

MINUTES APPROVED JUNE 12, 2015
AG & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
UW-Extension, Rolling Hills Complex, Room 220, Sparta, WI
Friday, May 8, 2015

Meeting was called in accordance with open meeting law requirements.

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nodji Van Wychen at 9:05 AM.

Members present were: Nodji VanWychen, Wallace Habegger, James Schroeder (arrived at 9:15 AM), Gail Chapman, and David Pierce. **Agents present were:** Bill Halfman and Joshua L. Goede. **Member(s) absent:** Alli Karrels, Deke Slayton Space & Bicycle Museum Executive Director and Jarrod Roll, Monroe County Local History Room Director.

Motion was made by Gail Chapman to accept the minutes for the past meeting as printed. Seconded by David Pierce. Motion carried. 4-0-1.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Local History Room and Deke Slayton Space and Bicycle Museum.

THE DEKE SLAYTON MEMORIAL SPACE AND BIKE MUSEUM REPORT — No report given.

LOCAL HISTORY ROOM REPORT — No report given. Jarrod and Alli were not in attendance due to field trip visitors from a school to the History Room and Museum today.

COUNTY FARM EDUCATION FUNDS

> Discussion of Other Potential Projects – no discussion.

EXTENSION OFFICE BUSINESS AND BILLS

> **Agent Program and Updates/Reports**

The Extension educators (4-H Youth Development and Agriculture) provided education current programs/impacts. Motion made by David Pierce to accept agent program reports and approve review of office expenditures. Seconded by Wallace Habegger. Motion carried. 5-0 (reports attached)

> **Update on Family Living Agent position**—Ag Agent Halfman indicated that the hiring process was now complete and that Erin Eggert would begin as the new Family Living agent on July 1, 2015.

> **Update on Summer Assistant position**—Ag Agent Halfman and 4-H and Youth Development Agent Goede indicated that Brittany Meyers would be the summer assistant, and begins on June 8, 2015, and work through late August.

> **Report on Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Program**—Annette Trescher gave an overview of the Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) she attended in Washington D.C., representing UW-Extension and indicated it was a very educational and worthwhile opportunity.

Motion was made to adjourn by David Pierce, seconded by Wallace Habegger and approved on a 5-0 vote at 9:57 a.m.

—Bill Halfman, Recording Secretary

Joshua L. Goede



Community Learning Centers

I am working on my final rounds for the 14-15 School year. We grew seeds in zip lock baggies from April and will be doing a photography activity to get outside in May. I am also signed up to help the Tomah Agriculture students look into doing Agriculture programming in the Tomah afterschool program. This should be a great way to build leadership in the Ag students as they bring STEM into the afterschool classroom.

Crawford Monroe Vernon Leadership Program

The youth did an outstanding job presenting their issue of local agriculture. The program was also well received as Will and I hosted a presentation and poster session to our colleagues at JCEP. The three counties were applauded for bringing youth into the fold of the program.

Ft. McCoy

Tech Wizards mentoring program is still needing to be re-staffed. We have not had a volunteer step forward to work with this program. We will be going out with the summer assistant to plan our summer outreach at the base.

Committees

The agent is working on reinstating the committee structure of the program. We have cemented some important expectations of the committees. We are still working on getting our timeline nailed down. We also want to see the committees gain autonomy so they are decision makers in the program.

By-Laws

The Executive Board will meet in August to create the 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. The full size wall maps have proven to be popular items as well.

Youth Protection Training

The Agent will do two more sessions on May 12 & 14. These are to help out LaCrosse County as Families are signing up to host exchange students this summer.

Shooting Sports

Shotgun and .22 rifle has two meetings left there are 9 youth participating in the practices. Shotgun and .22 are held with the help of the Cataract Sportsmen's Club.

JCEP

The Agent attended and presented at the annual JCEP conference. The presentations were around the CMV Leadership Program. The Agent also learned some great ideas that may find their way into county programming such as using outdoor adventure to learn leadership skills. The other really great idea was a day long immersion into agriculture in the "Pizza Plunge" Middle School kids were taken to local ag installations that dealt with ingredients in a pizza. A wheat farm, a dairy farm, a college green house, and then the extension office to talk about canning. The Agent will be looking into this idea further to see about feasibility in Monroe County.

Joshua L. Goede



Junior Leaders

The Jr. Leaders are gearing up for summer and planning their Ice Cream Booth for the fair. Their next project is to revamp the Native Garden next to Wesco. The ambassadors are also coming back we have held interviews for three and hope to have 6 by Dairy breakfast, as they will be assisting us in the education tent. They will also have new jobs to help promote 4-H in the county.

