

Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes – July 9, 2010

Chairman Herb Cornell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were: Cornell, Beitlich, McClelland, Larson, Easterday, Rehbein, Lenzendorf, Lauderdale and Holig.

The public meeting notice was sent to the Vernon County Broadcaster, County Clerk and Computer Department on June 28, 2010.

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

The next meeting date is August 10, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

McClelland moved, Larson seconded, to approve the June Teen Court expenses of \$651.85. Motion carried.

Beitlich moved, McClelland seconded, to approve the June office operations expenses and special account expenses of \$1908.51. Motion carried.

Lenzendorf reported on June activities: In June Sonya attended two trainings. One was a two-day state multi-cultural awareness training. This was a very good training that provided insight on your own culture as well as others and how to be aware of cultural differences in the work place. The district meeting was held in Janesville and was focused on WNEP curriculums and teachings. This month canned salmon was the food used at the New Hope food pantry. Sonya made a salmon spread/dip to share with food pantry participants. It seemed to go over well and many did take the canned salmon. Senior Farmers Market Distributions were also in June. WNEP offered the nutrition education at the distribution sites which were at the New Hope Food Pantry, Bethel Butikk, and Western Technical College. They had a good turnout and many really appreciated the coupons. A handout on the costs of produce and some recipes was distributed to the board members. Looking ahead, July is quiet and will be used to go over curriculums and organize materials for the upcoming busy months.

Abbie Holig, 4-H Dairy Intern, reported on June activities:

Laura Lauderdale, 4-H Summer Intern reported on June activities:
District Meeting - On June 3rd I went to the district meeting in Wisconsin Dells with Colleen and Abbie. It was great to meet some other Youth Development Educators and interns.

Camp Upham Woods - I went to Camp Upham Woods in the middle of June. We had a large group of campers from Crawford, Richland, and Vernon counties. Camp went very well and everyone I talked to had a good time.

Clothing Revue - Clothing Revue took place in June, and that also went really well. There were 22 participants. Of those 22, 2 were picked to be State Fair delegates and 1 alternate was chosen.

High Ropes Course - June 29th was the high ropes course for Youth Ambassadors at UW-L. There were about 13 youth that attended, and most of them were very adventurous on the course.

Rehbein reported on June activities: The dairy breakfast was held at the Gerald Schumacher Farm at West Prairie on Saturday, June 5th. There were 1703 paid tickets sold. The rain held off until about 1:00 so everything was able to be cleaned up and hauled back except for the tents. Worked with Colleen on the youth tractor safety certification course that was held at the fair grounds. Met with the state fair junior dairy exhibitors to go over their animal entry, dorm and health forms. Abbie assisted with the meeting and was a very big help. Met with the meat animal sale committee to discuss what will be done for clerking of this year's sale seeing that Badgerland Financial will not be able to do it. Westby Cooperative Credit Union and Citizens First Bank both have expressed interest to clerk the sale. Via coin toss, it was determined that WCCU will clerk the sale in 2010 and Citizens in 2011. Participated in the first ever vineyard spray school held at Parallel 44 Winery in Kewaunee County, at state expense. The main speaker was Professor Landers from Cornell University. The Center for Integrated Agriculture at UW-Madison received a grant to bring him into the state. It is a two year grant so next year's program will be held on the west side of the state. The local Emerald Ash Borer response team hosted the Wisconsin Council on Forestry for a tour of the infested area around Victory. Served as a proctor for a grape grower who is enrolled in a beginners winemaking course out of the University of California at Davis. Jointly worked with the La Crosse County Ag Agent in hosting a high tunnel program for individuals who are receiving NRCS grant dollars to purchase a high tunnel. Given the weather forecast, the main frame of the high tunnel was constructed the day before the program. Rebecca Harbut, UW-Extension fruit specialist was the main speaker about how to manage the high tunnel. Conducted the wrap-up dairy breakfast meeting so committee chairs could report and hand in their written reports. Helped the Vernon County Cattlemen Association plan their annual fitting and showing clinic. Met with a dairy producer and his family about transferring the dairy farm to the next generation. Joy Kirkpatrick a farm transfer and retirement planner specialist was brought in from the Center for Dairy Profitability to assist. Due to heavy rains, toured several areas of the county to document flood damage. The Sugar Grove area was the hardest hit. Met with the lead researcher at USDA's Ag Research Center in Madison on growing barley for malting. This is the only USDA facility in the US that does this type of research.

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