

**Green County
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
August 3, 2022
MINUTES**

The August 3, 2022, meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order at 8:35am by Extension Green County Ag and Extension Chair, Sue Nelson.

Members present were: Sue Nelson, Dawn Sass, Kathy Pennington, and Jerry Guth arrived later. Also present – Jayne Butts, Extension Green County Office Manager, Lynn Perkins, Area Extension Director, Jackie McCarville, Dairy Agriculture Educator, and Kathy Lange, FoodWise Educator.

**Green County Educator Reports—
Written Report for Educators**

Nelson asked if there were any comments/questions for the written reports and no new questions were asked. Butts noted an additional update for Victoria Solomon, stating the Green County Leader applications process is nearly complete and 32 participants have applied. More information will be shared later.

Sydney Delzer, Extension Green County Summer Intern discussed her position this summer. Her major projects for fair included Master Showman (a competition to select an overall top showman of the junior fair); Premier Exhibitor (a knowledge and skills test for animal exhibitors); and Herdsmanship (a competition between clubs/chapters on how well they present their animals, barn neatness, and educational content presentation). Sydney will be returning to UW-Platteville to complete her senior year majoring in Agriculture Education.

Minutes Approval – Sass moved, Pennington seconded to approve the June meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Bill Approval – The committee reviewed the UW-Extension office bills for June & July 2022. Sass moved to approve the June EFT payments totaling \$198.57 and the June check payments totaling \$1,292.03 and the July EFT payments totaling \$186.63 and the July Check payments totaling \$565.74. Pennington second. Motion passed.

Clean Sweep Program Updates

McCarville noted there are really two issues with Clean Sweep—1) What plans are for this year and who should be planning it; and 2) ongoing what department should be coordinating this program.

McCarville noted we are receiving questions about the plans for 2022. Butts noted we have been in contact with Rich Vogel, Chair Solid Waste Management Committee, and they are in the process of hiring a Landfill Management person by the end of August. We were uncertain of the certifications the person has or may need and how that may impact Clean Sweep at this time. McCarville also presented minutes from the March 2022 Solid Waste Management Committee and noted it stated “not to participate in Clean Sweep”. Butts noted she thought the minutes meant for this year, however, it is unclear. Butts also questioned if the program is cancelled for good, and funds are in a non-lapsing account, do they resort back to the general fund. Guth suggested

contacting the County Clerk, Ari, since she is the County Administrator to see if the Solid Waste Management Committee could make an ending decision without full county board approval. (Ari can also contact Brian Bucholtz, Corporate Counsel for further information) McCarville will send an email to follow up. Pennington discussed contacting DATCP about extending the grant deadline process to accommodate hosting a clean-up day or days to fulfill a portion of the program and enable our 2022 grant usage. McCarville will contact DATCP for more details.

McCarville also noted as the Dairy Agriculture Educator, she wasn't sure if this fits in her plan of work to coordinate Clean Sweep and the grant process. Follow up will continue.

Area Extension Director Updates

- **Jessa Engelken-FoodWise Coordinator** – Perkins noted Engelken had resigned and accepted a position with the UW Health Transplant Program.
- **Kathy Lange- has been hired as the new FoodWise Nutrition Educator** and started July 11, 2022—Kathy came to us from Crawford County and is working is working with diversities and food insecurities for Head Start, Food Pantries, and Farmer's Markets. Her programs mainly serve qualifying low-income families (SNAP) and back to school meal programs. Kathy will primarily be working out of the Iowa County offices, however, serving our 4-county region.
- **Lafayette County 4-H Educator** – the position was reposted and applications closed on Monday, Aug 1. The position was posted with a hiring bonus, as well as extra benefits of moving costs, child care costs, and buyout of current contracts, to encourage people to apply. Applications are being screened with the hope of interviewing next week.
- **WCA Extension Subcommittee** – Wisconsin Counties Association has created a subcommittee WEXA, to act as a steering committee for county feedback about county Extension offices. Sue Nelson has applied to be part of the committee, however, has not received any updated information since applying.

Office Manager Updates

- Butts noted a **new Activity Assistant, Katie Thurow**, has been hired in the Extension Office.
- **Justice Center Building Modifications** – Discussion was made regarding proposed changes for the Probation & Parole Department expansion project. Three proposed ideas were presented with the most cost effective being building into the hallway area. However, with the build project, a conditional use area will be created on the northside of the building for counselor and participant breaks and activities, to eliminate inappropriate activity at the UW-Extension door access.
- **UW-Extension signage updates** – Butts discussed new signage needed to accommodate the use of the new red UW-Madison logo vs the blue/black logos currently in place. Cost estimates were obtained and the signage will cost between \$400-\$500. Money has been secured by Perkins from state funds to cover these costs.
- **Non-Lapsing Account for 4-H Member Dues** – Butts discussed creating a non-lapsing account through the County for 4-H member dues. Due to inappropriate activity statewide, money is being allocated to county government control vs Adult Leader organizations. This is in planning stages and Andrews requested a

delay in converting until fall of 2023. Butts contacted Andrea Sweeney for proper protocol to implement this if needed. Follow up will continue.

- **Employee Vacation Carryover** – In addition to the 1-week allowable vacation carry over, Butts requested carryover of an additional 1 week of vacation due to various office changes that caused a vacation cancellation, minimal days off, and unused vacation expiring. With the Activity Assistant leaving, two students being hired in, and the timing demands of the Green County Fair, it just wasn't possible to use vacation by the August 15 deadline she has. The committee unanimously supported Butts taking this to the Personnel & Labor Committee for consideration.
- **Preliminary Budget Discussion** – Butts discussed upcoming budget processes and is expecting higher costs affiliated with multiple supplies used for their offices. Committee members noted they are well aware of increased costs and discussing possible solutions.

Other Business – Pennington discussed an awareness for Agricultural Tourism Week being promoted in September. She would like to see this embraced in Green County— suggestions were made to include GCDC, Tourism, Victoria Solomon for Community Involvement, and other methods for awareness and education.

The next meeting will be September 7, 2022, at 8:30 am.

Motion by Sass, second by Pennington to adjourn at 10:09 am. Motion carried.