

Crawford County Agriculture and Extension Education  
225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 215 Prairie du Chien, WI 53821  
Thursday, December 1, 2011  
Minutes

Chairman, Pete Flesch, called the meeting to order 9:30 AM.

**Roll Call:** Pete Flesch, David Olson. To meet quorum requirements, Flesch appointed Rocky Rocksvold as Ag/Extension and Fair fill-in Committee member. Excused absence: Ray Martin, Wade Dull, Elling Jones. Extension staff in attendance: Amy Mitchell, Jane Schaaf, Bryan Wood.

**Posting of agenda verified** by Flesch.

**Motion to approve minutes** as presented by Olson, second by Flesch. Ayes – all. Opposed – none. Motion carried.

**Report by Jane Schaaf, Family Living Agent**

- Jane presented her report in hardcopy; it will be placed on file.

**Report by Bryan Wood, Community Development Agent**

- Clean Sweep - held near the end of October and was deemed extremely successful and stayed within budget. Bryan worked in partnership with the Land Conservation Office. Bryan reports the Sweep overall total weight increased by 25%, taking in more hazardous waste and electronic items than 2010 and TV's almost doubled in poundage.
- Voucher program – Bryan reports the program improved this year. Last year usage rate was around 50%; this year, 61%. Wrap up meeting was held last week. The main goal was to improve communication between markets and food pantries. Bryan stated this was extremely successful. Weekly updates were given and market managers did a great job on keeping pantries up to date. Prairie du Chien food pantry – return rate 57%, Gays Mills - 67%. At the last meeting, one specific point of discussion was regarding asking vendors if, on a rotating basis, they'd be interested in setting up a booth/table outside the pantry(ies) during pantry distribution days/times. The group believes this would provide the pantry recipients easier access to using the vouchers. The Crawford County Community Fund and Coulee Cap are interested in continuing the program.
- Crawford County Economic Development hired David Connolly as EEDC's Director; his start date, January 2. For the first time Crawford County will have an Economic Development presence.
- Prairie du Chien Opportunity Center Kitchen – The kitchen passed inspection the week before Thanksgiving. The Local Oven is open with Grand opening held on Saturday. The Kitchen is open for entrepreneurs to bring in their own recipes. Bryan reports Senator Schilling attended the grand opening.
  - Along with an Economic Development group, Bryan also met with Schilling at 3M and took her on a tour of the new kitchen space. She was excited to see the potential.
- Professional Development - Bryan attended a strategic planning workshop and a CNRED in-service.

**Report by Vance Haugen, Agriculture Agent:** Vance traveling to Nicaragua, returning December 13.

**Report by Amy Mitchell, 4-H & Youth Development Agent**

Strengthening 4-H Clubs and Leadership

- Amy attended a North Central Volunteer Leader e-forum, a new learning opportunity where adult volunteers came to learn. Amy reports it's a nice way to network with others providing 4-H Program Management, Positive Youth Development and New and Emerging Curriculum.
- Jr. Leaders, 7-12 graders – Meeting to educate and assist them in increasing leadership skills. They discussed goals, restructuring their projects, and what they want to learn.
- Healthy Living Initiative – The state 4-H program received a national grant and Crawford County received some of that money. Part of the goal is to get youth involved in the program. Another goal is to increase the number and quality of record books turned in the end of the 4-H year. Amy is working with and helping youth set more attainable goals
- Robotics started in Wauzeka-Steuben school district. There are 12-13 very enthusiastic youth participating. Mostly 5<sup>th</sup>, some 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders working on curriculum to program the robots. Amy reports North Crawford School has robotic equipment but no one to help.
- State 4-H Program requires 4-H Club charter renewals and Amy is working with the 4-H Leaders to get the applications turned in.
- Amy is also working with the Leaders 2012 calendar planning.

Connecting with the Community

- Teen Court – November 21, their first court date. Two juveniles with six older youth as their peer mentors. Amy reports it's a wonderful, positive experience for the youth. The Jurors gave sanctions to the youth offenders that would help the offender. December 19 is the next court case.

- Farm Safety Council – meeting held.
- PALS mentor training held – Wauzeka-Steuben and Prairie du Chien. 23 youth attended

Professional Development – Amy attended:

- 4-H Youth Development Training - Focus on charter renewals,
- Conflict Training in Grant County - learning how to deal with conflict in teen court,
- And listened to a poverty webinar.

**Report by Sonya Lenzendorf, Nutrition Coordinator:** Sonya is working in Vernon County.

**Review Agents Programs and Activities**

- Out-of-state travel – none
- Motion by Olson, second by Rocksvold, to approve Agents Programs and Activities. Ayes – all. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

**Ag and Extension related items:** Pete received an e-mail invitation from Matt Hanson the PILD conference in Washington is the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April. Pete is unable to attend because it conflicts with the County Board Meeting where the board elects the County Chairman.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday, January 5, 2012, 9:30 AM

**Presentation of bills:** Chairman Flesch tabled presentation of bills until the Fair Committee Meeting.

**Correspondence:** None

**Motion to adjourn** by Olson, second by Rocksvold. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM

Respectfully submitted by Karen Snitker, Program Assistant