

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 15, 2021
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 (arrived at 2:04 p.m.); Supervisor Nancy Russell; FSA Representative Sharon Travis; and Citizen Members Kathleen Papcke and Jennifer Straus. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance:

County Staff: Area UW-Extension Director Christine Wen; Horticulture Outreach Specialist Julie Hill; Agriculture Educator Jim Versweyveld; 4-H Youth Development Educator Debbie Harris; and FoodWise Program Coordinator Lisa Krolow

On motion by Supervisor Russell, second by FSA Representative Travis, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Supervisor Russell, second by Citizen Member Papcke, the December 14, 2020 Agriculture and Extension Education Committee meeting minutes were approved.

Public comment – There was none.

Reports

7a. FoodWise Coordinator Report

FoodWise Program Coordinator Lisa Krolow provided a brief update on nutrition programs being offered at the Community Learning Center in Delavan and Walworth Elementary School. Krolow also discussed her collaboration with Human Development and Relationships Educator Amanda Kostman. Teenagers involved in the Independent Living Program learned about nutrition and food safety. They were provided kitchen utensils to help them equip their kitchens for their independent living journey. Krolow then noted they have completed interviews for a new educator and hope to make an offer this week.

2:04 p.m. Vice Chair Daniel Kilkenny announced his arrival.

7b. Horticulture Outreach Specialist Educator Report

Horticulture Outreach Specialist Julie Hill explained she has been collaborating with local organizations to provide targeted educational opportunities regarding the care of shorelines in an effort to benefit lake's water quality. An initial program about invasive species will be offered virtually to the general public along with a separate training for roadside maintenance crews and Public Works staff. Hill also highlighted other free statewide webinars and programs being offered in upcoming weeks and months. Additionally, she provided an update relative to the online Foundations in Horticulture pilot course, which is almost finished. An evaluation still needs to be completed prior to launching the course in other counties. Master Gardener Volunteer activities are in the planning process to ensure projects are aligned with goals and also adhere to COVID-19 guidelines. Discussion followed.

7c. Agriculture Educator Report

Agriculture Educator Jim Versweyveld focused his discussion on the winter program series, Farm Management Fridays. This series runs every other Friday, January through April of 2021 and each month concentrates on a different topic. He provided a brief explanation of the monthly topics and what each program entails. Versweyveld also provided statistical information as it relates to attendance, attendees, and

participant feedback. Supervisor Russell inquired if there are programs offered pertaining to non-traditional farms, such as apple orchards or berry farms. Versweyveld explained there are some materials available but no programming, though that is something to look into for the future. Chair Holt expressed the value of the lectures he has attended so far, as he has implemented practices he learned in his personal farm experience.

7d. 4-H Program Educator Report & 7e. 4-H Educator Report

4-H Youth Development Educator Debbie Harris provided an update on current and upcoming 4-H educational programs. The 4-H Family Challenge activities have continued by mailing families monthly recreational, socially interactive, and educational packets so they may still participate, since COVID-19 restrictions limit face to face club meetings. The 4-H Cloverbud group is continuing to meet monthly via Zoom and plans have begun for the annual 4-H camp. Due to COVID restrictions, the usual resident camp at Upham Woods may not occur, but a day camp event may be hosted as an alternative. Harris also noted they are in the process of designing four new family challenge categories in an effort to encourage participation. Additional programs Harris highlighted include the Discover 4-H Project Series and the 4-H Science Explorers: Scientists Live.

7f. Human Development and Relationships Extension Educator Report

Area UW-Extension Director Chrissy Wen gave a brief overview of Kostman's hard work on current and future programming. Included in the packet are opportunities open to anyone in the state to engage in these programs. Discussion followed.

Reports/announcements by Chairperson- There were none.

Confirmation of next meeting: The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, April 26, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion by FSA Representative Travis, second by Citizen Member Papcke, Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.