

Crawford County Agriculture and Extension Education
225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 215 Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
Thursday, November 3, 2011
Minutes

Chairman, Pete Flesch, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

Roll Call: Pete Flesch, David Olson, Ray Martin, Elling Jones, Wade Dull.

Extension staff in attendance: Amy Mitchell, Sonya Lenzendorf and Vance Haugen.

Posting of agenda verified by Karen Snitker

Motion to approve minutes by Martin, second by Jones. Ayes – all. Opposed – none. Motion carried.

Report by Bryan Wood, Community Development Agent – attending a three-day Strategic Training Session, Madison

Report by Vance Haugen, Agriculture Agent –

- Vance, along with Dennis Rooney attended the world Dairy Expo to promote Crawford County Grazing. Friday was carved out as Grazing day. Many grazing activities which included ½ hour presentations were planned with Vance presenting on out-wintering dairy cattle.
- UW-Extension receives Federal funds and must provide supportive documentation Extension offices are adhering to civil rights requirements. The USDA audits Extension offices to be sure they are handling civil rights correctly. Vance, Jane, Amy and Bryan worked with a UW-Extension Civil Rights committee to review agent and office practices and determine what, if any, changes needed to be made. Vance reports the review went well.
- Vance attended a three-day Ag and Natural Resource and Education conference in WI Dells. He reports this year was a great conference because he brought back a lot of information that he personally can use in the Ag program. For example, because hazelnut production is getting to be more important, university people (WI, MN, Extension, etc.) are doing hazelnut research. Vance believes hazelnuts could be an excellent viable crop for the upper Midwest.
- Vance attended a level two Green Tier recognition of 3M. Vance reports 3M has gone beyond minimum regulatory standards for their environmental efforts.

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

- Amy reports 3M awarded a \$2000 grant to the 4-H robotics course. 3M also granted four pallets of office supplies including a digital projector.
 - Robotics – Nine youth are attending with Alex Anderson as their 3M Tech volunteer/trainer. Amy reports more volunteers are needed.
- Amy and Shannon did the National 4-H Science experiment with Wauzeka-Steuben 5th and 6th graders and Prairie du Chien 4th graders. It is an in-depth look at renewable energy technologies in the form of wind-power. This program helps 4-H kids enhance their science, engineering, technology and math skills by allowing them to experiment by examining different wind turbine blade pitch angles, etc. and relate what they've learned to their own environment.
- Amy thanked the committee for coming to the 4-H Awards Night. She reports the leaders thought it was wonderful. The leaders are considering various options to hopefully increase attendance.
- Amy reports Music Festival participation was at an all-time high.
- Amy attended the National 4-H Agent Conference in Omaha and reports the presentations were good. There was a lot on robotics, networking, and camp counselors.
- District meeting – 4-H Agents shared how they work their program areas which Amy reports is good because they don't have many opportunities to share between counties.

Report by Jane Schaaf, Family Living Agent – Jane is overseeing Strong Women program at Blackhawk Apartments. Sonya distributed Jane's hardcopy report to the committee; hardcopy will be placed on file.

Report by Sonya Lenzendorf, WNEP Coordinator

- Sonya started back to work full-time mid-October having wrapped up her year-end reports.
 - All schools are scheduled – She is currently at 1st Grade BA Kennedy and Kindergarten in Seneca. All other classrooms are scheduled after the first of the year.
- Sonya reports she's hired a 70% time WNEP Educator, Jennifer Witty, from Viroqua. Witty is a registered dietician working on her MA in Public Health and will be starting in Vernon County in the next few weeks.
- WNEP in conjunction with Family Living, Public Health, Human Service, and the Family Resource Center, held a family Fiesta event for elementary kids and their families to reach out to the parents to educate them and their children on healthy eating. Attendees were served a family meal. After the meal, the hosts provided the following

interactive, healthy eating educational stations: physical activity, snack, breakfast, healthy beverage, and portions. Sonya showed a breakfast demonstration.

Review Agents Programs and Activities

- Motion by Dull, second by Martin to approve Agents Programs and Activities including Haugen's travel to Nicaragua. Ayes – all. Opposed – None. Motion carried.
 - Out-of-state travel – Haugen – Traveling to Nicaragua, planned for December 4-18 (½ vacation and ½ professional development)

Ag and Extension Education related items:

- Vance reports there's the possibility new safety regulations are being considered regarding farm child labor laws. A briefing is coming up and depending on how the rules and regulations are interpreted people may have to revamp tractor safety.
- Vance is meeting with a PA farmer to finish the final paperwork to move his family from PA to Richland County. Although the move is to Richland County, Vance believes this reflects the "Relocate to WI" efforts are paying off.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, December 1, 2011, 9:30 AM

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

Correspondence: None

Motion to adjourn by Dull, second by Olson. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Karen Snitker, Program Assistant