

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: October 10, 2022

Call to Order: Chair Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Committee members Matt Foelker, Dan Herbst and John Kannard were present in person.

Dwayne Morris joined the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Supervisor Gulig left the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

Area Extension Director Chrissy Wen, Steve Chmielewski, Jerry Wilcenski, Jordan Schuler, Alison Pfau and Kim Buchholz were present in-person.

County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, County Board Supervisor Anthony Gulig, Julie Hill and Katelyn Broedlow were present via Zoom.

Quorum present.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law: In compliance.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Herbst, seconded by Foelker to approve the agenda as written. Motion approved.

Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from August 8, 2022: Motion by Foelker, seconded by Herbst, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Communications: Wen pointed out the article of the 2022 Local Government Leadership Academy Graduates to committee members that was included in their agenda packet. Wen noted that there are many programs being offered by Extension that are not reflected in the educator's contract.

Review of Department Budget: A copy of the to date 2022 budget was emailed to committee members in the agenda packet. Copies were also available at the meeting. Wen stated that the 2022 budget is on target.

Review of 2023 Proposed Departmental Budget: Wen and Wehmeier stated that they had nothing to add regarding the 2023 Proposed Departmental Budget at this time. It is being introduced to the County Board at tomorrow's County Board Meeting.

Discussion on Jefferson County's Extension Participation in ICC: Wen and Chmielewski reviewed the background history of the ICC committee. They are still in the information gathering discussions and trying to determine Extension's role in this group. Wehmeier stated that Jefferson County is hosting the December 19th meeting that will feature our treatment court system. The meeting is at 9 a.m. Discussion followed. Committee agreed to have it remain as an agenda item on future agendas as the discussion continues.

Review of 2023 Extension Educators Contract: Committee members received a copy of the contract with the agenda packet. Copies were also available at the meeting. Wen explained that the committee had received the contract at the previous meeting for their review. Wehmeier and Ward have also reviewed the contract. Wen asked if there were any questions.

Morris moved to approve the 2023 Extension Educator's Contract as printed contingent on approval of the 2023 budget approval, seconded by Foelker. Motion approved. Signatures of the committee were obtained after the meeting.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:

- Steve Chmielewski, Community Educator, provided an oral report from his written report that was distributed in the agenda packet. Chmielewski has been in contact with Kristin Silva regarding the Home consortium ARPA Planning. He will continue to be active within the process. Chmielewski's work on the City of Lake Mills Sandy Beach Survey continues; there was a change in City leadership with the retirement of Steve Wilke. It is anticipated that he will receive the second draft to move the project forward this week. Chmielewski stated that he will be working with Amanda Kostman, Walworth County Extension, to host a Poverty Simulation for roughly 80 members of Jefferson County Human Services on Wednesday, November 16 from 1-4 p.m. He invited all committee members to attend this event.
- Lisa Krolow, FoodWise Coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written report. Wen provided some brief highlights from the report. Please reach out to Lisa with any questions regarding the FoodWise program.
- Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, provided an oral report. She recently returned from maternity leave. Pfau continues to meet with various farmers in her 5 counties. Her current focus will be on the development and production of English and Spanish educational videos. The focus will be short, simple educational topics that can be put on various media platforms. She will also be partnering with Fond du Lac County on a Spanish newsletter for Hispanic workers. Pfau is bilingual in Spanish and English.
- Jordan Schuler, Regional Crops Educator, provided an oral report from her written report that was distributed to members in their agenda packet. Schuler will be working with Pfau on the videos mentioned above as well as producing podcasts on various topics through her involvement on the Statewide Emerging Crops Team. She is working with the local Land & Water Departments to provide education on nutrient management plans and their value.
- Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H Educator, provided an oral report. Wilcenski reported that the 4-H Open House held in September was a success with over 100 people in attendance: mainly new families. The 4-H Annual Awards banquet was held at the Fair Park Activity Center. 4-H is currently collecting the club and group annual charter and financial reports for the state. Enrollment for the 2022-23 4-H year is open. Re-enrollments are due by November 1, 2022. Wilcenski continues to work with the Livestock Committee to develop a robust livestock educational program for Jefferson County 4-H youth. The Leader's Association is currently reviewing the Project Grants that were submitted; \$11,000 was requested in grant funding. One new project is the 4-H Crops Test Plot. A leader has stepped forward and donated the use of his land and equipment as well as to lead the project. 4-H members interested will have the opportunity to raise varieties of corn and be able to compare them as well as learn the production/business cycle. Wilcenski will be attending the 4-H National Conference this week that is being held in Madison and hosted by Wisconsin. He also attended the Juntos training. This 4-H initiative focuses on the LatinX community. It is an after-school program. Wilcenski will be working to establish this program in Jefferson County within the next year.
- Julie Hill, Horticulture Educator, highlighted her upcoming programs and dates from her written report. Anyone is invited to attend these webinars. Information is included on her written report on how to register for the various events.

Next Scheduled Meetings: November 14, December 12 and January 9, 2023

Adjourn – Motion by Herbst, seconded by Foelker, to adjourn meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist