

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
AGRICULTURAL & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Monday, February 10, 2020

Chairman Gentz called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

1. The meeting was properly announced.
2. Supervisors present: Merlin Gentz, Mike Hofberger, Joe Mueller, Pat Laughrin, and Duaine Stillman. Also present: Carlea Liermann, 4-H Program Coordinator; Amber O'Brien, Agriculture Extension Educator; Hannah Phillips, FoodWise Healthy Community Coordinator; and Chris Viau, Extension Area 10 Director.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Moved by Supervisor Stillman and seconded by Supervisor Mueller to approve the agenda for the February 10, 2020, Ag & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried.
5. Moved by Supervisor Laughrin and seconded by Supervisor Hofberger to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2019, Agriculture & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried.
6. Public Participation - none
7. Report of Committee Members
 - a. Reports of official meetings held since the last Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
 - Supervisor Laughrin reported on the Legislative Forum that he attended last week.
 - Supervisor Stillman shared a list from the Farmers' Almanac highlighting the importance of hay.
 - b. Upcoming Events
 - none
8. Communications
 - none
9. Items for Action or Discussion
 - a. Amber O'Brien, Agriculture Extension Educator
 - Winter Programming Update - featured highlights of activities that included: Becoming a Manager of Choice (co-facilitator); Fox Valley Watershed Roundtable (breakout session speaker); Using Technology to Promote Soil Health (presenter); Midwest Forage Association Symposium (presenter x2); Meeting Tomorrow's Feeding Challenges (facilitator); WI Cover Crop Conference (break-out table host/topic presenter); Dairy Robotics; Individual Producer Consultations.
 - Upcoming activities/workshops include: Manure 101 (local workshop presentation); Heart of the Farm for Women in Agriculture; Pesticide Applicator Training; WPS Farm Show; Calumet County Ag Stewardship Alliance; Field Day, Forage Council, and Manure Pump Safety Videos.
 - b. Carlea Liermann, 4-H Program Coordinator
 - Winter/Spring Programming highlights included: Winter Leadership Camp; Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA); 4-H Speaking Contest; Pinewood Derby; Student Government Day; Camp Counselor Training (Upham Woods); Trip and Award Interviews; 4-H Family Night at WI Herd Game; and Festival of Fun planning.
 - c. Hannah Phillips, Area 10 FoodWise Healthy Communities Coordinator
 - Growing Together project focus is to increase access to fresh foods and vegetables. Plan to start a garden at Ledgeview Nature Center, supported by Master Gardeners and 4-H club(s). Primary distribution sites would be food pantries, with senior sites being a potential secondary location.
 - WI Active Together project is a recognition program that recognizes communities that are working to increase physical activity in their community, and that bring an equity lens to this work.

Communities recognized through this program are connected to resources, training, peer communities, and experts throughout the state.

As part of Hannah's involvement with the U-CAN coalition, she met with a member of the Grow Foundation in Brillion to discuss the possibility of Brillion submitting an application to this program this summer. It was determined that Brillion is eligible, and they are working to get more buy-in from the Grow Foundation group. Hannah also expressed interest in starting a new Grow Foundation subcommittee to bring together everyone working to promote health in Brillion under shared goals.

- d. Discussion on Governor Ever's State of the State message regarding agriculture
 - Viau shared that Dean Martin testified with the Dean of College of Ag and Life Sciences before a Senate committee to provide them with more information relating to proposed funding increase to help agricultural and rural communities.
10. Report of Department
 - a. Chris Viau, Area 10 Extension Director
 - Administrative/Department Report
 - Annual reviews with UW staff will be taking place in March.
11. Set next meeting date: The next meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee will be held on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 10:30 am.
12. Adjourn

Chairman Gentz declared the meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.