

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 14, 2022
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114
100 West Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

Chair Brian Holt called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present either in person or by remote attendance: Chair Brian Holt; Vice-Chair Daniel Kilkenny; Supervisor Nancy Russell; and Citizen Member Kathleen Papcke. Citizen Member Jennifer Straus and Sharon Travis were absent. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance:

County Staff: County Administrator Mark W. Luberda; Area UW-Extension Director Christine Wen; FoodWise Program Coordinator Lisa Krolow; 4-H Youth Development Coordinator Janel Heidelmeier; 4-H Youth Development Educator Debbie Harris; and UW-Extension Receptionist Ellen Lamping.

On motion by Vice-Chair Kilkenny, second by Citizen Member Papcke, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Vice-Chair Kilkenny, second by Supervisor Russell, the January 17, 2022 Agriculture and Extension Education Committee meeting minutes were approved.

Public comment – There was none.

New Business

7a) Introduction of Ellen Lamping, Receptionist

UW-Extension Receptionist, Ellen Lamping, introduced herself and Area UW-Extension Director Christine Wen noted Lamping has done a great job supporting the educators since her start in the office at the end of January.

7b) Regional Crop Educator Announcement

Wen reported a Regional Crop Educator, Jordan Schuler, has been hired with a start date of April 18th. Schuler is finishing up her Master's Degree in Horticulture at UW-Madison with a specialty in specialty crops. She also has a Bachelor's Degree in Soil and Water from UW-Stevens Point. Her home office will be in Jefferson County but it is anticipated she will be in Walworth County often. This educator position will be shared with Rock, Jefferson and Walworth Counties.

7c) Regional Dairy Educator Announcement

Wen also reported Alison Pfau has accepted the position of Regional Dairy Educator with a starting date of June 5th. Pfau is finishing up her Master's Degree in Animal Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and she already has a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science. This position will be shared between five counties: Walworth, Jefferson, Rock, Dodge, and Dane. Her home office will be in Jefferson due to its central location, though that could change in the future.

Chair Brian Holt requested that next month's agenda include an introduction of the new educators along with their contact information.

Reports

8a) FoodWise Program Coordinator Report

FoodWise Program Coordinator Lisa Krolow gave an overview of the year-end FoodWise report provided on Pages 5-6 of the packet. She also highlighted first quarter programming and noted by the end of December they had engaged 289 Walworth County residents. A new programming model was introduced at

Darien Elementary School, which was held in the gym and allowed them to meet with every student in the school. This program included a 15 minute nutrition lesson with a game for reinforcement and there are plans to introduce this model at other schools as well. Another program was introduced at Hartwell Street in Elkhorn, which is an apartment complex owned by the Walworth County Housing Authority for chronically homeless and disabled individuals. Krolow explained there was a cooking demonstration and the meal was shared with participants. She then discussed the Community Learning Center (CLC) program at Turtle Creek Elementary, in addition to a grocery store tour offered to CLC families which was held at Steinbrink's Piggly Wiggly in Delavan.

8b) Human Development and Relationships Extension Educator Report

Wen shared updates on the Human Development and Relationships Extension Educator Report on Amanda Kostman's behalf. She highlighted the continuing Rent Smart program which had 42 participants signed up in January with 18 attending; the February class had 12 participants who attended at least one class and seven participants who completed all six modules; March had 35 participants signed up with 17 attending three out of the six classes held so far. Wen also highlighted the financial and stress management components of the Cultivating Your Farm's Future program held in January. This was a cross programming effort which was aimed toward the family side of farm and agricultural businesses. Lastly, Wen noted other programs planned for next month, which can be found on Pages 7-13 of the packet.

8c) 4-H and Youth Development Program Report

4-H Youth Development Coordinator Janel Heidelmeier discussed programs that occurred over the past few months:

- An annual leader training was held where one leader from each chartered group, club, or program was required to attend. This year's topic was, Yearlong Experience: Learn Together, Lead Together, which focused on youth adult partnerships.
- There was a club officer training for any officer of the community clubs. This involved a team building activity then officer specific workshops.
- An orientation was held for new or fairly new Walworth County 4-H families. There was a group session which provided a brief overview of the 4-H program, then it was broken up into adult and youth groups.
- The Senior Leader Association will be hosting a leader recruitment event with more details to be provided in the coming months. Also, in partnership with the Senior Leader Association, a pen and paper survey related to the Music and Drama Fest was provided to parents and youth members in an effort to find insight to declining participation over the years.
- The Cloverbuds Science Savvy Series, which is the second of a four session series, the first being a book club held in the fall. In addition to the usual advertising, fliers (Page 14) were sent to every Cloverbud already enrolled in the program.
- The Cultural Cooking Series was offered to 5th through 8th graders. This was also a four session series with the goal of introducing young people to food they haven't tried.

Debbie Harris discussed the youth outreach programs she has been working on which include:

- 4-H Science Explorers Program which is a multi-level program for students. The high school component is a virtual career series titled, "Scientists Live." It will feature five 30 minute episodes with scientists discussing and answering questions about their fields related to agriculture. The middle school program titled, "Into the Lab" kicks off at end of March and will feature four 75 minute virtual programs where students will do hands on kit-based activities lead by scientists.

- The Clover University Workshop series in collaboration with Heidelmeier. This year, they are offering this program over three evenings and kids can sign up for one series per evening. Future dates include May 3rd and June 8th with four to eight workshops featured per night.
- The CLC program series completed in February which focused on project activities related to science for second and third graders.
- Harris is working with St. Croix and Crawford County on a statewide virtual science study in an effort to capture different perspectives regarding best practices for virtual programming moving forward.
- 4-H Camp plans are underway. They hope to go back to their resident camp but there are plans to do a two day, day camp if they cannot.
- Four awards were applied for regarding the 4-H Science Explorer Program and two were awarded, one of which moves on to regional competition.

8d) Horticulture Outreach Specialist Report

Wen explained, Horticulture Outreach Specialist Julie Hill could not be present but her report is included on Pages 15-19 of the packet.

Reports/announcements by Chairperson- There were none.

Confirmation of next meeting: The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, May 16, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion by Vice-Chair Kilkenny, second by Citizen Member Papcke, Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

Submitted by Lindsey Ross, Administrative Assistant. Meeting minutes were approved by the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee at the May 16, 2022 meeting.