Space Camp

On April 16-20 The Agent finished his two year term as Counselor Facilitator. He went with an entourage of 150+ Wisconsin 4-H members and leaders for a three day adventure to Space Camp. This is an important opportunity for WI 4-H to build an interest in and love for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Fur, Fin & Feather

On April 11, Monroe County hosted a small animal fun show for over 100 people at Sparta's Barney Center. It was the largest enrollment and turnout in the show's 25 year history.

Capitol Connections

Capitol Connections was held April 30th in Madison. The Agent and Supervisor VanWychen were accompanied by four 4-Hers from Monroe County. We were addressed by Cathy Sandeen, Chancellor of the UW Colleges and Extension as well as Rick Klemme, Dean of UW Cooperative Extension. After lunch we visited Julee Lassa's office as well as Nancy Vander Meer. The youth were impressed with the event and thought it was cool to get to see their elected officials. The elected official were warm and listened well to the Extension stories. Nancy invited an invitation to judge our fall Youth Award Trip Interviews.

Summer Assistant

Brittany Meyers will be starting on June 8th as the 2015 Summer Assistant. Brittany is from the Cashton area. She will be graduating in December with an Elementary Education and Special Education Degree and License. She is excited to work on our programming this summer. She also looks forward to meeting our youth and learning more about 4-H and Extension.

Upcoming Events

Mon May 4, 2015

**6pm Shotgun & .22
practice at**

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club

**6:30pm Denim n Dust club
meeting**

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club,
Cataract WI

**6:45pm Executive Board
Meeting at UWEX Smart
Room**

Where: UWEX Smart Room

7pm Leon Livewires

**Meeting at Leon
Community Center**

Where: Leon Community Center, Leon
WI 54656

Tue May 5, 2015

3:30pm NOW CLC

Where: Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton
Elementary School

Wed May 6, 2015

**6:30pm Camp Counselor
training**

Where: Rolling Hills Activity Room

Sat May 9, 2015

**7am-4pm Denim n' Dust
Garage Sale**

**10am-11am Med link on
site, barring weather or
medical emergencies**

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club,
Cataract WI

Sun May 10, 2015

**2pm Norwalk Clovers
Meeting**

Where: Norwalk Village Hall

**5pm LaGrange Tunnel-
Lites at Greenfield Town**

Joshua L. Goede



Hall

Where: Greenfield Town Hall, Tunnel City WI

7pm Dog Training

Where: Rolling Hills, Sparta

7:15pm Dog Training

Where: Cattle Barn/Recreation Park Tomah

Mon May 11, 2015

6pm Shotgun & .22 practice

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club

6pm Horse Project Meeting

Where: Rolling Hills Complex

Tue May 12, 2015

3:30pm Maplewood CLC

Where: Maplewood Elementary School

Thu May 14, 2015

CMV Leadership

Description: Community Development and Graduation, Gays Mills

Fri May 15, 2015

4:30pm Livestock ID's due to the database or in the office

Where: UWEX Office or <http://counties.uwex.edu/monroe/?p=1661>

6pm Junior Leader's Meeting at the Community Garden by Wesco.

Where: Community Garden by Wesco/Sparta.

Mon May 18, 2015

3:30pm Lawrence Lawson CLC

Where: Lawrence Lawson Elementary

6pm Shotgun & .22 practice

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club

7:30pm Leader's Meeting

Where: Cashton Community Center

Tue May 19, 2015

3:30pm South Side CLC

Where: Southside Elementary

Wed May 20, 2015

6:30pm Camp Counselor Training

Where: Rolling Hills Activity Room

Sun May 24, 2015

2pm Hill-N-Valley Club Meeting

Where: Brookwood High School

7pm Dog Training

Where: Rolling Hills, Sparta

7:15pm Dog Training

Where: Cattle Barn/Recreation Park Tomah

Mon May 25, 2015

6:30pm West Beaver Creek Club Meeting

Where: Gospel Baptist Church

Mon Jun 1, 2015

6:30pm Denim n Dust Club Meeting

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club, Cataract WI

7pm Leon Livewires Meeting at Leon Community Center

Where: Leon Community Center, Leon WI 54656

Sun Jun 7, 2015

1:30pm Jolly Joiners Club Meeting

Where: Cashton High School Cafeteria

2pm Hoppy Trails Monthly Meeting

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church, 612 N Water St, Sparta, WI 54656, United States

