



Minutes - April 13, 2022

Call to Order: Chair Rich Bostwick called the Hybrid Virtual Agriculture & Extension Education Committee meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Richard Bostwick, Stephanie Aegerter, Janelle Crary, Genia Stevens, Alan Sweeney

Committee Members Absent: none

Staff Members Present: Chrissy Wen, Brent Sutherland, Brad Meier

Others Present: Terri Carlson

Adopt Agenda: Supervisor Aegerter moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Crary. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes:

March 8, 2022 Minutes: Supervisor Sweeney moved approval of the March 8, 2022 minutes as presented, second by Supervisor Crary. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Chrissy Wen thanked Supervisor Aegerter for her support of the Extension, echoed by the committee.

Division of Extension::

Review of Bills: Reviewed and approved

Health and Wellbeing Educator Update: Chrissy explained that the position has been posted and will close mid-May, 2022. The position description was shared with the Health Department and the HEAR committee. Chrissy also reminded the committee that Jen Whitty, of Waukesha County, will continue to support Rock County through the end of June and will also be available to help onboard the new hire.

Healthy Communities Coordinator : Chrissy explained that the opportunity to add a Healthy Communities Coordinator to Rock County came through the Health & Well-Being Institute and FoodWise. This is not an educator position but a part-time position that will focus on and work throughout the community and with community partners to identify areas of need, where the

Extension can provide assistance and help recommend policy, systems, programming and environmental change. This position is typically funded through FoodWise support. The position would not be under FoodWise, but report directly to the AED. Supervisor Aegerter, said that this position would be a good investment considering how the county typically falls with health outcomes. Supervisor Crary seconded that statement and added that the area of Beloit is an underserved community in this regard and that they could really use this type of support. Supervisor Sweeney asked if the Health Department would be willing to contribute to the funding and if this position would work in parallel with the Health Department. It would be worth asking. Supervisor Bostwick asked about the duration of position and Chrissy explained that this would be an ongoing position, as long as the grant dollars were available. The committee agreed to commit \$4,000 from the Regional Agriculture position savings and that they are in favor of the position and moving forward.

County Educator Report: Chrissy explained that the committee will get to meet all the educators from the Extension office at the next meeting in May and that she plans to have at least one educator from the Extension office present at each of the committee meetings going forward if possible. Chrissy introduced the March County Report of programming and activity highlights. Chrissy added that the new Crop Educator, Jordan Schuler may be able to attend the May Ag & Extension Committee meeting to get the opportunity to meet everyone on the committee.

Fairgrounds::

Fair Board Report or Updates: nothing to report at this time

Review of Bills: Brent presented the Bill report and noted the water bill costs. Brent explained that he is going to put Pear.ia on all the water, gas and electric meters to audit the metered results and therefore, be better able to verify that bills match actual usage.

Review of Contracts: Brent presented the contract report and explained that since the committee standardized the 4-H partnership billing policy, it's provided clear delineation of the associated rental fees.

Comments from the Committee:

Adjournment: Supervisor Sweeney moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m, second by Supervisor Crary. ADOPTED by acclamation.

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.