

## Extension Education Committee Minutes

**Date of Meeting:** October 11, 2021

**Meeting Called to Order:** Zastrow called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Members Present via Videoconference:** Herbst, Roberts. Morris joined meeting at 8:55 a.m.

**Members Present in Person:** Kannard, Zastrow.

**County/Extension Staff Present:** Steve Chmielewski, Community Educator; Kara Loyd, 4-H Educator; Lisa Krolow, FoodWise; Chrissy Wen, Area Director; Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator

**Extension Staff Present via Videoconference:** Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Assistant; Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist

**Others Present via Videoconference:** County Board Supervisor Anita Martin and Frankie Fuller

**Certification of Open Meetings Law:** The agenda with videoconference link was duly posted and the door is open.

**Public Comment:** None

**Roll Call (establish a quorum):** Quorum present.

**Approval of Agenda for Possible Rearrangement:** No rearrangement needed.

**Approval of September 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Kannard, seconded by Roberts, to approve the September 13, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

**Communications:** None per Wen and Buchholz

**Review of 2021 Departmental Budget:** Committee members received a copy of the current departmental budget report at the meeting. Wen reported the 2021 budget is in good shape and asked for any questions.

**Review of 2022 Departmental Budget:** Wen stated that the 2022 budget is in process. Kannard asked if there were any comments at the budget hearing. Wehmeier stated that they explained that the ag positions were left in the 2022 at the equivalent of a full time FTE position and explained the shift in positions to a regional focus was provided to the committee.

**Update on Regional Crops Educator:** Wen reported that the preliminary interviews were completed last Thursday and Friday. Final interviews will be held this Friday. All members are welcome to attend. Wehmeier, Kannard and Roberts expressed interest in attending. Wen will forward them the link and information needed to participate.

**Update on Regional Dairy Educator:** Wen stated that the preliminary interviews for the Regional Dairy Educator will be held this afternoon. This position will serve Dodge, Dane, Jefferson and Rock Counties. The Program Leader and three Area Directors will be conducting the interviews.

**Update on Regional Natural Resources Educator:** Wen is not the immediate supervisor for this position. She is seeking out information on the plans for this position. Wen stated that an Aquatic Invasive Species specialist will be working out of the Jefferson County a few days a week.

### **Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:**

- Kara Loyd provided an oral report to the committee from her written report that was included in the agenda packet.
- Steve Chmielewski provided an oral report to the committee from his written report that was included in the agenda packet.

Dwayne Morris joined the meeting via Zoom at 8:55 a.m. during Steve's oral report.

- Lisa Krolow provided an oral report to the committee.
  - FoodWise continues to focus on growing the program in Jefferson County by finding new partners and sharing information with organizations that qualify for their services.
  - Maddie Buchholtz, FoodWise Educator, will be providing a monthly educational program for two different subsidized housing communities. One is located in Fort Atkinson and one in Watertown. Educational programs will focus on items within the onsite food pantries that residents are not utilizing to their full potential to supplement their food budget.
  - Krolow continues to work with the state to be able to program with Watertown Middle School. Currently the numbers from DPI shows are around 47% of Middle School students qualify for free and reduced lunch. FoodWise programming can only occur when they are 50% or greater. There are many other factors that indicate the Middle School should be able to receive FoodWise services. Krolow will continue to work on making this possible.
  - Buchholtz is currently shadowing other County educators that offer programming at the Middle School level to help her learn the programs.
  - Buchholtz will be working out of the Jefferson Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

**Next Scheduled Meetings:** November 8 and December 13

**Adjourn** – Motion by Kannard, seconded by Herbst, to adjourn at 9:12 a.m. Motion approved.

*Minutes recorded by Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist*