

Crawford County Agriculture and Extension Education
225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 236B Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
Thursday, May 5, 2016
Minutes

Chairman Dull called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

Roll Call: David Olson, Mary Kuhn, Donald Stirling. Absent: Wayne Jerrett. Others in attendance: Vance Haugen, Jane Schaaf, Amy Mitchell, Will Cronin, Sonya Lenzendorf, Karen Snitker.

Posting of agenda verified by Snitker.

Motion by Olson, second by Dull to approve the minutes. Motion carried with no negative votes cast.

University of WI Extension Items – Agent Reports:

Sonya Lenzendorf, WNEP Coordinator, shared an overview of the WNEP program which is designed to promote healthy lifestyles.

- WNEP is federally funded, partially through SNAP. WNEP: offers nutrition education to the people who receive that support, brings nutritional programming into elementary schools; and works with food pantries, WIC Clinic, etc.
 - Sonya splits her time between Crawford and Vernon County, working in Crawford more often because there's also an educator in Vernon who she supervises.

Sonya's monthly Report:

- Currently planning for next year, working with the federal calendar year that starts October 1.
- Finished working in the North Crawford School system, 2nd - 5th grade classes in April and is currently working in the Wauzeka schools (giving a 30 minute nutrition lesson in each classroom for 6 weeks).
- Through financing from a Healthy Living grant, partnered with Amy in the After-School-Program to offer a family event at Wauzeka School.
- Wrapping up the school year and preparing her summer program which involves working with the Farmers' Market Voucher Program in June. In Crawford, there is a care program that also offers coupons for farmers markets through the food pantries.

Jane Schaaf, Family Living Agent, provided a brief summarization of her program area and followed with sharing her monthly report, providing the members with a hardcopy that will be placed on file.

- The Family Living program is designed for doing whatever we can to strengthen individual families to make a difference in the community; working with parenting, healthy relationships, human development, and a lot in health area with WNEP as part of the Family Living Programming.

Vance Haugen, Agriculture Agent, stated his program is focused on Ag related items but it does not preclude working on other areas with colleagues. For example, prior to hiring a CNRED Agent, Vance did some CNRED work regarding land use projects.

Vance's monthly report:

- Held the 1st Pasture Walk April 26, 2016, with 18 people in attendance.
 - Pasture walks are set all over the county and in some cases working across county lines. They are held to provide answers to a topic the host farmer has questions about.
- April 29th – held a joint program event, 1-5pm, with Richland and Grant County UW-Extension. Forty rural landowners listened to various session topics such as: fencing law, land prices, forestry management, etc. From the short survey responses, the attendees were well pleased.
- Held a bunch of consultations (office, farm visits, calls, etc.).
- Several dairy modernization calls from others outside of Crawford County.
- 3 days per month did state work with the Dairy Modernization program.

Ag and Extension Education Committee Related Items – Vance gave a brief review regarding the upcoming reorganizational changes to the UW-Extension system.

Amy Mitchell, 4-H Youth Development Agent provided a synopsis of the 4-H program beginning with these Crawford County program statistics: 272 youth, 10 4-H clubs (evenly distributed around the county), 54 adult leaders, with 51% of membership involved in farming and 49% non-farm.

4-H involves:

- Afterschool programming, such as the 4-H Tech Wizards sponsored by a grant from 3M involving youth, 4-6th grades, 3M mentors, use of Lego Mindstorms. (The robotic equipment will also be used to do summer days camps.)
- Summer Programs such as:
 - Summer Day Camps such as Healthy Living, Robotics, etc. which help promote community clubs and awareness of 4-H. Amy will be hiring an intern through a Healthy Living grant.
 - Summer camp – held at Upham woods, WI Dells. A great teen leadership program with a lot of adult volunteers participating as chaperones.
- A big part of 4-H is the large number of projects youth can choose from – anything a kid would like to learn about. Adventure (camping, canoeing, kayaking), photography, cake decorating, art projects, dogs, shooting sports, horses, dairy, meats judging, livestock judging, clothing, etc.
- Training adult leaders – experiential education based on the concept “Do, Apply and Reflect” (learn by doing). This education focuses on life skills such as critical thinking, goal setting, projects, involving a lot about communication, team work and conflict resolution.
- Annual 4-H events – For example, in April, Amy held:
 - Project Discovery Day at North Crawford school (Project Discovery Day is an annual event designed to provide youth a chance to discover what they can learn and do in 4-H).
 - Drama Festival at the Prairie du Chien School. 6 clubs performed before family, friends, and a judge. Every year one or more of the 4-H clubs club will take an event, plan and host this event.

4-H is community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Will Cronin, Community, Natural Resource and Economic Development (CNRED) reports CNRED is focused on economic and organizational development involving strategic planning for local government, working with individuals, etc. as well as natural resources overlapping with Ag which includes access to state specialists in Madison.

Will's Monthly report:

- Held final interviews for Crawford County Economic Development Corporation's (CCEDC) Executive Director yesterday. Been working with CCEDC board, to bring a new director in to the county and will help the new director acclimate to the county and expectations of the county.
- Administrating USDA Farmers Market Program \$99,000 grant. Grant was awarded for promotion of the three farmers markets in the county; working on this project took up a lot of April. Underwriting WPRE this year with garden talks, etc.
 - One component of UW-Extension is scholarship – Will is working with UW-River Falls Service Center on a marketing plan to ascertain those who go and those who don't to gain insight on why people aren't going to farmers markets.
 - Part of the work plan for farmers market is getting the markets to be able to take electronic transfers and looking at incorporating Farmers Markets Grow into a tax exempt, corporation.
- Involved in an ongoing project – working across county lines. Vernon and Crawford County will be holding an e-commerce training, working on a low-cost opportunity for local business to come and get a crash course in selling their product/s on-line. This is a pilot project for the UW-Extension Center for Community Technology Solutions.

Review Agents Programs and Activities – May calendars were distributed.

Dairy Promotion Committee, June Dairy Month Honorary Chairperson(s) – Jody & Paulette Riley, Mt. Zion – On behalf of the committee, Chairman Dull supports the selection.

Date of next meeting: June 2, 2016, 9:00 a.m.

Approve payment of bills: Fair and Ag/Extension bills presented by Karen Snitker. Motion to pay bills as presented by Kuhn, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously by call of the roll.

Correspondence: None presented.

Motion by Kuhn, second by Olson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 10:15AM.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Snitker, Program Assistant