



MEETING MINUTES

Committee: Agriculture & Extension Committee
Date: Monday, January 13, 2025
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: County Board Room, Lower Level of the Safety Building, 840 Clermont Street

The following discussion was held by the Committee at the meeting detailed above:

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Pierce.
2. Conduct Roll Call.
3. Please silence all cell phones
4. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

AG & EXTENSION AND LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE/SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

| Name | Role | Status |
|------------------|------------|---------|
| Ben Pierce | Chair | Present |
| Rick Bina | Vice-Chair | Present |
| Zach Zagar | Member | Absent |
| Doug Curler | Member | Present |
| Jeff Wickersheim | Member | Present |

Non-Committee Members Present

| Name | Interest | Name | Interest |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mandi Dornfeld | Area Extension Director | Jason Hilger | County Administrator |
| Kevin Gallenberg | Research Station Manager, Via Phone | Stephanie Loderbauer | Office Program Assistant |
| Becky Rank | Deputy Cty. Clerk/ Rec. Secretary | | |

5. **Approve previous meeting minutes of November 11, 2024:** Motion by Curler, second by Wickersheim to approve the previous meeting minutes with Judy Nagel listed as County Clerk and not Deputy. All ayes, motion carried.
6. **Program Updates: FoodWise Program, 4-H Program, Agriculture Program, Agriculture Research Station, Office Program Assistant:** Area Extension Director Dornfeld stated due to illness the FoodWise representatives are unable to attend. A written report was given prior to the meeting.

Dornfeld stated the 4-H Educator position had been vacant, the position will be discussed later in the agenda. Office Program Assistant Loderbauer updated the Committee on 4-H activities that have been happening. Loderbauer stated the December 2024 4-H Newsletter has been sent out. 4-H recently had a Family Bowling Day with 50 people in attendance. Loderbauer stated over the last two months she has been working with Lincoln, Marathon, Shawano and Wood County 4-H educators on planning the 2025 Teen Winter Camp. Also working with Price, Taylor, and Lincoln Counties on the Annual 2025 Summer Camp.

Ag Educator Reuss was unable to attend. Written report given prior to the meeting.

Research Station Manager Gallenberg is out of state and appeared via phone. Gallenberg presented the Committee with a written report prior to the meeting. Gallenberg stated he would like to talk to the Committee about the longevity of the Research Station. Gallenberg discussed the current budget with revenue and expenditures. Gallenberg stated he is always looking for grants to cover equipment and repairs. Gallenberg stated he is also looking at ways to generate revenue. Gallenberg stated it is unusual for Research Stations to sell their crops, most are donated. Some crops are not able to be sold due to chemicals or

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variation of crop, it is not guaranteed revenue. Gallenberg would like to have the County offset operational funds to help with equipment costs. Chairman Pierce would like to discuss this further at the next meeting.

7. **2024 Expense Summary for Ag & Extension:** Office Program Assistant Loderbauer presented the Committee with a written budget. Area Extension Director Dornfeld stated the budget is in good shape. County Administrator Hilger stated the budget shows \$15,000 of unused funds for the vacant 4-H Educator position. Hilger stated the budget shows current carryover of funds, however, the books are not closed as of yet, so those numbers may change. Information only.
8. **Area Extension Director (Area 3) Position Update:** Area Extension Director Dornfeld stated the UW System is adopting a new workplace platform called Work Day. Dornfeld stated a verbal offer has been accepted for a 4-H Educator in Langlade County. At this time the name will not be released. Dornfeld stated the candidate has lots of potential and will be assigned a mentor to help with the transition. The candidate has a potential start date of March 3, 2025. Dornfeld discussed other positions being filled within the Area 8 District. Information only.
9. **4-H Educator Hiring Update:** Discussed above.
10. **Continued Discussion on Potential Agriculture Research Station Expansion:** Discussed above.
11. **Area Extension Director Updates:** Discussed above.
12. **Update or Report from the County Administrator:** County Administrator Hilger stated he meets regularly with Loderbauer on the budget. Hilger wanted to thank Loderbauer for going above and beyond in covering for the vacant educator position. Hilger stated he has met with Dornfeld and Loderbauer on operational needs. Hilger discussed the breakdown of each contracted educator position, stating the Office Program Assistant is a county-funded position. Information only.
13. **Next meeting date:** March 10, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., County Board Room
14. **Adjourn the meeting:** Motion by Curler, second by Wickersheim to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes transcribed and submitted by:
Becky Rank, Deputy County Clerk