7pm Dog Training

Where: Rolling Hills, Sparta

7:15pm Dog Training

Where: Cattle Barn/Recreation Park Tomah

Tue Jun 9, 2015

8pm Junior Livestock Meeting at Brookwood High School

Where: Brookwood High School

Wed Jun 10, 2015

6:30pm Councilor Training

Where: Rolling Hills Activity Room

Sun Jun 14, 2015

2pm Norwalk Clovers Club Meeting

Where: Norwalk Village Hall

5pm LaGrange Tunnel-Lites Club Meeting

Where: Greenfield Town Hall, Tunnel City WI

Wed Jun 17-20, 2015

2015 4H camp at Upham Woods

Where: Meet at Gordy's (Burnstad's) on the 17th at 12:30pm for drop off. Meet at Gordy's (Burnstad's) on the 20th at 11am for pick up

Sun Jun 21, 2015

7pm Dog Training

Where: Rolling Hills, Sparta

7:15pm Dog Training

Where: Cattle Barn/Recreation Park Tomah

Mon Jun 22, 2015

9am Clothing Preview

Where: Rolling Hills Auditorium

6:30pm West Beaver Creek Club Meeting

Where: Gospel Baptist Church

Thu Jun 25-28, 2015

Tomah Tractor Pulls

Where: Recreation Park/Tomah

2pm Hill-N-Valley Club Meeting at Brookwood High School

Where: Brookwood High School

Sun Jul 5, 2015

1:30pm Jolly Joiners monthly meeting

Where: Cashton High School Cafeteria/Cashton

Mon Jul 6, 2015

6:30pm Denim n Dust club meeting

Where: Cataract Sportsmen's Club, Cataract WI

7pm Leon Livewires Meeting at Leon Community Center

Where: Leon Community Center, Leon WI 54656

Sun Jul 12, 2015

2pm Norwalk Clovers Meeting

Where: Norwalk Village Hall/Norwalk

Joshua L. Goede



**5pm LaGrange Tunnel-
Lites at Greenfield Town
Hall**

Where: Greenfield Town Hall, Tunnel
City WI

Wed Jul 15, 2015

6pm 4-H Foods Review

Where: Sparta United Methodist
Church

Sat Jul 25, 2015

9am Fairgrounds set up

**day
12pm Mock Dog show after
ring set up at Monroe**

County Fairgrounds

Where: Monroe County Fairgrounds

Sun Jul 26, 2015

**2pm Hill-N-Valley Club
Meeting at Brookwood**

High School

Where: Brookwood High School

Mon Jul 27, 2015

**6:30pm West Beaver Creek
Club Meeting at Gospel
Baptist Church**

Where: Gospel Baptist Church

Wed Jul 29-Aug 2, 2015

Monroe County Fair

Where: Monroe County
Fairgrounds/Tomah



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 March 14, 2015 to May 8, 2015

An IOH Ag CMV update workshop was held on March 17th in Sparta to provide farmers and local government officials information on the permitting process for farm machinery on the roads. UW Extension Safety Specialist Cheryl Skjolas presented the information. There were approximately 55 people in attendance.

The Ag Agent did not attend the North Central Region Agronomy Conference in Fargo due to illness.

The Ag Agent gave a presentation at the Wisconsin Fresh Market Vegetable Growers Tomato and Sweetcorn workshop at Hancock addressing what we have learned working with the growers in the area producing tomatoes in high tunnel systems.

The Ag Agent worked with a Master Gardener to develop and present an introduction to gardening workshop at Tomah Hospital as part of their wellness programming.

Monroe County Shooting Sports Shotgun and .22 rifle project began meeting on April 13th. They will meet Mondays through May 18th. We have 10 youth participating in the project this year. The Ag Agent is the lead instructor in shotgun.

The Ag Agent has been working with the Ho-Chunk Tribe on their community garden project at Blue Wing.

Brian Hudelson, UW Extension Plant Disease Clinic Manager, came out and visited 12 greenhouses with the Ag Agent to inspect bedding plants and help the growers with any problems they have been having this year. A few instances of plant virus problems were identified.

The Ag Agent attended the UW Extension Fruit Team meeting where the year's activities were discussed and planned out.

The Ag Agent was instructor for a 4-H adult volunteer shotgun certification program at Phillips, WI on May 2. Eight adult volunteers were certified as adult shotgun instructors.

A number of farm visits were made to help troubleshoot problems and discuss potential improvements for their farm building and facilities.

The Ag Agent is working with three co-workers to develop some educational outreach in parasite management in bovine, to be delivered later this summer.

The Ag Agent worked with the Tomah Ag Program and FFA to rebuild the grain tug-o-war demonstration.

Calendar on Back

Upcoming Events- more to be added as they get finalized

May 16 FFA Tractor Driving Contest

May 19-21 County Leadership Conference

May 28 Farm visits with Ag Engineer

June 3 tentative fruit field day

June 6 Monroe County Dairy Breakfast

June 29-July 1 Tractor Safety

July 29- Aug 2 Monroe County Fair

Aug 5 Carcass Judging

Aug 11 Agronomy Field Day