

## Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee

*Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2016*

*11:00 a.m. – Erlandson Building – UW- Extension Conference Room*

Chairman Kevin Larson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. in the UW-Extension Conference Room. Present were: Larson, Mitchell, Easterday, Pulvermacher, Cook-Fuglsang, Jerdee, and Traastad.

The public meeting notice was emailed to the Vernon County Broadcaster and Vernon County Computer Department and faxed to the County Clerk on June 30, 2016 and the “Amended” agenda on July 7, 2016.

Mitchell moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the June 2016 minutes as amended to add the phrase “for transporting people” to the last sentence of the motion on use of the van. The finalized motion is as follows:

*Beitlich moved, Easterday seconded that since 4-H Youth Development programs require parents and volunteers transport youth for programs and prohibit the use of 12 / 15 passenger vans for this purpose, and where the county’s insurance company, Aegis Corporation, recommends not to use a 15 passenger van for transporting people, UW-Extension should immediately stop the use of the department’s 15 passenger van for transporting people.*

**Motion carried.**

The next meeting date for the committee is set for August 4, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in the UW-Extension Conference Room.

No visitors from the public were in attendance.

Election of committee officers not held since two members are not present. Will conduct election at the August meeting.

Committee reviewed June expenses. Easterday moved, Mitchell seconded to approve the June 2016 Office Operations expenses of \$1,116.09. **Motion carried.**

Mitchell moved, Easterday seconded to approve the June 2016 Teen Court expenses of \$750.00. **Motion carried.**

Discussion held on the department’s 15 passenger van. Mitchell moved, Easterday seconded to sell the van to the public utilizing the county’s bid process with the right of refusal to accept or reject the bids. **Motion carried.**

Traastad handed out a 6-month office operations budget report. This will lay the ground work for the 2017 budget development.

### **Cook-Fuglsang reported on WI Nutrition Education Program.**

-Living Faith food pantry: I taught at Living Faith this month. We have had to change our format do to some changes at the state level. We have been doing small classes and trying to catch people the rest of the afternoon in more of a “flip chart” format.

-Senior Series: Also have started my senior series in Readstown and Viroqua. The Senior series is a little different this year at the new Viroqua site because it was a “sign-up” and at a new site (over 50 club). So far participation has been great for both sites. We used the Senior Farmer Market Voucher distributions sites (our continued partnership with aging department) for advertising. We will also be doing them at Hillsboro at the senior meal site there.

-State participation: I have spent some time as a “reviewer” for the new format that they are developing for educator training.

-Family Fest: Collaborating in a new effort with “FIT Families” (part of the health dept/WIC), family living, and youth development to do a “family fest”. This is a systems based effort to connect our community with resources to close the obesity and malnutrition gap in our community (specifically with families of small children).

### **Lindsey Jerdee, Summer Intern, reported on planned activities for the summer:**

*Lindsey reported on what programs she was involved in.*

- 1) Lindsey was in charge of assisting last year’s state delegates and alternate(s) plan this year’s Clothing Revue. Clothing Revue was held on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 with 11 participants and 13 garments shown. Three delegates were chosen to represent Vernon County at the State Fair Clothing Revue. Christina Primmer, Mapledale Motivators/Route 56 4-H Club, Paula Fanta, Rainbow Reachers 4-H Club, and Teresa Falter, Nerison 4-H Club, were selected as delegates. Merit ribbons were awarded to participants for outstanding garments in their class. Members receiving merit ribbons were Abby Diehl, Christina Primmer, and Madison Kumlin.
- 2) Lindsey attended the pie/ice cream social and volunteer cookout on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. At the event she met new 4-H families and helped make the event go smoothly. There were scholarships, trip reports, and a presentation.
- 3) Lindsey has been involved in getting ready for 4-H camp at Upham Woods on July 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. She also had the opportunity to attend the camp counselor training that was held June 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Crawford County Fairgrounds where she had a chance to teach a lesson. At camp Lindsey will be with the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade group.
- 4) CHAT (Choose Health Action Teens) is a new program this year that focuses on teens teaching younger youth about healthy choices and fitness. Teens filled out applications and will be interviewed July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to have the opportunity to teach youth at the McIntosh Library in Viroqua. There will be a mandatory training on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at

Kickapoo Valley Reserve. CHAT members will also then participate in Family Fest in August.

