Chair Kilkenny called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present: Chair Dan Kilkenny, Vice Chair Charlene Staples, Supervisor Nancy Russell, Citizen Member Kathleen Papcke and FSA Representative Sharon Travis. A quorum was declared.

**Others in Attendance**

**County staff:** Area Extension Director Christine Wen; Agriculture Educator Jim Versweyveld; County Administrator David Bretl

**Members of the public:** Chelsea Fibert and Andrew Phillips, Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA)

On motion by Vice Chair Charlene Staples, seconded by FSA Representative Sharon Travis, the agenda was approved by voice vote with no withdrawals.

Supervisor Nancy Russell made a motion, seconded by FSA Representative Travis, to approve the June 17, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment – There was none.

**Unfinished Business**

- Dissolution of the Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committees (WACEC) and the creation of a new entity – Wisconsin Extension Association (WEXA)

Area Extension Director Christine Wen introduced WCA representatives Chelsea Fibert and Andrew Phillips and asked them to discuss the proposed change. Phillips said WEXA will maintain the same mission as WACEC. The biggest change will be WCA taking over the fiscal and administrative responsibilities from the elected representatives who currently volunteer their time. Under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes, WCA needs approval from at least 80% of WACEC members to approve the transition. Kilkenny asked if WCA is looking for a resolution to approve the dissolution from the County. Andy said they do not need a resolution. The five members of this committee have the ability to individually approve the dissolution of WACEC without the consent of the County Board. The creation of WEXA does not need committee approval and will take place organically, with the option for this Committee to join WEXA in the future. Russell asked about payment for membership in WEXA for this committee. Fibert said all funds that are currently in WACEC will be transferred to WEXA, so payments would come from WEXA’s account. Phillips added there is a current dues schedule set up and there is a contract between WEXA and WCA for managing funds and providing administrative support. Kilkenny asked how much we currently pay for WACEC membership and Wen replied it is $50. Phillips added he believed the amount would stay the same for WEXA. He explained the transition is taking place due to UW-Extension no longer wanting to be included in the fiscal aspect of operations. Chair Kilkenny made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Staples, to allow committee members to express their individual approval of the dissolution of WACEC. Motion carried 5-0. Fibert distributed the signature form required to show approval of dissolution to all committee members to sign at their discretion. Phillips announced there will be a WCA meeting September 23, 2019 to discuss the changes and he emphasized all committee members are welcome to attend.
New Business

- Resignation of Russ Tronsen, AEE School Superintendent Representative
  Wen said Russ Tronsen suggested Jennifer Strauss as his replacement for the Education Representative position. Strauss has expressed interest in the position. Vice Chair Staples asked if because she is the interim principal currently, should the committee wait to appoint the position until she is hired permanently? She also asked if the position was offered to any other area principals. Wen said it was not because Tronsen had found a replacement. Discussion took place regarding waiting to appoint a new representative. **Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Russell, to accept the resignation of Russ Tronsen as AEE School Superintendent Representative. Motion carried 5-0.**

Reports

- Educator Report – Jim Versweyveld, Agriculture Extension Educator
  Versweyveld distributed an update as of September 9, 2019, and gave an overview of the programs that have taken place since November. He also announced upcoming programs, including one at the Farm Aid concert at Alpine Valley in East Troy on September 21, 2019. There will be a Harvest Hazards training as well on September 30, 2019. He gave an overview of what he has been working on recently, including the Dairy Breakfast, Walworth County Fair, Wisconsin Farm Show, the World Dairy Expo, etc. Vice Chair Staples asked about the response to the Farm Rescue programs. He said over 100 people attended the first night and at least seven agencies were represented. The turnout was much better than anticipated and some important discussions took place, especially regarding children and animals. He is hoping to continue these trainings in the future. FSA Representative Travis suggested inviting farmers to the trainings in the future, as farmers are usually the first people on the scene of farm accidents.

- UW-Extension outreach and educational events
  Kilkenny asked if there were any questions regarding upcoming events. There were none.

Reports/announcements by Chair – There were none.

**Confirmation of Next Meeting:** Monday, November 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

**On motion and second by FSA Representative Travis and Citizen Member Papcke, Chair Kilkenny adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m.**

Submitted by Betsy Stanek, Administrative Assistant. Meeting minutes were approved by the Committee on November 18, 2019.