

MINUTES APPROVED - April 10, 2015
AG & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
UW-Extension, Rolling Hills Complex, Room 220, Sparta, WI
Thursday, March 12, 2015

Meeting was called in accordance with open meeting law requirements.

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nodji Van Wychen at 1:02 pm.

Members present were: Nodji VanWychen, Wallace Habhegger, James Schroeder, Gail Chapman, and David Pierce. Agents present were: Bill Halfman. Others present were: Bob Micheel, Land Conservation Department. Member(s) absent: Joshua Goede, Monroe County 4-H Youth Development Agent, Alli Karrell, Deke Slayton Space & Bicycle Museum Executive Director and Jarrod Roll, Monroe County Local History Room Director

Motion was made by David Pierce to accept the minutes for the past meeting as printed. Seconded by Gail Chapman. Motion carried. 5-0.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 10, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Monroe County Extension Office, Rolling Hills Conference Room 220, Sparta.

THE DEKE SLAYTON MEMORIAL SPACE AND BIKE MUSEUM REPORT— No Report Given

LOCAL HISTORY ROOM REPORT— No Report Given

RESOLUTION TO PAY FOR SOIL CONSERVATION PROJECTS AT COUNTY FARM FROM CREP FUND—

DISCUSSION/ACTION—Motion made by James Schroeder to forward to Finance Committee and Monroe County Board to authorize use of up to \$21, 281.40 from the CREP Program Restricted Fund for soil conservation projects at the County Farm. Seconded by David Pierce. Motion carried. 5-0.

COUNTY FARM EDUCATION FUNDS - No Discussion.

EXTENSION OFFICE BUSINESS AND BILLS

> Agent Program and Updates/Reports

The Extension educators provided education current programs/impacts. Motion made by Gail Chapman to accept agent program reports and review office expenditures. Seconded by Wallace Habhegger. Motion carried. 5-0 (reports attached)

> Update on Family Living Agent Preliminary Interviews - Ag Agent Halfman informed the committee that preliminary interviews were scheduled for March 18th. Upon their completion, and candidates are identified to invite to a final interview, a final interview date will be set.

> Use of Community Resource Development (CRD) Non-Lapsing Account—Motion made by David Pierce to support use of CRD non lapsing account funds for office technology for educational use upgrades. Seconded by Wallace Habhegger. Motion carried. 5-0.

> Summer Assistant—Motion made by David Pierce to support use of salary savings from Family Living Agent vacancy for hiring a summer assistant, similar to last year. Seconded by Gail Chapman. Motion carried. 5-0.

Motion was made to adjourn by Wallace Habhegger, seconded by David Pierce and approved on a 5-0 vote at 1:52 p.m.

Bill Halfman, Recording Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING USE OF CONSERVATION RESERVE
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FUNDS

WHEREAS: Resolution No. 3-02-5 authorized application for the Wisconsin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) under a perpetual conservation easement plan for a portion of the Beaver Creek corridor lying upon the Monroe County Farm; and

WHEREAS: funds have been collecting in a non-lapsing account for the purpose of conservation enhancement due to the enrollment in the CREP program; and

WHEREAS: the Land Conservation Department has identified the following practices to be implemented on the Monroe County Farm that would directly impact the Beaver Creek Corridor:

- 1) Stream crossing improvement.
- 2) Three grass waterway systems with culvert protection and tiling on one.
- 3) Water & Sediment Control basin.

WHEREAS: the Agriculture & Extension Education Committee is the committee of jurisdiction and approves use of the CREP Funds for the proposed conservation activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Monroe County Board of Supervisors approves spending up to \$21,281.40 from the CREP Program Restricted Fund for the Conservation activities set out above.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2015.

OFFERED BY THE AG & EXTENSION COMMITTEE

Nodji Van Wychen
David A. Puccio
Lail Chapman

James L. Schroeder
Walter H. Hoyer

Committee Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No.

