

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COMMITTEE: Agriculture & Extension Education
DATE OF MEETING: May 12, 2015, Wolf River Room, Resource Center
MEMBERS PRESENT: Holly Matucheski, Pete Pennington, William Bostwick, Joe Novak, Arlene Bonacci
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
OTHERS PRESENT: Sally Hull, Kari Lazars, Krista Otto, Stephanie Plaster

Matucheski called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve Minutes and Agenda:

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

Agent Reports:

Stephanie Plaster reported on Research Station trials and operation of the station. She has started a five-year study to determine if cover crops suppress or increase the rate of scab. The WPVGA Associate Division supplied grant funding to purchase new harvester chain. Stephanie taught SNAP Plus training, pesticide applicator training, helped with tractor safety, Master Gardener training, and held a field day about grazing. She received a communications award from the Wisconsin Association of County Agriculture Agents and received a grant to attend the Midwest School for Beginning Apple Growers. Stephanie will be hosting a soil health field day in July on a Mennonite grazing farm. She will be teaching the market animal quality assurance training on May 16 and is starting a Century Farms program to be held at the fair.

Krista Otto is working with 4-H clubs on getting more involvement from parents and more interest in 4-H events. She is working with the Boys and Girls Club on starting a 4-H club there. 4-H events included Winter Olympics, Project Discovery Day and Speaking and Demonstration Event, Volleyball, Gamblers Game trip, Horse and Pony Project, and Youth Protection Training. The 4-H and Fair Board held an organizational meeting. A committee was formed to work on the Cloverbud project. Krista attended a Be SAFE training and Capitol Connections in Madison where she and 4-H youth visited legislators to discuss the value of Extension. Krista is working with Leadership Langlade County on its direction and how to build leadership in our county. She attends Optimist Club meetings and is working with them to get funding for Camp Susan repairs. She will be at Stand for Children's Day on May 16 and will be holding a camp counselor lock-in training on May 22-23.

Capitol Connections:

Kari Lazars, Krista Otto, Kris Page and three youth traveled to Madison on April 30 for Capitol Connections. They visited with Senator Tom Tiffany, Representative Mary Czaja, and Representative Jeff Mursau and talked with them about the proposed budget cuts to Extension. The legislators indicated an interest in receiving information on local events.

WNEP Coordinator Update:

The WNEP Coordinator position is posted with applications due May 15. Preliminary interviews will be held in early July. Final interview is here on July 20. Depending on the number of

applicants, start time will be 8 to 8:30 a.m. and will continue until candidates are all interviewed. Bostwick will attend the interviews from the Ag & Extension Committee.

Budget Update:

A budget update through the end of March, 2015, was handed out to the committee.

Next Meeting:

Dates for the next two meetings were set at July 14, 9 a.m., and August 11, 9 a.m. The budget will need to be approved at the August meeting. The July meeting will be held if there are enough agenda items.

Adjourn:

Pennington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 a.m. Novak seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Sally Hull