### **Pulvermacher reported on June-July 2016 activities:**

Tractor Safety: Cindy plays a huge role in coordinating Tractor Safety, along with 7 Ag teachers, guest speakers, implement dealers and other community partners, 46 students participated in the 3 day class and all 46 students passed both the written and driving tests.

Camp: Counselor training went very well. There are 10 counselors, 4 from Vernon County. Preparations for camp are coming together nicely. The theme this year is *Let the Games Begin!* in honor of the summer Olympics. Next week there will be a teleconference for camp counselors and chaperones to review the schedule, clarify roles, and answer questions.

Clothing revue went well with 12 garments modeled and judged. Three delegates were selected for State Fair. Pat Peterson was the judge and did an excellent job of providing feedback for the youth and education for all attending.

Leader Retreat was held with 75% of clubs represented. Guest speaker was Bill Marohl teaching about fair entries and answering questions. Other topics included new process for volunteer orientation, new 4-H club charter forms and timeline, use of county van, ways to incorporate art into 4-H meetings, commodity carnival coming to the fair, raffle ticket sales, CHAT program and upcoming communication about countywide 50% minimum attendance requirement (effective Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>). Leaders expressed appreciation for the event and lingered long past the official ending.

Summer Social – This year our traditional pie and ice cream social was expanded to include a cookout and to honor volunteers. Fifty-two people attended and enjoyed the meal, scholarship presentations, trip reports, a presentation from Peter Nordin, State 4-H Office Outreach Assistant, who spoke about state, national and international opportunities for youth and adults.

Radio Ad Program – This is a fundraising and skill building opportunity for 4-H youth that have been funded on 4-H trips. These youth are expected to sell radio ads by approaching businesses and recording an ad on their behalf. The funds raised make future trips possible. Skills are gained in communication, time management, public speaking, creative writing and leadership.

CHAT/Family Fest – This collaborative program is continuing to develop. Five youth have applied to be CHATs and teach healthy living lessons. They will be interviewed today and attend a full day training Lindsey and I are developing. CHATs from Richland and Crawford County will be joining us. The healthy living lessons will be taught at McIntosh Library in early August.

Teen Court – Four youth were served this month for underage drinking, theft and marijuana charges.

nExt Generation Work Team – Colleen was selected to serve on a workteam focused on how Extension employees are trained, supported and mentored.

## **Traastad reported on Family Living Activities for June 2016.**

- ❖ The extra Summer Strong Women program is set for June 7<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup> and will be held at Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran church in Westby.
- ❖ The Dairy Breakfast on the Ocooch Dairy Farm, Hillsboro area had 2100 people in attendance. I worked with the Dairy Promotion Committee Chairman Jim Servais as well as the breakfast co-chairs of Jim Mlsna and Jason Oetzman and 20 sub-committee leaders and volunteers.

We had several on-the-farm meetings as well as work days Thursday and Friday. The run-through session was Thursday evening. But, gas tanks did not come so we could not prepare pancakes for cooker testing till Friday afternoon. Tear-down on Saturday took several hours for pack up. The truck of dairy promotion equipment came back to Viroqua on Monday. Cleaning and inventory of supplies started Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and continued into the next two weeks as time allowed. The date for the wrap-up meeting of breakfast sub-committee members is still to be set.

- ❖ Attending meetings and making contacts to work on upcoming events of:
  - Family Fest – August 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Food Preservation Canner Lid Testing
  - 2017 budget

Easterdy moved, Mitchell seconded to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**

**Minutes submitted by: Karen Ehle-Traastad**