



Minutes - February 8, 2023

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

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Richard Bostwick, Alan Sweeney, Debi Towns, Genia Stevens

Committee Members Absent: Janelle Crary

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

Others Present: Sheryl Hengeveld

Adopt Agenda: Supervisor Towns moved approval of the agenda of February 8, 2023 as presented, seconded by Supervisor Sweeney. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes:

January 11, 2023 Ag & Ext Ed Committee Minutes: Supervisor Sweeney moved approval of the minutes from January 11, 2022, seconded by Supervisor Towns. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Supervisor Towns shared that she attended the first County Association Extension Steering Committee Zoom meeting. Supervisor Bostwick introduced to the committee that the county is working on adding agreeable language to all committee agendas that would let the public know when public comments are welcomed and when they should be shared during the committee meetings.

Division of Extension::

Review of Payments: Payments were reviewed

Program Report: Sara Ennocenti, Health & Well-Being Educator: Sara introduced herself and proceeded to highlight her activities since taking on the Health & Well-Being Educator role in mid 2022. Sara has added two new StrongBodies volunteers that have been trained and she is in the process of setting up teaching sites. Sara is currently teaching her second session of StrongBodies at the Daniel Hale Williams Resource Center in Janesville. She is also teaching some virtual sessions of StrongBodies along with additional mindfulness techniques.

Her Mental Health/Behavioral Health efforts include finishing up her QPR (Question, Persuade,

Refer) training. QPR is suicide prevention training that can be offered to adults and youth. Skills learned in this course will allow her to help individuals that are going through a mental health crisis. Sara is also working with the Prevention Coordinator for Health and Human Services and the Rock County Health Department to offer QPR classes to the county's rural audiences.

Sara added that once she finishes her WeCope training, she will be able to offer classes about stress reduction to adults. She has connected with various partners about this course, such as HealthNet. She is also partnering with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to offer a course called Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Pain. She explained that after she's trained as an instructor, she'll be able to teach pain management techniques that would help combat the use of medication for pain relief.

Sara's coalition efforts include being on the Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR) advisory board. HEAR helps guide the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) reports and implements strategies to meet the goals set forth in the CHIP. Sara is also on the advisory board of the Nutrition Collaborative of Rock County. This coalition aims to improve health outcomes through collaboration by connecting resources, increasing access to healthy foods, and providing nutrition education.

Monthly Impact Report: Chrissy Wen introduced the January County report, highlighting the local efforts and events from each institute, county and state-wide Extension activity. Chrissy also highlighted the Navigators program and some other state-wide financial planning programs and events that are available to the county. Supervisor Bostwick agreed with the growing need for financial planning and supported the importance of offering some general informational seminars to the county.

Regional Crop Educator Status: Chrissy shared with the committee that Jordan Schuler had resigned from her Regional Crop Educator position effective February 10, 2023. Discussion ensued about making sure that the job description and focus for the position going forward were discussed and reviewed by the committee prior to the posting of the position.

Discussion and Possible Action on Drainage Board Vacancies: Supervisor Bostwick provided an update on the continued and ongoing search to fill the vacant Drainage Board positions. He mentioned that there was one new candidate and that he plans to attend the March 16th Town Board Meeting to work towards recruiting more candidates.

Fairgrounds::

Review of January Payments: Payments were reviewed

Review of January Contracts: Contracts were reviewed

Review of Yearly Totals: Yearly totals were reviewed

Request to Waive the Rental Fee: Brent presented the request for waving the rental fee by the

Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association - Wisconsin Summer Spectacular Livestock Show. Brent explained which facilities would be included in the rental agreement, the associated standard rental fees and the dates requested. The committee discussed the request and the history of rental arrangements with the Wisconsin Summer Spectacular Livestock Show group. Supervisor Stevens requested the detail costs on which buildings were included, and the details of the costs be brought to the next meeting. Supervisor Sweeney moved to waive the \$900 rental fees for the facilities and area on the request form for the Wisconsin Summer Spectacular Livestock Show on August 27, 2023, seconded by Supervisor Towns. Adopted.

Fair Board Report: Ryan George reported to the committee that the new Fair Board is in place. He also talked about a group of Fair board members that had attended the National Fair convention and brought back a lot of good information. Ryan shared that the Fair Board is working on how best to utilize the state grant they had been awarded last summer for needed equipment purchases and equipment upgrades. Ryan reported that most of the events and entertainment for this year's fair have been roughly established and he'll share the details about that exciting news as soon as contractually possible. Overall, he's looking forward to another successful fair season.

Further discussion included the overall grounds LED lights installation and the grandstand roof and fascia upgrades that are in the beginning stages of being spec'd now, before going out for bids. Brent acknowledged that the goal for these projects is to get these taken care of prior to the fair if possible.

Comments from the Committee: Supervisor Bostwick shared that there is a pancake breakfast fundraiser that will be held on April 15th, in Fort Atkinson, to raise money for a youth paddling group. Contact Rich if you'd like more info or need tickets.

Adjournment: Supervisor Towns moved for adjournment at 8:20pm, seconded by Supervisor Sweeney. ADOPTED.

Name of the person who took the Minutes: Brad Meier

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.