

## **Extension Education Committee Minutes**

**Date of Meeting:** April 14, 2025

**Call to Order:** John Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

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

Chrissy Wen, Lisa Krolow, Jerry Wilcenski, Steven Chmielewski, Meghan Splinter and Katelyn Broedlow were present in-person.

Elizabeth Hafften and Michael Luckey were present via zoom.

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

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

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from March 10, 2025:** Motion by Herbst, seconded by Morris, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

**Communications:** None.

**Review of 2025 Departmental Budget:** Wen stated that the largest part of the budget is the educator contracts.

*Julie Hill joined the meeting at 8:34am.*

*Alison Pfau joined the meeting at 8:36am.*

**Discussion regarding continuing .2FTE Horticulture Educator in 2026:** Wen stated that she wanted to start the conversation on the .2FTE horticulture educator position as she prepares for budget time. The more Julie is present the more services are wanted from her. Discussion was had.

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

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

- Continues to work with the City of Jefferson Rural on Extension's program – Rural Entrepreneurial Venture. Currently in year 2 of 3. The local team is focusing on the city of Jefferson and in the information gathering point right now.
- Will be offering the Real Colors Training to Jefferson County department heads next month.
- Continues to work with Julie Hill on the Jefferson County Extension Office needs assessment. So far connections have been made in Watertown and Whitewater. Next they will be headed to Lake Mills.
- Kudos to Katelyn for helping plan Youth Government Day.
- Southern rail commission about updating the study from 2014. Talked with some different people to take a look at the economic impact in 21 counties where rail service is provided.
- Will be presenting at the WI Towns Association meeting on April 29.
- Discussion was had.

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

- The program with Dr. Temple Grandin was held on Friday in Madison. 200 people attended and it went very well.

- Collaborating on articles about dry matter. Planning to do more articles on animal welfare. Articles are in both English and Spanish.
- Planning another Calving Management Practice and Neonate Care in Dairy Cattle program in this area again.
- The first Spanish newsletter was sent out this month.
- Discussion was had.

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

- A successful Project Learning Day happened in February with high quality programming.
- There will be a Livestock Project Learning Day in May.
- Continues to work on spring programming. Cloverbuds has one more meeting for the year. Livestock Carcass meetings continue to happen. The Cookoff Program has wrapped up.
- Continues to work on state committees. Specifically working on 4-H curriculum and planning experiential learning.

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

- Continuing to work with Steve Chmielewski on the Jefferson County Extension Office needs assessment. Great conversations and networking have been happening.
- March and April are very heavy in programming.
- Will be doing programming at two new locations; Madison College in Watertown and L.D. Fargo Public Library in lake mills.
- Ramping up on answering questions that have been coming in. Plans to promote this service more.
- Spongy moths have been a big deal in the last few years. We should see a decline this year.
- Discussion was had.

Lisa Krolow, FoodWise Coordinator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Programming with Head Start has finished in the 3 classrooms.
- Preparing a food safety lesson and budgeting lesson for Head Start parents.
- FoodWise had a booth at family night in Watertown. Made connections with some potential new partners in Watertown. It was a great event.
- A dining site in Lake Mills has grown quickly. A survey was made to see what kind of programming they would like to have at this site.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, was unable to attend the meeting.

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

**Next Scheduled Meetings:** May 12, June 9, July 14

**Adjourn** – Motion by Morris, seconded by Herbst, to adjourn at 9:18am.

*Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist*