

APPROVED MINUTES
Ashland County Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
July 26, 2016 9:00am
Ashland County Extension Office

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Charlie Ortman at 9:02am

Members Present: Norm Couture, George Mika, Martin Vitek, Kathy Schutte, and Charlie Ortman

Others Present: Amy Tromberg, Tom Wojciechowski, Kathy Beeksma, Joy Schelble, and Natalie Cotter

Approval of Minutes

George moved to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2016 meeting. Norm seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments

- Charlie talked with Jeff, asked for storage of 4-H equipment and would like to put a 4-H van in the budget. Check with state and insurance to learn about limits on the number of people to transport, CDL etc. Charlie also talked with local dealer and Ford seemed willing work with us on cost.
- Tom W. got a request from Jeff for a budget proposal with a deadline of August 19th. Wants to have an Ag & Ex Committee meeting before that for committee approval.
- George mentioned the Land & Water Conservation Departments annual poster and speaking contest, would like to invite Bad River youth to give about 2-5 min speeches. Takes place in Jan or Feb regionally, then send off to state.

Agent Reports

- **Written reports submitted and agents in attendance gave a highlight of their work:**

<u>Family Living / WNEP</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in an Online ACE's risk study on adverse childhood experiences. Would like to attend a 2 day training in October to be a master trainer in ACE's, adverse childhood traumas, brain science, etc. Shared oil spill graph and Population Attributable Risks. • As a master trainer would need to teach 4 sessions/ classes within the following year. • Informed committee about state mindfulness workshop weekend in Dane County, for pregnant women and providers on how to include mindfulness as a pregnant woman, stress hormones enter the womb. Not planning on attending, but encouraged to share with potential participants.
<u>CNRED</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom W. shared an article on state spending on schools and jails. Two thirds (2/3) of state prison inmates did not finish high school. • Tom W. and Natalie attended Pie & Politics. Topic was on seed saving, three local 8th graders spoke, etc. good event. • Clean Sweep Hazardous Waste Collection is Saturday, August 13. Due to state funding cuts we went from two days down to one day. George suggest Tom W. call Emmer and/or the sheriff for getting an 18 wheeler through to Glidden, might need to get a permit. • Updated household hazardous waste disposal guide, online and hard copies available. • Kathy S. asked us to send this information to all of the town boards, ask them to print off the poster & guide and hang/ put in a visible and usable place.
<u>FRTEP</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personally (Highbridge) and professionally (Bad River) dealing with natural disaster of flooding and straight line winds and the communities coming together to help each other.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was at Bad River yesterday, people are finding their footing. Checked out the high tunnels, gardens and orchards. Looking at processing gardens for the community, make both tunnels about feeding the community. The high tunnels had standing water, not rushing water, and the orchard was completely under water. • This Wednesday and Thursday Joy and other Bad River Youth programs will be taking kids out to the barrens to pick berries, then follow up and process berries. • Joy has been in discussion with Northland College on their processing facility on behalf of Bad River. Plan to process tomatoes at Northland. Kristie Liphart is helping lead. • The Food Sovereignty program is having position changes, Joy is the youth piece of that so one high tunnel is all youth and the other has a community intern who is changing jobs. Joy has the opportunity to bring on a part time LTE – started paperwork for Chris Corrigan who has technical skills and experience programing with youth. • Wrapping up Ashland Middle School high tunnel project. • Joy has been invited on August 11 and 12 to be a part of the project AWARE grant with youth in the schools in mental health.
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Handed out copies of the 2015 Ashland County UW-Extension Annual Report.

1. Flooding & Recovery

- Amy reported high calls and visits last two weeks on flooding, road accessibility, well water testing etc. able to re-route calls and assist with driving directions. Created and updated a web post with flood maps and recovery resources then shared as able with locals and Facebook pages.
- Martin recommended keeping track of volunteer time, at \$10 an hour possibly use as match for funding, townships have to cover like 12.5% of costs. Use volunteer form to track hours, Kathy S. has pages of “in” and “out” tracking time.

2. Child Development & Economic Development

- Tom W. asked if we are on the agenda and when is the next Ashland County Board Meeting? Amy replied that it is tentatively scheduled for the morning of Thursday, August 18th.
- Have UWEX Ashland office speak at full County Board Meeting. Suggestion to just give the highest highlights, 5-10 minute elevator speech.
- Discussion about inviting Jay Moynihan, UWEX Shawano County, to Ashland, having a future 2 hour community meeting invite board, teachers, Health & Human Services, Mayor, etc.

3. Ashland County Fair Update & Parking

- Charlie has not been to a highway committee meeting.
- Kathy S. reports that the back gate will be closed, having only the main entrance/south gate.
- Still selling raffle tickets, \$100 each. County Board horse shoe contest on is on the schedule.
- Fair Premium papers are at the printers.

4. Opportunities for Engaging Youth

Youth Outreach

- Nothing new

Camp for Youth

- George reiterated that this needs to be a collaboration for more groups.

Youth Involvement in County Government

- Charlie left a message with Terri Perry, Ashland County Health & Human Services, asking about ad hoc positions.

5. UWEX Restructuring Updates

- nEXT Generation meeting with Julie Keown-Bomar and four members of the administrative sponsorship team from Madison was well attended on July 14 at Northland College for the four counties in our area (Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland and Iron).
- Tom W. is on a planning team/ work group for CNRED, talking weekly on a google hangout, with monthly face-to-face meetings in Wausau at the end of August and end of September. Currently doing an assessment on what everyone does across the state in the CNRED program, then how much time they spend on each program. Currently about 80 programs in 6 to 8 categories. Each program area is doing this too. Then at some point compile and see if there are gaps and/or if program shouldn't be done. Very complex.

Natalie joined at 11:10am

6. High Tunnel Updates

- The Ashland Middle School high tunnel is moving, the expansion of the school building is going where the high tunnel is, so Jason, Joy and the school principal have met and are reviewing a few options of where to move the high tunnel.
- Bad River High Tunnels, goal with LTE Chris Corrigan is to put together a 5 year plan on growing, maintenance, costs, market/ produce etc.

7. Comprehensive Plan & Farmland Preservation Plan Committee Report

- Tom W. thought that the Farmland Preservation plan was due in Oct, and the Comprehensive Plan due end of year. About two weeks ago, Tom F. mentioned that DTCAP needs 90 days to review the Farmland Preservation plan, so everything has to be done by October 1st.
- Tom W. will be asking the Planning Committee to meet for every 2 weeks for the foreseeable future.
- Natalie is combining all of the updated background document sections to have a rough draft of the background documents (about 115 pages) for the Comprehensive Plan & Farmland Preservation Plan Committee Meeting tomorrow morning, Wed, July 27.
- George reiterated that this plan is something that can be edited. Charlie replied that we want to have this be usable, George wonders who is going to carry it out.
- Thursday evening, the City of Ashland is holding an open house on their comprehensive plan if anyone wants to and is able to attend.
- Charlie, Tom W., Natalie and Donna need to schedule the next Goals and Objectives meeting.

Natalie left 11:34am

8. Energy Independence

- Tom W. sat in on a webinar on PACE (property accessed clean energy). Milwaukee County has passed an ordinance to enact this and has some projects on the way. If the county would pass the resolution, then any business, non-profits, or schools, in the county could apply for loan funding. Tom W. asked if it would count for county buildings but hasn't heard back yet. Tom W. needs to do some more research on this, but might be worth looking into, possibly have someone come up to discuss about this.
- Tom W. did attend the Madeline Island dedication for their new solar array, 18kW, should take care of 2 public buildings, have plans for another array to take care of 2 more public buildings. The company that put them up is out of Stevens Point, and they would be able to take care of a building the size of our courthouse.

9. Approve Vouchers

- The list of paid vouchers was reviewed and signed. George moved to approve the vouchers for payment. Kathy S. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. Other Business – None

11. Next Meeting Dates – Our next meeting will be Monday, August 15 at 1pm

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 am

Respectfully submitted by Amy Tromberg