

Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes – August 3, 2009

Chairman Herb Cornell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present ere: Cornell, Beitlich, McClelland, Larson, Easterday, Rehbein, Pulvermacher, Lenzendorf, Rhodes and Traastad.

The public meeting notice was sent to the Vernon County Broadcaster on July 20, 2009 and amended on July 29, 2009. It was sent to helpdesk, personnel office and county clerk's office on July 21, 2009 and amended July 29, 2009.

Beitlich moved, McClelland seconded to approve the minutes as sent. Motion carried.

The next meeting date will be September 14, 2009.

There were no visitors in attendance.

Beitlich moved, Larson seconded, to approve the MasterCard bill of \$96.93. Motion carried. McClelland moved, Larson seconded, to approve Teen Court expenses of \$621. Motion carried. Larson moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the monthly office expenses of \$1067.97. Motion carried.

Traastad reported registration is due for the district WACEC II meeting August 25, 2009. The 2009/2010 UW-Extension agent state contracts did not arrive yet, so no action taken.

Traastad and Rehbein described the state mandated 8-day furlough with affects state faculty and staff. It will mean a 3 percent reduction in salary for the state contract year of July 1, 2009 through June 31, 2010, for Traastad, Rehbein, Pulvermacher and Lenzendorf. Four of the days can be chosen by staff and four days are set Chancellor David Wilson for UW-Extension and the 2-year UW colleges.

Beitlich moved, McClelland seconded, for Traastad to absorb cuts to the 2010 office operation budget where needed to achieve a zero percent increase. Motion carried.

Traastad handed out a draft copy of the Comprehensive Plan Phase I for the committee and staff to review. Kelly Jacobs and Traastad led review and discussion of the document.

Pulvermacher reported briefly on July events and activities: Colleen expressed appreciation to those Ag and Extension Committee members who attended the 4-H pie and ice cream social. The featured event of the evening was presentations by older 4-H youth who have gone on award trips. The Dairy Fitting and Showing Clinic, organized by Julie Larson, was well attended and appreciated by many. Teen Court had three cases last month, and a first time jury of all males. Colleen spent a good deal of time working on the new requirement that all 4-H clubs have their own federal and state tax-exempt status and related tax reporting. Colleen has worked hard to simplify this process for leaders. Colleen, along with Katie, will be teaching Putting Your Best Foot Forward, an educational program for youth grades 8-10 about how to create a positive first impression, addressing issues such as dress, demeanor, grooming, speech, posture, etc. Eighteen youth are registered for this program, which will be held today.

Sonya Lenzendorf reported on July activities: Sonya passed around a copy of the Vernon County Food Resource brochure she recently finished. The brochure is currently available at the Extension office but will be put at other locations throughout the county in the future. The WNEP website has also been updated with food and nutrition resources. Continuing to work on curriculum for this coming school year and organizing a schedule.

Katie Rhodes reported on May, June and July activities:

May 13th - Parent/Leader Federation Meeting

I introduced myself and gave a little background on my 4-H experience. I presented a few of the program ideas that I had ready from my interview. The leaders were very helpful in giving me some hints as to the local recreation available as well as great volunteers.

June 7th - Youth Ambassadors Meeting

I introduced myself and gave a little background on my 4-H experience. I presented a few of the program ideas that I had ready from my interview. I had planned on presenting some great youth ambassador information and reviewing Parliamentary Procedure, but only three members were in attendance, so I modified a little.

June 8th - Ag & Extension Committee meeting

I introduced myself and gave a little background on my 4-H experience. I presented a few of the program ideas that I had ready from my interview. I have been traveling to the 4-H clubs to introduce myself, promote my programs, and get a feel for the 4-H program of Vernon County.

June 10th - Parent/Leader Federation Meeting

This last month I judged the Dairy Princess Contest and attended the Dairy Breakfast. I am working closely with Jennie Solverson and Brittany Young on coordinating the Clothing Review. I attended the District Meeting with Colleen last week and went through the Summer Agent Training. I have been attending club meetings to introduce and promote our summer programs. Events coming up are the International Foods Potluck, Picture This photography day, Teen Adventure Day, and a volunteer opportunity at Farm Technology Days. Camp is next week and I will be chaperoning the 7th and 8th grade girls.

July 6th - Ag & Extension Committee meeting

Colleen and I went to the State Youth Conference in Madison and presented the program "Putting your Best Foot Forward." This program is designed to prepare youth to make a good first impression as they enter the workforce. There were many positive reviews and Colleen has been encouraged to put the program on for our local youth. I helped chaperone at camp, and despite some tough situations I had a lot of fun. Clothing review went really well. Jennie Solverson and Brittany Young, last years State Fair delegates, helped in decorating and putting on the program for the evening. They were a big help to me as this was my first experience with clothing review. I helped out on test day for tractor safety and attended Area Animal Science Days (both new experiences for me). International Foods Potluck was canceled due to low registration. "Picture This!" photography day with Carolyn Solverson had 8 youth and 4 adults in attendance and went very well. Teen Adventure Day is this week as well as the Parent/Leader Federation Pie and Ice Cream Social. And we still need 4 youth to volunteer at Farm Technology Days on July 22nd.

At the Leaders Retreat in July I gave a presentation on how to keep older youth involved in their clubs. I used research from Ohio and Indiana State 4-H programs to let the leaders know what teens want from their clubs. The Picture This! Photography program went very well with 8 youth present. Teen Adventure day was moved to August 17th due to low registration. I attended the Parent/Leader Federation pie and ice cream social. Farm Technology Days was very fun. We took 7 youth and one adult along with myself to Dodge County and volunteered in the Family Farm Adventure Tent as well as got a chance to walk around the grounds and check out the exhibits. The softball tournament was cancelled due to low registration and feedback was given about making the date later in the summer. Wild and Wacky Weekday camp at KVR went very well with 9 youth attending. Explore GPS was a big hit and 14 youth attended the session taught by Gail Roberts, Jefferson County 4-H Youth Educator. For the rest of the month I will be working on Cloverbud camp and officer recognition.

McClelland moved, Larson seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried.