-till this past year. Benefits included getting into field earlier to plant, less rutting, and improved crop productivity.
- Met with a group of farmers in Jefferson who were interested in starting a farmer-led watershed group
 - About 12 farmers in attendance
 - Q&A about the DATCP program
 - Discussion on potential projects/programs
 - Three representatives attended the Producer-led Workshop
- Helped at the Farmers for the Upper Sugar River Annual Event on Feb. 11th
 - About 25 farmers in attendance
- Coordinated breakout session for farmers at the Producer-led Workshop on Feb. 19th
 - 28 groups represented across the state
 - Broke up into regional groups
 - SE area of the state worked on coordinating a large regional event
- Coordinated the Soil Health Dinner (pre Cover Crop Conference reception) on Feb 19th
 - Over 160 people in attendance
 - Keynote from UWRF discuss soil formation and small breakouts on soil health
- WI Cover Crop Conference Planning Committee Feb. 20th
 - Helped with registration/logistics
 - Moderated a breakout session
- Received funding through the Sustainable Ag Research and Education (SARE) to help fund a field day this summer on soil health
 - 3 separate workshops for different audience—farmer, agency, public
 - 3 soil pits dug in same soil, but different management—Native, conventional, soil health management system
 - Show differences in the soil and utilizing commercial soil testing
 - Partnering with NRCS to identify sites and dig pits.

- Spoke at Cedar Creek Farmer Workshop on Feb. 26th. Discussed cover crop economics.
 - ~50 farmers in attendance
- Coordinating and developing a breakout session at the WI Land+Water Conference in March.
- Coordinate and Facilitating an interagency NR 151 outreach and education committee.
- Develop webinars on DNR Targeted Runoff Management Grants program
 - Over 55 people in attendance



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Kara Loyd – 4-H Program Coordinator

Meetings/Events

- Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training
 - All youth who are planning on selling an animal through the Meat Animal Project Sale at the Jefferson County Fair must participate in an YQCA training.
 - Jefferson County 4-H offers in-person trainings as well as the option to train online.
 - Youth have one more opportunity for an in-person training in April.
- Cloverbud Project Meeting
 - The Cloverbud projects are for youth in 4-H who are in 5K-2nd grade.
 - First of many meetings was held in February!
 - We had six participants who learned about what makes them special and unique.
 - Our next meeting is all about Dinosaurs.
- Speech and Poster Training
 - Young people learned about how to brainstorm an idea for a speech or poster, how to develop a speech, and tips to succeed in the annual contest which will be held March 30.
- Area Animal Science Days Committee meeting
 - Jefferson County 4-H will host Area Animal Science Days at the Fair Park on June 11.
 - A committee of 12 individuals met to get the ball rolling on securing animals, talking through logistics, and assigning tasks.
 - We're expecting about 350-400 4-H'ers at this event.
- 4-H Club meetings
 - Jefferson County 4-H is proud of our llama and alpaca project!
 - Our largest 4-H club in Jefferson County (South Side Eagles located in Lake Mills) has 74 members! I visited our second largest, Rock River Clovers (in Fort Atkinson) to talk to new families and speak about opportunities in our program.

Volunteer Management

- Volunteer Trainings

Winter Focus

- Countywide Projects
- Youth Government Day Planning
- Area Animal Science Days

Steven Chmielewski
Community Development Educator
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension
Waukesha & Jefferson County

March 9, 2020

Nonprofit sector:

1. Participated in Watertown library expansion/family resource center development planning 3/13. Provided questions for the coalition to consider with planning process.
2. Held 5th session of Nonprofit webinar 3/12- topic was Volunteer Management systems; Sent evaluation to online series participants; reminder sent to increase response rate.
3. Food Pantry Needs Assessment: distributed survey developed through food pantry coalition. Meeting with Coalition April 14 to review results and plan next steps to apply findings.
4. Initial discussion held with Traci at Fort Health Care about working together to strengthen the county health coalition. Attending steering committee meeting April 6.

Private sector:

Business Retention Expansion Strategies Program in City of Whitewater- working on analysis of 43 survey/strategy visits in cooperation with UW River Falls Survey Research Center.

UW Division of Extension, Jefferson County, Agriculture Report
To the Jefferson County Extension Education Committee
By LaVern Georgson
March 9, 2020

Agriculture programming

Farm Technology Days (FTD) Programming:

The Jefferson County FTD Scholarship Committee has been formed. 23 grant applications had been received by the deadline. There were a wide range of requests from throughout the County. The Scholarship Committee met to have an initial review of the proposals and discuss the criteria for evaluation and ranking. The aggregate total of the submitted proposals exceeds by 30% the total amount of funds that are available. Some of the criteria for successful awards will be based on impact, need and the leveraging of the dollars with partners. The Committee will be considering the balance to be allocated between grants and scholarships.

It is anticipated that the first round of scholarships to graduating seniors and first-year college students will be selected after the April 1, 2020 deadline. These awards will then be presented at the various high school award programs.

Horticulture Programming:

Planning for the Level I Master Gardener training 2020 is coming together. A schedule of dates, commitments of speakers, scheduling of field trips and other details are nearly finalized. The training will begin on March 16, 2020 and continue every Monday until the end of June. Sessions will be 2 to 3 hours in length. Labs, hands-on activities and discussions will be held to support the information and reading in the training manual. Participants will take a written exam at the conclusion of the training.

Crops Programming:

Our office hosted the annual Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) for Southeast Wisconsin. This is a collaborative program between UWEX and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Nutrient management plans and the best practices of manure application are at the center of these meetings. There are strict guidelines that must be followed by the largest of our livestock farms and the handling of the manure they produce. Rule changes, updates and practical applications are some of the presentations. Farmers, manure handlers, agency staff and crop consultants were among the 68 that attended.

The UWEX Wisconsin Drain Tile Workshop was held here. This two-day workshop helped equip 45 farmers, installers, company reps and agency staff in a wide variety of topics related to land drainage. Speakers from throughout Wisconsin and Illinois presented on laws, techniques, system components and effective drainage design among other elements of water and soil relationships.

Dairy and Livestock Programming:

The 2020 Beef Feeder's meeting was utilized by 28 individuals. Information was shared on farm building design with a focus on pole buildings, their engineering and snow loads. This was a response to the large number of buildings that collapsed the last several winters, particularly in the North and Western parts of Wisconsin. Market trends and outlooks for beef, pork and chicken were shared. An overview of "fake" meats was shared. Cattle selection, feeding suggestions and marketing tips were shared by a third speaker.

Department Activities: Worked on UWEX presentations.