Statement of purpose: To conduct conservation activities for the county farmland. Due to these funds being restricted in use a simple majority vote is required for passage.

Fiscal Note: Authorizes use of up to \$21,281.40 from the CREP program funds for conservation enhancement. There is \$35,363.95 in the fund as of March 24, 2015.

Drafted and approved as to form by Corporation Counsel _____



Monroe County Extension Office
14345 County Hwy. B, Room 1
Sparta, WI 54656
608-269-8722
608-269-8767 (FAX)
800-947-3529 (TTY)

Bill Halfman, Agriculture Agent

Agriculture Extension Update February 14, 2015 to March 13, 2015

The annual Winter Crops Update workshop for farmers was held on Feb 19th at Sparta. We tried a new format with only a half day workshop rather than all day. We had 30 people in attendance, the weather that day was bad, and as a result 10 more people who pre-registered did not attend. Presentations were on precision ag opportunities in west central Wisconsin, a grain price outlook, and managing spray drift with a live demonstration of different types of nozzles.

A number of farm visits were conducted to area Amish greenhouses to check their water pH and see how things were getting off to a start this year. A few new greenhouses have been built.

Private Pesticide Certification workshops have been wrapped up for Monroe County.

The Ag Agent presented information at the Monroe County Towns Association meeting on what the IOH Ag CMV permits looked like, and what parts they were responsible for. This was not a happy audience on this topic.

The Annual Fresh Market Produce Workshop was cancelled due to inclement weather predicted for that day. The weather forecast was wrong. We will not be able to re-schedule the entire meeting. The Ag Agent will work with the specialists to present the GAP certification information either this spring or early summer, and will work with the specialists to conduct a field walk or two this summer.

Upcoming Events- more to be added as they get finalized

- Mar 17 IOH Ag CMV workshop for farmers
- Mar 18-20 Agronomy Conference- Fargo N.D.
- Mar 26-27 UWEX SW Region In-Service
- Mar 26 Western WI Beef Producers Board Meeting
- Mar 27 Fresh Market Produce Workshop- Hancock- presenter
- Apr 9 Garden Workshop- Tomah Hospital

Joshua L. Goede



Community Learning Centers

I have made five visits to each school and am starting the March rounds. We will be looking at space and putting the planets in order and to scale. Sparta's Meadowview School will be looking at Geographic Information Systems in April. Plans are beginning to take shape at Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton on lessons to help facilitate the continuation and impact of the school garden.

Jr. Leadership Program

The youth are doing more work to create their April Presentation on Local Agriculture. It has been an interesting process but a good exercise in decision making. The youth were not able to attend the Madison Visit as they both had other obligations one out of state and the other out of country.

Ft. McCoy

Tech Wizards mentoring program is needing to be re-staffed. We are currently looking for a volunteer to work with the group there.

Committees

The agent is working on reinstating the committee structure of the program. We are currently deciding what is expected from each committee and what the responsibility of each member on the committees is. There is the framework of a time line being developed as well.

By-Laws

The Agent is working with the Board to build an up to date set of by laws that include all current policies.

2015 Plat Books

The 2015 Plat Book are in the office and distributed in the county. We continue to have good sales. We were also able to publish wall maps of townships and sell them at cost since many of our clubs meet in town halls.

Advanced Space Camp

Wow, the trip was a success on all fronts. The youth having never met before were able to form a cohesive group and work together. The two Monroe County youth attending learned a lot and were able to become part of the group and have made connections for future 4-H events.

New Club

Denim 'n Dust the new club in the Cataract area has continued with its weekly open gym nights. They are pulling upwards of 40 community people to each event.

Youth Protection Training

The Agent has completed another class of Youth Protection Training helping to strengthen our volunteer core.

Shooting Sports

Air Rifle has had two meetings there are 10 youth participating in the practices. Shotgun and .22 will be six weeks in April and May. The focus will include non-shooting educational experiences when the youth are not on the line. We will continue trying to stream line the lectures and get the kids on the line as soon as possible.