

Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes – October 12, 2009

Chairman Herb Cornell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were: Cornell, Beitlich, McClelland, Larson, Easterday, Rehbein and Pulvermacher. Karen Traastad was working with the Vernon County Home & Community organization hosting a regional training for HCE members.

The public meeting notice was sent to the Vernon County Broadcaster, County Clerk's office, Personnel office and Computer department on October 5, 2009.

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

The next meeting date is November 9, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

There were no visitors in attendance.

Easterday moved, McClelland seconded, to approve the Teen Court expenses of \$626.59. Motion carried.

Larson moved, Easterday seconded to approve the office operations expenses of \$4,290.86. Motion carried.

Beitlich moved, Easterday seconded, to add the van use charge of \$25 per day plus 60¢ a mile when approved groups use the UW-Extension department van. Motion carried.

Pulvermacher reported on September activities: Colleen attended a tenure orientation workshop in Stevens Point (university covered expenses). Colleen wrote her annual report to the county board highlighting new programs initiated this past year. Colleen and Cindy attended 4H4ME software training. This software will be very useful to 4-H club leaders. Colleen will teach the leaders how to use this software at the January Leader's Retreat. National 4-H week in Vernon County featured an open house, radio ads, a 4-H newspaper insert, a news release, delivery of appreciation baskets to the Vernon County Broadcaster and to WVRQ. Colleen was pleased to report that more volunteers are attending state and regional trainings. This month alone there have been 12 volunteers attending three different trainings, ranging from a regional volunteer training, photography camp, arts camp and fall forum. Colleen is very pleased that the 4-H Federation is generous in making these opportunities available by covering part or all of the costs. Colleen attended the carcass evaluation dinner. Colleen reported that she submitted a professional paper to the University Department of Youth Development on the Leader Retreats she has developed. This paper has been peer reviewed and was approved last week for publication. This accomplishment will be helpful to Colleen as she approaches the tenure process. Colleen reported that Teen Court adult volunteer training will be held today and 4 individuals are participating. Last month two cases were heard in Teen Court. There are three cases for Teen court tomorrow evening. Ag & Extension committee members are welcome to attend Teen Court sessions.

Rehbein reported on September activities: Met with the meat animal sale committee to prepare for the upcoming fair. New this year will be a different arrangement with the clerking of the sale. Badgerland Financial will still do the clerking but with more volunteer help from the committee and less financial risk to Badgerland. The vet schedule was developed for the fair and also the animal health check-in for the Wednesday of entry day was done. Dr. Birch from Hillsboro will be an assisting vet on entry day. Dr. Carl Solverson will be the lead vet. The meat animal auction was organized and carried out along with the animal harvest schedule. The carcass evaluation program was purposely put back one more week to allow for more time for buyers to pay their bills. The program will be held in October. Assisted several grape growers with finding a buyer for their 2009 grape crop. This is because a couple of wineries backed out on their verbal commitment to buy the grapes. Assisted Norse Star Jersey Farms in hosting tour from the Wisconsin Counties Association Convention which was being held in La Crosse. At state expense, attended a day training on the tenure process for UW-Extension employees held in Stevens Point. The meeting was for individuals who serve on SRP committees and for new agent mentor teams. Started a "recycling" program with City Brewery in La Crosse to recycle food grade 5 gallon buckets. They were disposing of the pails in their dumpster and new grape growers needed more pails for harvesting. The Extension Office gets them for free, but has to be the one picking them up. The pails are sold for \$0.50 each to cover the mileage to get the pails. Some recycling of 55 gallon food grade barrels is also taking place. Fees again are charged to cover the mileage costs.

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