

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**Ashland County Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting**  
**September 28, 2016 9:00am**  
**Ashland County Extension Office**

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Kathy Schutte at 9:02am.

Members Present: George Mika, Martin Vitek, and Kathy Schutte

Members Excused: Charlie Ortman and Norm Couture

Others Present: Tom Wojciechowski, Amy Tromberg, and Doug Liphart

**Approval of Minutes**

George moved to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2016 meeting. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Comments** - None

**Agent Reports**

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

<b><u>CNRED</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom highlighted August 13<sup>th</sup> Clean Sweep Hazardous Waste collection in Ashland and Glidden, 147 people came through. Meds collection, filled a 55 gallon drum of medications (after being removed from packages), and 5 pounds of prescription drugs.</li> <li>• Tom assisted with coordinating and attended a Fab Lab (fabrication laboratory) event with about 65 people at WITC put on by WIN-LS. Key speakers were Don Sidlowski and folks from UW-Stout; sounds like a number of local schools will be applying for a state grant of \$25,000 which needs to be matched, this would cover the 6 main Fab Lab machines and hands on curriculum.</li> <li>• Working with AADC, held a meeting about 2 weeks ago in Mellen about Economic Development, to learn what AADC &amp; UWEX could do to help support people in the southern part of the county, did a modified SWOT analysis. Enough interest to hold another one in about 3 weeks. One of the big issues is broadband. Glidden Area Development is holding an economic development fair on Oct 8<sup>th</sup> from 11am-5pm.</li> </ul>
<b><u>4-H</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the school year Doug gives leadership programs in grades 3 through 8, on average of 3 times per year – open to all schools, programs, charter, gifted and talented, OLL, etc. Provides hands-on workshops that kids might not get elsewhere in school.</li> <li>• Teen Court work continues, in past they were able to work with the Brief Intervention Referral for Treatment Program (BIRT) (a great program that isn't funded anymore), now setting up to work with Sharon Esala with Northlakes.</li> <li>• Another three Successful Elementary Adventure Days this summer.</li> <li>• Running a climbing day on Oct 8<sup>th</sup>, looking at Bad River groups and parents and families who were interested in Outdoor Adventure after the Elementary Adventure Days.</li> </ul>

Handed out Jason Fischbach agent report.

Pete arrived at 9:29am.

**1. 2017 County Budget Request - Update**

- Tom reported that the 2017 County Budget Request is submitted as approved at last meeting, Jeff has reviewed it and met with Tom briefly. Pete was at finance meeting on Tuesday and the van was mentioned. Jeff was looking at a lend/lease instead of straight out purchase.

Pete left 10am.

## **2. Child Development & Economic Development**

- Nothing New – move to next month.

## **3. Ashland County Fair Update & Parking**

- George reported that they had a dry fair, good weather. The 4-H pie auction went well and youth showed 6 steer.
- Some gravel showed up, maybe by Fair Board?
- Kathy S. reported that the raffle went well, and will do it again next year. Next Fair Board Meeting is in October so will hear final numbers then.
- Three new events were successful – donkey baseball, hypnotist, and lumber jack show.
- Doug reported that the number of youth entries were similar to the past few years, but thought that this year had higher quality entries.

## **4. Opportunities for Engaging Youth**

- Tom read a recent news article on Eau Claire County moving forward with youth on local government committees. Share, check out and discuss at next meeting.

## **5. UWEX Restructuring Updates**

- Tom asked if county board members are receiving information.
- Tom was in Stevens Point on Monday for nEXT Generation Workgroup meeting. They learned that they are trying to speed up the restructuring process. Originally laid out as 10 weeks for this, 10 weeks for that etc. which took them to July, now they want to have plans by Feb and then implemented by next July.
- Tom has another in person CNRED work group meeting in 3 weeks, also doing weekly conference calls.

## **6. UWEX Administration – New Dean**

- Rich Klemme has been asked to leave by Nov 1. Karl Martin will be Interim Dean, past CNRED Program Director.
- Karl Martin spoke at WCA conference.

## **7. Comprehensive Plan & Farmland Preservation Plan**

- Final drafts are available online, Volume 1 Comprehensive Plan Background Document, Volume 2 Vision & Goals, and Volume 3 Farmland Preservation Plan.
- Tom Fratt has to send all three volumes to DATCP by Friday, September 30, and they will be reviewed.
- Once Volume 2 with Vision, Goals and Action Steps is passed, we will make a list of action steps for each committee and give to each committee.
- George asked if the Volume 1 Background Document was new or old, Tom W. replied that this is new data, maps, charts etc.
- George stated that the committee wants to keep this handy & use it; not let it sit on the shelf.

## **8. Energy Independence**

- NGLVC now has their solar array up and running, 100 kilowatts, about the size we thought the courthouse would need.
- George would like to see solar included in the potential new jail.

**9. Civil Rights Review 11/3/2016**

- Every 5 or 6 years every UWEX office in the state gets a civil rights review, federally required due to federal funding being involved. Ashland County UW-Extension is scheduled for Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be quite a bit of time, seems focused on our paperwork.

**10. Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) Report**

- Kathy S. attended for Ashland County. Kathy S. shared a list of sessions that she attended and discussion ensued. Kathy S. shared pins.
- Reported that New County Board members can go for free, keep in mind for next year.

**11. Approve Vouchers**

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

**12. Other Business** – None

**13. Next Meeting Dates** – Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup>, at 10am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:16am

Respectfully submitted by Amy Tromberg