

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date of Meeting: March 11, 2019

Meeting called to order by: Zastrow called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Members Present: Herbst, Kannard, Roberts and Zastrow were present.

Members Absent: Kelly

Educators/County/UWEX Staff Present: Chrissy Wen, Area Director; LaVern Georgson, Agriculture Educator; Kara Loyd, 4-H Program Coordinator; and Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: None

Certification of Open Meetings Law: The agenda has been duly posted and the door is open.

Public Comment: None

Roll Call (establish a quorum): Quorum present

Approval of Agenda for Possible Rearrangement:

Motion by Zastrow, seconded by Kannard, to approve the agenda as printed.

Approval of February 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Kannard, seconded by Herbst, to approve the February 11, 2019 meeting minutes with change. Unanimously approved.

Communications:

Herbst mentioned that twice as many farmers declared bankruptcy which is not a good sign. Georgson added that we have lost about 1400 dairy farms in Wisconsin in the last 2 years.

Item: Review of 2019 Departmental Budget

Wen stated that the budget is in good shape so far. She also reminded the committee that the 1st half of the contract payment for the state will be taken out within the next couple weeks/months.

Item: Update on Jefferson County Farm Technology Days (July 23-25, 2019)

Georgson stated that people are realizing that it is coming sooner than later. There is a fair amount of autonomy among committees but they are still interrelated. Georgson will be sharing more for of the specific committee responsibilities over the next couple months. Most of the committee work should wrap up by middle of June. Admissions are set. They will be managed by banks that have stepped forward to man each entrance gate. We wanted people familiar handling a lot of money to insure accuracy. The treasurer is managing the budget well. The Education tent is coordinated by EXT

specialists and different Ag teams will be present. They are working on figuring out what colors, displays, etc. need to be used at the show with the transition into UW Madison. The Rural Event Center is sponsored by Rural Mutual Insurance. This tent will feature a stage where many events will be happening. The tent is divided in half for crafts and nonprofits. Georgson told the committee that if they are aware of any nonprofits as well as crafters to let us know. The publicity committee is working hard to get the word out. Georgson brought a map along to show the committee and passed it around for all members to see. It is about 90% done. There will be two people from the grounds committee that will be logging everything that comes in and goes out of the show. Discussion occurred on the map. Georgson explained where different items would be located on the map. We hope to have a few things that have not happened at other shows that will be happening here.

Item: Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports

Georgson reviewed his written report. The Horticulture/MGV is assuming more responsibility of beautification for around the grounds at WFTD. They will be doing a sponsorship of \$35 for a mineral bucket of flowers. There have been requests for when the next MGV class will be and the next opportunity would be January of 2020. The Tractor & Machinery Safety Course had 25 youth successfully complete their written exam. They will now have a driving exam in May at the fair park. Alfalfa survival is decreasing. The new seeding that was planted last year should be ok. Emergency forage or supplemental forage for alfalfa. There is currently a short hay situation where farmers are looking for feed weekly. Right now it is \$40-\$50 per ton for poor feed and \$200 per ton for good feed. Farmers are looking for anything to keep their animals alive until get they are able to get them on pasture. This will hurt some dairy farms. Georgson talked with an auctioneer and was told that there are not as many sales coming up and he was not sure exactly why but prices are holding up pretty well on machinery which is surprising. One out of two PAT classes have been completed. Those that attend the class need a 50% to pass and those who decide to do the self-study option need a 70% to pass. Georgson stated that we have seen more interest in people taking the exam because commercial sprayers have had a challenge in getting everything sprayed in a timely manner. There were 50 beef producers that attended the Tri County Beef meeting to become BQA certified. The CAFO meeting had a good turn out even though it was rescheduled due to weather cancellation. People that run the CAFO program were very appreciative of the work the office did with the cancellation and setting up for the meeting. Wen commented that she talked with a colleague and was told that he was impressed with the office in Jefferson County. The transition to UW Madison continues to take time and civil rights is a priority.

Kara Loyd reviewed her written report. Loyd stated that many meetings and events were rescheduled in February. Loyd has been attending club meetings and is so far pleased with what she has seen. Loyd continues to attend cohort trainings which will go on for the next few months and she will continue to learn about her role at EXT. She continues to do volunteer trainings to certify leaders. 39 youth attended officer training. Youth participated in interactive activities and leaders from clubs came to help and train. Her goal was for the 4-H members to get to know each other. Loyd is planning to start gearing up for the next officer training in November. The speech and poster contest had a theme of "Generations of Farm Pride". She said that we will be working on revamping this. Loyd taught a YQCA mandated training for 4-Hers for youth to show/sell at fair and training for about 120 kids. There will be another training in May for first year showers. Loyd continues to reach out via the Facebook page video that is posted every Sunday night and has updates on the coming week and things that need to be highlighted. The Daily Union has had several articles on 4-H over the last few weeks. Loyd has upcoming trainings that she will be attending and leading: cohort training, WAE4-HYDP, strategy meeting for 4-H camp, volunteer trainings. The office will be starting to gear up for fair. The rocketry project has its first meeting this coming Sunday. The project has about 10 people signed up for it. Currently, there is not a lot of programming happening around the state or nation in rocketry so it is very exciting to have it here in Jefferson County. The rocketry program is a 3 year program where youth make their own rockets. We are trying to encourage young girls to participate in rocketry.

Chmielewski could not be at the meeting but Wen updated the committee on what he has been doing. Wen stated that Chmielewski is currently working on a nonprofit mapping process of the county and has started to develop a needs assessment tool for those nonprofits to determine their needs. He has reviewed the county strategic plan.

Wen stated that the change to Madison is a lot of work. Email system has just changed.

Upcoming Agenda Items and Meeting Dates:

Farm Technology Day report and monthly reports

Next Scheduled Meeting: April 8, 2019

Adjourned: Motion by Kannard, seconded by Roberts at 9:10am

Signature of Secretary

Minutes completed by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Assistant