

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: August 11, 2025

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

Roll Call: Committee members present in person: John Kannard, Matt Foelker, and Elizabeth Hafften.

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

Dan Herbst, Julie Hill and Michael Luckey were present via zoom.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law: In compliance.

Approval of Agenda: No changes.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from July 14, 2025: Motion by Foelker, seconded by Hafften, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Communications: None.

Review of 2025 Departmental Budget: Wen stated everything is on target for the budget for 2025 and the budget for 2026 is submitted.

FoodWise Funding Update: Wen stated that the Snap-Ed funding has been eliminated as of September 30, 2025 and all programs will end at that time. Lisa Krolow and Priscilla Gonzalez have received layoff notices. Discussion was had.

Josh Kamps joined the meeting at 8:39am.

Alison Pfau joined the meeting at 8:39am.

Support Staff Update: Wen stated that Meghan Splinter has accepted a different job outside of the county. A new posting is being reviewed and decisions need to be made if the position should stay as a county position or change to a state position. Discussion was had.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:

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

- The Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Program has picked up new core members and is now working on a needs assessment with small businesses. Specifically looking at what types of resources would be beneficial to them. There will be a fall series supporting small business development.
- Working with the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Committee and Waukesha County Corp Counsel to execute a contract. Once the contract is signed the project will get started and run through January/February.
- The Jefferson County Needs Assessment meetings will resume.
- Offering another Real Colors Workshop for Human Services employees at the courthouse next week.
- The childcare study with the Whitewater Community continues.

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

- Badger Dairy Insight is a monthly webinar series providing researched-based dairy information.

- The Calving Management Practices and Neonate Care in Dairy Cattle Workshop is coming up at the end of August. See handout.
- A survey with farms on communication with workers is still ongoing.
- The third issue of the bilingual newsletter was sent out this month.
- El Break Info Lechero webinar series will start in September.
- Discussion was had

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

- Will be starting an in-school club in Palmyra for 4-H educating starting in September.
- September 1 annual financial reviews are due for clubs.
- The 4-H Open House is scheduled in September.
- Working on getting an online payment option set up for 4-H enrollments.
- The Youth Livestock Team qualified to go to Denver for the national judging competition.
- Discussion was had.

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

- Programs for July have been quiet.
- Questions have continued to come in from county residents. Most questions have been around tree health.
- The Jefferson County Community Needs Assessment has created a partner with the Lake Mills Community Recreation Department and will be doing a program there in the fall.
- Referred to the handout on Foundations in Gardening, which is an online course offered to anyone and starts in September.
- Have had a lot of interest in doing an indoor house plant class in the fall/winter.
- Started planning programming for the next year with UW-Whitewater.

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

- Wrapped up cooking program with CSP last week.
- Gleaning project has gleaned a total of over 1,300 pounds of produce in six weeks.
- Priscilla's last day will be October 1 and Lisa's last day will be November 1.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Working on the WWASH Conference which will happen in December.
- A Wisconsin Weed Management Workshop will be held in Arlington on September 11.
- There will be a Crops and Soils Update Series in December.
- Working on year two of the Crop Scout Training. Continuing to try and recruit early career agronomists.
- Working with Jefferson County Soil Builders group on field days.
- Working with DATCP on moth trapping.
- In year two of an NOPP trial - working with a farmer in Milford.
- Rural property owners have started to reach out and ask questions.
- Badger Crop Connect is a bimonthly webinar series through October.
- Discussion was had.

Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings: Support Staff Update

Next Scheduled Meetings: September 8, October 13, November 10

Adjourn – Motion by Foelker, seconded by Hafften, to adjourn at 9:36am.

Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist