

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COMMITTEE: Agriculture & Extension Education
DATE OF MEETING: October 9, 2012, Wolf River Room, Resource Center
MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Bina, Eugene Kamps, William Bostwick, Arlene Bonacci,
Holly Matucheski
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
OTHERS PRESENT: Kari Lazars, Sally Hull, Becky Knight, Steve Zimmerman, Shelli
Hagerty, Tom Schmitz

Bina called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve Minutes and Agenda:

Matucheski made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda as printed. Bostwick seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agent Reports:

Kari Lazars handed out a report on August/September activities. WNEP completed lessons at the Boys & Girls Club, Park View Manor, the Antigo Alternative School, and hospital referrals. The Antigo Area Community Food Pantry has obtained 501(c)(3) status and has applied to Feeding America to purchase food at reduced prices. They are also checking into being able to distribute commodities. Harvest from the Community Garden is wrapping up and some of the produce during the summer was donated to food pantries. September was the end of the fiscal year for WNEP. The federal grant was approved for 2013 and new agreements have been signed. A canning class was held in September with 15 participants. Kari will be continuing on in Menominee through January, 2013.

Becky Knight gave a report for October, 2012. She has been working with 4-H clubs on charters and financial forms. Achievement Day for 4-H members will be held this weekend and the Leaders Banquet will be held in November. A newsletter published by the Buyer's Guide with advertising to pay for the publishing is slated to begin in January of 2013. Project Discovery, the Food Revolution, Speaking Event, and Archery League are all in the planning stages.

Steve Zimmerman said the plots are all dug and cleanup is underway at the Research Station. Some of the potatoes were given to the food pantries and some were sold. Countywide yield of potatoes was good this year.

2012 Fair Report:

Shelli Hagerty presented an income/expense report for the 2012 Langlade County Fair.

Update on Ag Agent Position:

Tom Schmitz was present at the meeting to give an update on the status of the Ag Agent's position. Steve Zimmerman is working as the interim agent. The position will be posted October 26 with interviews to possibly be held the first week of January, 2013. The salary is a split of 60/40 between the state and county. Because the ag industry has become so competitive in the job market, Tom discussed the possibility of posting the position as fulltime at a base

salary of \$45,000-\$55,000 depending on experience and emphasizing that after working for two years, the person is then expected to work at enhancing the salary by finding grant funding. Tom said there are regional funds to supplement the salary for the first couple of years. Bostwick recommended posting the position as Bachelor's required, Master's preferred.

2012 Budget Update:

Kari Lazars handed out an update on the UWEX and Research Station budgets for this year. Everything is on track and there will be some savings in state wage agreements due to having an interim 4-H agent for half of the year.

Bills:

Bostwick made a motion to approve the bills. Bonacci seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:

The next Ag & Extension meeting will be November 6, 2012, at 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Bonacci made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:23 p.m. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Sally Hull