

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: January 9, 2023

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

Roll Call: Committee members Matt Foelker, Dan Herbst, John Kannard and Dwayne Morris were present in person. Mary Roberts joined meeting at 8:34 a.m.

Area Extension Director Chrissy Wen, Jordan Schuler, Alison Pfau, Jerry Wilcenski and Kim Buchholz were present in-person. Steve Chmielewski joined the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

Katelyn Broedlow, Lisa Krolow and Julie Hill were present via Zoom.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law: In compliance.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Herbst, seconded by Morris, for agenda will stand as presented.

Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from December 12, 2022: Motion by Morris, seconded by Foelker, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Communications: None

Review of 2023 Department Budget: A copy of the approved 2023 budget was emailed to committee members in the agenda packet. Copies were also available at the meeting. Wen stated that the 2023 budget is as it was approved at County Board.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:

- Lisa Krolow, FoodWise Coordinator, provided an oral report. The FoodWise program is hiring as we have lost both educators who took other positions.
- Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, provided an oral report from her written report that was distributed in the agenda packet. Pfau continues to make farm visits to meet farmers and network with local ag businesses. During February, she is assisting in the coordination of holding a Veterinary Educational Meeting on February 3 and the annual CAFO meeting on February 17. Video production is slated to begin this month with hopes that they will be available in the Spring. She is also working with the State on the Badger Dairy Insight webinars that will be offered monthly for the next few months.
- Jordan Schuler, Regional Crops Educator, provided an oral report from her written report that was distributed to members in their agenda packet. Schuler was able to attend some professional training events in December. She, along with Pfau, hosted a Farmer Round Table sessions in Rock, Walworth and Jefferson Counties. Jefferson County was the only one that was attended. They hope to have another round of meetings this Spring where the topic of discussion will be on Farm Financials. Schuler is focusing on her work with the producer led watershed groups in the region to assist them with growing their membership which in turn will increase the clientele of Extension.
- Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H Educator, provided an oral report. A current focus is on Project Learning Day which will be held on February 18 from 9-2 p.m. He is also working on getting certified himself so that he can train local volunteers for 4-H. This is the time where many of the 4-H projects kick-off for the year. For example, the dog project starts next week.
- Julie Hill, Horticulture Outreach Specialist, provided an oral report from her written report that was distributed to members in their agenda packet. Hill answered a number of diagnostic horticulture questions during last year of which approximately 10% were from Jefferson County. (Wen started answering for Jefferson County in July 2022.) Hill has several upcoming webinars and in-person classes that are listed with specific information on her report. Two of the upcoming programs will be held at the Dwight Foster Library in Fort Atkinson, WI. Hill continued to plan and develop programming for will be for Wisconsin Master Gardeners Wen highlighted some of the numbers that Julie is reaching through her programming from her written report. Please feel free to reach out to Julie with any questions on her written report.

- Steve Chmielewski, Community Educator, provided an oral report from his written report that was distributed in the agenda packet. The Lake Mills Sandy Beach survey results were presented to the Common Council last Tuesday. They are now in discussions on next steps for the project. A Poverty Simulation was held with Human Services in November. Chmielewski will be meeting with Brent Ruehlow to discuss next steps from the feedback received from the simulation. Chmielewski will be meeting with City of Fort Atkinson this month to determine ways they can collaborate to review and/up their comprehensive plan, needs assessment, etc.

Chmielewski stated that their or 5 individuals from Jefferson County that have registered for the Local Government Academy. They are currently working on their next communication that will be sent to all local municipalities statewide regarding upcoming Statewide programming for the Spring quarter.

Kannard asked about the ICC group. Chmielewski stated that Steve Nass was to provide a list of topics to him. Once received, Chmielewski will work with the other area CNRED educators to schedule and provide the resource speakers for those identified topics for the group. Jaeger and Buchholz will continue to provide administrative support for the group for Jefferson County.

Next Scheduled Meetings: February 13, March 13 and April 10, 2023

Adjourn – Motion by Foelker, seconded by Herbst, to adjourn meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist