

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COMMITTEE: Agriculture & Extension Education
DATE OF MEETING: January 21, 2014, Wolf River Room, Resource Center
MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Bina, Eugene Kamps, Arlene Bonacci, Holly Matucheski
MEMBERS ABSENT: William Bostwick
OTHERS PRESENT: Stephanie Plaster, Kari Lazars, Shelli Hagerty, Sally Hull

Bina called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Matucheski made a motion to excuse Bostwick. Bonacci seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes and Agenda:

Bonacci made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Matucheski seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Report on 2013 Fair:

Shelli Hagerty gave a report on the 2013 fair. Profit from the fair is \$3244.65. This has been turned over to 4-H to use for programs. Fair entertainment for this year's fair includes sprint cars, a puppet show, bands, and BMX bikes along with the demo derby and tractor pull.

Kari Lazars told the committee that in the near future, the 4-H and fair board will be split into two separate boards. This is a requirement from the state 4-H office due to liability issues. This is expected to happen by the 2015 fair.

Agent Report:

Stephanie Plaster gave a report for the months of August to January. Eight trials were grown at the Research Station this past season. Stephanie will present data on five of the trials at the WPVGA and UW Extension Grower Education Conference in February. The grant funding from the WPVGA was approved again for research facility support. Stephanie presented information on the Affordable Care Act to farm families. She helped with nutrient management farmer education along with Marie Graupner and Kevin Erb. A grazing workshop will be held in June. Stephanie said we are losing 10% of our dairy farms a year and that a lot of them are turning to beef production as an alternative. Pesticide training will be held tomorrow and another session in February. Stephanie asked for funding to purchase coffee and donuts for the trainings. Matucheski made a motion to purchase food items for the two pesticide training sessions. Bonacci seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

The youth tractor safety course will be held in February for 12-16 year olds. Farm Technology Days will be held in August in Portage County. The youth health fair is held in April and will focus on safety. Stephanie is also helping with Breakfast on the Farm in June at the Nagel farm.

Update on 4-H Youth Development Agent Position:

Krista Otto will be starting on February 3, 2014, as the new 4-H Youth Development Agent. She will be introduced to the county board at their February meeting.

Update on WNEP Coordinator Position:

The WNEP Coordinator position is not posted yet but should be by early February. The farm bill looks much more promising than it did before so this position should have the support it needs.

WACEC North Central Meeting:

The WACEC North Central Region Annual Meeting will be held February 21 in Rothschild. Please let us know by February 7 if you plan to attend.

Credit Cards for Kari Lazars and Krista Otto:

Kari Lazars, Family Living Educator, and Krista Otto, new 4-H agent, will need to have credit cards issued to them. Matucheski made a motion to approve credit cards for Lazars and Otto with a \$500 limit. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes Motion carried.

Year End Budget Update:

Revenue for the Research Station doubled from what was anticipated. Expenses were well under budget with considerable savings due to agent turnaround.

Next Meeting Date:

The next Ag & Extension meeting will be held February 11, 2014, 3:30 p.m.

Adjourn:

Motion by Kamps, seconded by Bonacci, to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by,
Sally Hull