

# Extension Education Committee Minutes

**Date of Meeting:** March 11, 2024

**Call to Order:** Chair Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:32am.

**Roll Call:** Committee members present in person: John Kannard, Matt Foelker, Dwayne Morris, Mary Roberts and Dan Herbst.

Christine Wen (Area Director), Jerry Wilcenski, Josh Kamps, Steve Chmielewski, Alison Pfau and Katelyn Broedlow were present in-person. Julie Hill and Ben Wehmeier were present via Zoom.

**Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law:** In compliance.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Foelker, seconded by Herbst to approve the agenda as printed. Motion passed.

**Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from February 12, 2024:** Motion by Morris, seconded by Herbst, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

**Communications:** None.

**Review of 2024 Departmental Budget:** Kannard stated everything looks on target.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Transition from Serving Five Counties to Four Counties by Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator:** Wen stated that Extension is looking to eliminate Dodge County from our covered county by our Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator and Dodge County would join in with a different region. This would leave Alison with 4 four counties – Jefferson, Dane, Rock and Walworth. Wen is supportive of this change. It would slightly increase the cost per county for this position. Wen also stated that this change would not occur until the regional dairy educator is hired for that region. Motion by Foelker, seconded by Herbst to approve the transition from serving five counties to four counties by the Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator depending on whether or not Dodge County is in favor of this change.

**Extension Office Marketing Plan:** Chmielewski stated the office team has drafted goals and measures. The team is working on finalizing it and putting it into motion. Discussion was had.

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

Committee members received the Extension February 2024 written report in their agenda packets.

Steve Chmielewski, Community Development Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- On March 22 he will be in Waterloo presenting at an all-day broadband workshop. He encouraged the committee to attend if they are available.
- He is in communication with Sustain Jefferson to help them with a strategic planning process. This will begin towards the end of summer

Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- She completed the REPRO Roadshow Workshop in Dane County and everything went well.
- She is coordinating the Handling and Administration of Vaccine and Medicine in Cattle Workshop being held at Hoard's Dairyman Farm. This workshop will be held one day in Spanish and one day in English. The targeted audience is dairy workers and beef producers.
- She will be in Arlington next week doing dairy research on methane mitigation. With this collaboration Pfau will be learning all about what equipment they are using, the diet, etc. She will

use this information and research to create videos, infographics and other general education. Rosy Lane in Watertown will also be participating in this study. This research will help producers understand methane mitigation and climate change.

Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Project Learning Day was held last month and it went very well. There were many youth and adults participated and attended.
- Livestock Projects are currently ramping up. There will be many different tours happening for various livestock projects.
- He is planning a trip to The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto in November for livestock families.

Julie Hill, Horticulture Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- She is entering into programming season and will be at Dwight Foster library this afternoon for a Gardening Small presentation.
- She will be giving a presentation on composting through UW-Whitewater continuing education.
- She will have presentations on No Mow May starting in April.
- Statewide webinars and virtual opportunities will be available for those who would like to view them on their own time.
  - Emerald Ash Borer
  - No Mow May
  - Establishing a Bee Lawn
- She will have a presentation with PJ Liesch, UW- Madison Entomologist, on the periodical cicada emergence.
- Questions continue to come in as people are starting to think about planning their gardens.

Lisa Krolow, FoodWise Coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting. Her written report was provided.

- Wen stated Krolow is currently teaching in a Head Start classroom in Watertown this morning.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, was unable to attend the meeting. His written report was provided.

- Attended a watershed conference and was able to learn about programming items and ways that Extension continues to work with this effort.
- He presented at the Pasture Soil Health and Nutrient Management workshop with Glacierland RC&D.
- Helped execute the CAFO Meeting in Jefferson. This meeting was for larger dairy and livestock farms to receive updates from the DNR and Extension on soil and water management.
- He just finished up with his Pesticide Applicator Training classes for the region.
- He was able to speak at the Midwest Forage Association and the Dodge County Forage Council Meeting.
- He is a part of the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program and they have a meeting being held in Jefferson County. The goal is to dial in on the nitrogen that is put on fields to have better water quality and better profit on crop production.
- Badger Crop Connect continues as a statewide webinar series. The discussions will be based on seasonal decision-making recommendations.

**Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings:** None.

**Next Scheduled Meetings:** April 8, May 13, June 10

**Adjourn** – Motion by Herbst, seconded by Morris, to adjourn at 9:34am.

*Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist*