

BAYFIELD COUNTY
AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 17, 2018– 9:00 AM
Human Services Conference Room A
Bayfield County Courthouse, Washburn, WI

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Fred Strand at 9:02 am.

Committee members present: Jim Crandall, Larry Fickbohm, Jeff Silbert and Fred Strand.

Committee members not present: Brian Goodwin

Others present: Mary Pardee, Matt Cogger, Donna Ganson, Tim Kane, Theresa LaChappelle, Liz Lexau, and Ian Meeker, Mark Abeles-Allison and Jason Fischbach (9:20 am)

2. Approval of Minutes of November 14, 2017 Meeting (action item)

Motion (Fickbohm, Crandall) to approve the minutes of November 14, 2017 as presented. Motion Carried.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. Out-of-State Overnight Travel Requests (action item)

Liz Lexau has an Out-of-State Travel request for the National Extension Leadership Development training to be held in Chicago from February 5, 2018 to February 9, 2018. She is requesting \$82 for one night's hotel stay.

Motion (Crandall, Silbert,) to approve Liz Lexau's Out-of-State Overnight travel request. Motion Carried

5. 2017 UW-Extension Budget Update Report

The 2017 Extension budget update was included in the Committee members' packets. There are still some expenses and reimbursements that have not been posted. This is not the final 2017 budget.

6. UW-Extension Memorandum of Understanding – Review and approval (action item)

Contract that has been signed by Mark AA. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2018 is a preliminary document. Pardee noted that there is a contract and an MOU. The contract is more of a financial document, while the MOU is more of a responsibility document. The Administrator has signed the revised contract. A copy of the contract can be sent to committee members if they request it. (Silbert requested a copy be sent to him.)

Pardee noted that there are three choices in handling the MOU: 1) Sign it, 2) Give feedback, or 3) Sign & give feedback. The Administrator noted that some of the terms in the MOU are a bit subjective, and could be defined more precisely.

Pardee noted that MOU termination time frame has been changed to 60 days, to reflect the wording in the contract. The MOU has the wording indicating that the Area Extension Director is the official hiring designee. Pardee stated that the hiring process will be a cooperative venture with the counties. The contract has slightly different wording than the MOU regarding the hiring process. There will be no revisions to the MOU this year. All changes will be made to next year's MOU.

Motion (Crandall, Silbert,) to sign the MOU with recommended changes be made in future MOUs. Motion Carried

Silbert asked to make an out-of-order motion. Approved by Chair Strand.

Motion (Silbert, Crandall) To Acknowledge with appreciation and to thank Tim Kane for his hard work and diligence over the many years he has served Bayfield County as a quiet hero. And to take a short break to enjoy the cake. ***Motion Carried.***

***Recess taken at 9:30 am.
Reconvene at 9:39 am.***

7. Staffing Update

Agriculture/Horticulture-Specialist position. UW-Extension has approved Fischbach to work as an 80% Woody Crops Specialist and a 20% Bayfield/Ashland Agriculture agent; Cogger working as the backfill as the Bayfield/Ashland Agriculture Agent at 80%. This works out to approximately twenty-seven hours a week for Bayfield County and five hours a week for Ashland County. Fischbach and Cogger met with Pardee to go over plans and projects for the year.

Community Resource Educator position. Pardee explained that Kane's position should be listed in the next round of hiring. Dean's cabinet will meet tomorrow to make the decision on hiring. Pardee had asked that both Ashland and Bayfield County's positions be offered at the same time. If the positions are to be offered at this round of interviews could be potentially scheduled for the end of February/early March with April/May for potential start. Strand and Abeles-Allison will be on the hiring committee. It is possible that preliminary interviews could be coordinated with Ashland County. Since there will be many months without anyone in the Community Resource Educator position, there was discussion on having Cogger as an interim backfill position for one day a week for the months until the new hire comes on. Extension would not fund this backfill position.

Clerk 1 position. The ten-hour a week position is open until January 28, 2018. Applications are being taken on-line through the Bayfield County website.

8. UW System Transition Update

A positive letter from Chancellor Blank, UW-Madison, was included in the Committee Members' packets.

On Monday, January 22nd Westside Public Radio will be hosting Dean and Director Karl Martin and Provost Aaron Brower to talk about the changes UW-Extension will go through as it is merged with UW-Madison. The broadcast will not be available in the northern areas of the State, so Pardee will send a link after the program has been archived.

9. Issues and Program Ideas Discussion

Community Resource - Kane shared that the next Business On Stage will be held on January 25th at the Alvord Theatre, the Bayfield County Erosion and Flood Prevention Group met yesterday, the 2018 NW Lake Conference will be held in Spooner, and the 10-Year Mini-Strategic planning information for Bayfield County Departments is underway. Information on these programs was included in the Committee Members' packets.

FoodWise & 4-H - Ganson is transitioning into finishing her FoodWise Educator position and into her new job title as 4-H Coordinator. Included in the Committee Members' packets was information from the 4-H Cloverbud packets. Ganson will continue connecting to schools and assisting with resources for Act 31 (Native American traditions, cultures, etc.).

Agriculture - Fischbach spoke about Hemp. Hemp does not contain THC. There are three current uses for hemp: 1) CBD oil which is an extract used for medical treatments, 2) Grain includes hemp hearts which are high in protein, and 3) Fiber used in clothing and jewelry. These uses all come with challenges including market prices, harvesting and transportation. Wisconsin will be issuing permits this growing season most likely for grain. Fischbach noted that at this point in time, Extension can educate about the process but cannot set up trials.

Cogger explained that he is teaching the current Master Gardeners' class and has been working on his "Plan of Work" for the year. Cogger recently attended a Wisconsin AGRI business workshop where the herbicide Dicamba was a focus.

Family Living – Lexau explained that she will be leading the discussion in Iron River after the showing of the ACEs documentary "Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope". This film is being presented by NorthLakes Clinic in Iron River January 25th, and in Washburn on February 21st. Lexau has sent a copy of the flyers out to her contacts and has promoted these events on the Face Book page.

Mary Pardee left the meeting to take a call.

4-H – Meeker had 33 youth attend Winter Camp last weekend at Crosswoods. Youth from Ashland, Burnett, Bayfield, Iron, and Washburn counties learned about ice rescues, and dug out a quinsy. 4-H CANSKI has 133 youth from Ashland and Bayfield Counties. There is a mixture of recreational and race skiers and classic and skate skiers. CANSKI also encourages family participation in cross country skiing. The youth that will be attending Superior Days have had an interest in the proposed transmission line as it is planned to go through the Washburn Soccer Fields. Meeker will be meeting with the Bayfield Recreational Center and others to discuss a Bicycle club (based on CANSKI model) and possible bike rodeos.

Mary Pardee returned to the meeting.

Pardee's call was from the UW-Extension Northern Zone Assistant Dean, Dave Berard. He had called Pardee to confirm that the Bayfield County Community Resource Educator position will be posted on the next round of job openings.

10. Next Meeting Date and Time

March 21, 9 am in Conference Room A

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Minutes submitted by:

Theresa LaChappelle, Office Manager
Bayfield County UW-Extension