

APPROVED MINUTES
Ashland County Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
October 26, 2016 10:00am
Ashland County Extension Office

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Charlie Ortman at 10:05am.

Members Present: George Mika, Martin Vitek, Charlie Ortman, Pete Russo and Kathy Schutte

Members Excused: Norm Couture

Others Present: Tom Wojciechowski, Amy Tromberg, Joy Schelble, Matt Cogger, Kathy Beeksma, Heidi Ungrodt and Doug Liphart

Approval of Minutes

George moved to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2016 meeting. Pete seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments – Heidi Ungrodt introduced herself, she has worked with Bayfield County Interim Family Living Program from 2007-2012, more recently working with WNEP, and now has the opportunity to do a Family Living job share with Kathy B. starting November 1st.

Agent Reports

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

<u>CNRED</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom helped coordinate with WIN-LS, and attended, a FabLab event, about 65 people attended a 6 hour workshop that included tours of the AHS charter school & WITC. Gets youth engaged in problem solving and using technology to design and manufacture to solve a problem. State money available through WEDC to get state funding, most schools who attended were going to apply for this round of grants. Tie in with education and economic development. • Last week he facilitated a World Café style meeting for WIB, Workforce Investment Board, 35-40 people attended. A lot of issues raised, hope to get a report and future survey/ issues to look into. A spin off of the RiSE meetings, will continue. • Good news regarding broadband, CenturyLink accepted CALF, 2 sources of funding but have 6 years to implement funding. 779 Bayfield exchange will begin work early spring, Washburn, Barksdale & Glidden possible construction next summer, and Park Falls toward Butternut on the ground work already.
<u>FRTEP</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's harvest season, very busy as shown in written report. • Attended National FRTEP conference earlier this month in Flagstaff, AZ. Competitive grant funding, will need to re submit in 2017. • Cider pressing and venison meatball making with Bad River youth. Also gleaning orchards, take all apples left on the trees, and using for cider, dehydrating apples etc. • New Native American Middle School club, event today with pumpkins, squash and apples. (1/2 day at school every other Wed again, using that time for programing.) • Bad River is creating a Food Sovereignty Head position. • Joy explained about tea garden and Stevia plant, using in place of sugar. • Working with a couple of Native American groups to teach traditional lacrosse. The new Native American Club will also be doing some lacrosse, and she has done two days with Head Start. Set aside housing grant money for kids to make traditional lacrosse sticks. Charlie asked about the potential of a Lacrosse 4-H Club like 4-H CANSKI?
<u>Ag</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Fischbach reported and discussed questions for 10 minutes via conference call. • High tunnel report, there are over 70 high tunnels in Ashland & Bayfield Counties.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major questions is: How to make the most of these tunnels to extend the season, especially in winter months? Last year wrote a grant to evaluate spinach, funded and officially starts November 1, already going to count this fall season. Grant is for Ashland, Washburn & Drummond. However the Ashland high tunnel needs to be moved, hope to participate next year. Currently at a 3rd location in Mason. Each high tunnel has a variety of different spinach. Different light and heat treatments. Will be harvesting throughout the winter. Hope to have a production manual and economic development information as result. Tom W. asked about hazelnut harvest, Jason reported a good harvest, over 400+ plants, and said they hope to have results of trial by end of 2017.
<u>Hort</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matt presented a slideshow on his two week Armenia trip in August. Might go back in March. Raspberry Production in Armenia, had PowerPoint translated into Armenian and worked with interpreter while there. Worked with a group of Village Grandmas, they put together dried fruit, apricots and figs, doing pretty well, looking at diversifying to raspberries. A lot of pesticide questions, used but no directions, need pesticide trainings. Fertilizer available, able to make a few nutrient management plans etc.
<u>FL / WNEP</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lot of changes since she was here last. Change in Kathy B's job, as of October 17th no longer WNEP/ FoodWise Coordinator. Now full time Family Living Educator in Ashland & Iron Counties. State is planning on posting a full time Nutrition Coordinator position for Ashland, Bayfield & Iron Counties. Kathy B. is continuing on in Regional Associate role, including Department Head for Washburn County, so in Spooner one day a week. Kathy B. attended Cancer Clear and Simple conference & 2 day training to become a Master Trainer for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE). Will need to conduct events here regarding these topics over the next year.
<u>4-H</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom & Doug both working on Department Head roles and prep for Civil Rights Review. Doug and Amy working on annual and year end paperwork including 4-H Charters. Doug has been writing recommendations for youth for scholarships, college etc. Working on state teams, doesn't have software he thinks they need. Recruiting for Superior Days, 5 or 6 kids – looking for scholarships for kids to attend. Doug presented about Teen Court / restorative justice at high school & updated folks who have had position changes at the schools and police department about Teen Court. Met with Health & Human Services & Northlakes for another AODA option since BIRT (Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment) funding is gone. Teen Court already sent 2 youth to/ through new AODA program. Tring to get funding to attend Colors Training, has been on his professional development list for 9 years. Continued work on building relationships including transitioning the Outdoor Adventure 4-H Club. Had a call that someone wants to donate 60 pairs of skis for 2 school groups with affiliation with 4-H CANSKI. Reached 281 kids with youth leadership in the schools this fall.

