

Crawford County Agriculture and Extension Education  
225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 215  
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821  
Thursday, November 2, 2017

Minutes

Chairman Dull called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Roll Call: Wade Dull, David Olson, Wayne Jerrett, Mary Kuhn. Excused absence: Donald Stirling. Others in attendance: Amy Mitchell, Sonya Lenzendorf, Will Cronin, Vance Haugen, Craig Saxe (Area Extension Director), Karen Snitker.

Posting of agenda verified by Snitker.

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

University of WI Extension Items

Ag Extension committee related items – Agent Reports

Sonya Lenzendorf, FoodWise Program Coordinator –

- Currently providing nutrition education to Prairie du Chien 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> grade students (220 youth).
- Completed FY17 End of Year reporting and submitted to the state office. Plan to share Crawford County data with the committee at the next meeting.
- Working on scheduling parent education with Seneca School and Head Start.
- Recently became a member of the Board of Directors for CouleeCap, as a low-income representative for Crawford County.

Amy Mitchell, 4-H Youth Development Agent –

- 4-H awards held October 20 at Father Baer Hall, Eastman. Great attendance.
- 4-H music festival held at North Crawford School – the event was well attended. The judges were great and Amy expressed appreciation for the great community and school support.
- 6<sup>th</sup> year Leaders Record Book Committee met to review record books; 130 record books were reviewed.
- Boscobel - 4-H FoodSmart After School Program began in October. Two 4-H youth volunteers and 75 K-6<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the program with the 4H FoodSmart 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Grant covering the cost of food/supplies.
- Worked with the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Close to 6000 kids and 26 schools with all four Crawford County school districts participating.
- Amy held a mentoring training with Kathy Quamme and Rick Pederson - 73 high school youth attended from three Crawford County school districts.
- Farm to School (AmeriCorps) - both volunteers are doing an excellent job.

Vance Haugen, Ag Agent –

- 1<sup>st</sup> week of October Vance attended the World Dairy Expo stating quite a few people stopped at the booth.
- Held two Pasture Walks – October 10 at Don Boland farm; 30 attendees and October 24<sup>th</sup> at Olaf Haugen's with 16 attendees. Good discussion at both with one person stating they read about the walk in Country Today.

- Attended a Solar Energy in-service
- Several farm visits – highlighted one relating to a calf barn ventilation issue and the importance of connecting with Extension specialists to gain information quickly.
- Vance helped with the Land Conservation Clean Sweep; he was able to make connection with those who came providing an opportunity for him to let them know this was Crawford County tax dollars at work.
- October 30-31 attended a Central MN conference and was one of the speakers.

#### Will Cronin, CNRED Agent –

- Will was one of three speakers at last week's Madison, Chancellors Round Table discussion.
- Presented Principles of Community Place Making at the Annual Downtown Summit in Sheboygan; reports it was a good conference.
- Continuing his work with Prairie du Chien Parks and Rec Department; finishing up on outdoor recreation department.
- Downtown market analysis – still working on this with EEDC.
- Attended the Visioning Retreat, a joint effort of both Crawford County and Prairie du Chien Economic Development boards to formally announce their interest in merging.
- Finishing up Farmers Markets program; getting prepared for next year.

#### Ag and Extension Education Committee Related Items –

- Vance Haugen announced, although it was a difficult decision, he will be retiring from his Ag position January 31<sup>st</sup>. Vance expressed gratitude for the county's support over the past 25 years and for the support they will continue to give into the future. Vance is hoping that grazing and the pasture walks can continue.
- Craig Saxe, Area District Director, update:
  - With the reorganization and related retirements of educators like Vance, we are loosening some great institutional knowledge, but this also creates opportunities for new educators to step in and continue the great work that others started.
  - Craig is promoting getting the positions in Crawford County filled soon. Currently, he is in the middle of preliminary interviews for the Ag position in La Crosse (19 candidates) and the 4-H position (36 candidates).
  - Craig anticipates moving forward with the hiring process in Crawford County as soon as possible after the county approves the Extension budget.
    - County board members have a key role in the process and Craig welcomes and encourages their questions and input.

Public Comments – None presented

Date of next meeting – Thursday, December 7, 2017

Approve payment of bills –

- Motion by Jerrett, second by Kuhn, to approve Ag/Extension bills as presented. Motion carried by roll call.

Correspondence – None presented

Motion by Kuhn, second by Olson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 9:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Snitker, Program Assistant