Handed out Jason Fischbach agent report.

Pete left at 10:18am; Joy left at 10:31am; Kathy S. arrived 11:15am; Kathy B & Heidi left 10:40am.

1. 2017 County Budget Request – Update

- Tom and Charlie think that the budget as presented will be submitted to the full County board on November 14, which includes a new van for 4-H.
- Tom W. asked that if questions come up at the county board meeting, that our committee members answer questions.

2. Child Development & Economic Development

- Jay Moylihan topic –we could see if he could come here or get his materials to run a presentation. Charlie said the goal is to get the full board to support a Birth to 5 program. Tom W. suggested having staff meet and see what we should do. Doug said that sometimes it is helpful to have an outside source/ person come in. George recommended doing as a full board retreat topic maybe in February. Doug suggested doing an in depth session, then have someone present like 10-15min version at the full board meeting to get to everyone. Kathy B. asked about having Jay up for a day retreat with board and do an evening program for the public, check with WIB and Northlakes about helping to sponsor his travel. Discussion continued about youth, prevention and jail costs.

3. Opportunities for Engaging Youth

- Nothing new

4. UWEX Restructuring Updates

- Tom W. was at meetings the last two days with Karl Martin, new Dean, who was CNRED Program Leader. This morning conference call with Doug, Tom W, and Kathy B. said they will be putting out a new timeline with workgroups having work done in 2 weeks. Then a new group will be working in December & January to come up with options after reviewing all of the workgroups work, 20-30 hours per week. Then review and feedback by April, implement July 1, 2017.
- Charlie had a WACEC meeting and forwarded two questions onto Karl Martin.
- Kathy B. had a regional directors meeting last two days, a lot of reassurance especially in regards to the mission, Wisconsin Idea.
- Chancellor has 3 buzz words, relevant, flexible and digital. Karl had 3 buzz words this morning: Mission (WI Idea), Product, and People.

5. Comprehensive Plan & Farmland Preservation Plan Update

- Submitted, got feedback from DTCAP that we are administratively complete. If we get back in time put on November full County Board meeting, otherwise have to schedule a December County Board meeting.

6. Energy Independence

- Tom W. gave update: John Hochkammer, WI County Association, lead person on PACE, he was in Douglas County last month, they are implementing PACE, updating facilities with renewables and it enables businesses to make these upgrades without money up front. Sherri Gruder strongly recommended Ashland do this too. Tom is trying to get ordinance wording from James Anderson, Douglas County CNRED.

7. Civil Rights Review 11/3/2016

- Review is next week, Thursday, November 3rd.
- We have to do this about every five years because of our Federal partners. One example is the EEO/AA statement at the bottom of our letterhead on meeting notice. This time the review seems more focused on paperwork, outreach, etc. regarding underserved audiences.

8. Economic Development Fair in Glidden Report

- Kathy S. attended 2.5 hours at Glidden Economic Development Fair. Brought back two brochures, one for a handicap boat landing project. Glidden was very glad to see a County Board representative attend, it was very busy with probably 50 people attending.

- Tom W. has a meeting at Town of Morse town hall tomorrow night as a follow up meeting from this summer in Mellen.

9. Approve Vouchers

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

10. Other Business – Charlie is going to WACEC in Stevens Point on Friday.

11. Next Meeting Dates – Our next meeting is scheduled for December 15th, 9:30am.
(Meeting moved to Dec 20th).

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm
Respectfully submitted by Amy Tromberg