

**Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee**  
*Monthly Meeting Minutes – October 11, 2010 - corrected*

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

The public meeting notice was sent to the Vernon County Broadcaster, County Clerk and Computer Department on October 4, 2010.

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

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

McClelland moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the September Teen Court expenses of \$600. Motion carried.

Larson moved, McClelland seconded to approve the September office expenses of \$2,519.22 and special account of \$102. Motion carried.

Traastad reported that she in error added the salary and fringe increase for support staff in the proposed 2011 budget when it had already been added in the figures received from the Clerk's office. So, the amount requested over zero percent increase was \$9,474 not \$11,000 as presented at the September meeting. Also reported that Finance Committee accepted the overage described in the letter required with the proposed 2011 budget.

***Sonya Lenzendorf reported*** that WNEP is on a federal year, which means October is the start of a new year. She has been working on year-end reports and wrapping up FY10. She distributed an overview of her year-end report to the committee members, as well as this quarters WNEP newsletter. For FY11, WNEP will be in 32 classrooms, 4 food pantries, provide newsletters to Head Start and WIC and provide nutrition education to participants in the Senior Farmers Market Program. Sonya continues to look for other opportunities to provide nutrition education through other organization in the future.

***Pulvermacher reported on September activities:*** The fair went very well. Colleen attended a district meeting and drove the Richland and Crawford county agents this time. Colleen worked with WVRQ and the Broadcaster on promotions for National 4-H week. The youth who went on 4-H award trips sold \$600 worth of radio ads. The focus of this activity is to develop and hone communication skills, with the profits realized of minimal concern. Colleen attended the Carcass Evaluation dinner and was pleased to speak for a few minutes about 4-H and re-enrollments. The 4-H foodstand is being evaluated for possible structural improvements. There are identified safety hazards. The overall efficiency of the 4-H foodstand could be improved with changes and the 4-H Leader Parent Federation is investigating possibilities. The 4-H Leader Parent Federation is fortunate to generate significant profit from the foodstand, so it makes sense that some investment in upgrading the buildings would be wise. Colleen will provide further updates as they become available. Teen Court had two cases in September, with both youth opting to pay the fine and not appear in Teen Court. A Youth Ambassador event was held last night and was a huge success, with 42 in attendance (about a dozen parents). Jim & Kim Hawthorne (Westby) hosted the fall festival event. Colleen reported that parent co-advisors stepped forward as well as four youth willing to serve as youth ambassador advisors. Colleen reported she has been working diligently on her portfolio for tenure, working every weekend through August, September and October. The document will be submitted in early November.

***Rehbein reported on September activities:*** September is fair month and many of activities were fair related. Fair starts out with the superintendent's meeting at which time stall and pen spaces are issued to exhibitors in the sheep, hog and beef barn. The veterinarian schedule was developed with one new veterinarian helping in the rotation. The Saturday night sale order was developed including the dairy champion ribbons. New this year was the change in the carcass program. Just a couple of weeks prior to the fair, Premier Meats switched over to USDA inspection rather than state inspection. This meant that there would be no more Sunday slaughter. All the hogs, sheep and beef were harvested on Monday, Tuesday and the Wednesday after the fair with most of the animals harvested at Premier Meats. Some animals were harvested at Westby Meats and Kickapoo Locker. With the change in slaughter dates, the carcass judging had to be moved back to Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> which caused a conflict with the scheduled carcass judge so a new carcass judge had to be found. Our judge for 2010 was Dewey Wachholz of River Falls. Almost the entire last week of September is devoted to organizing the carcass data for printing the data sheet that is handed out at the carcass evaluation program. In addition to the fair, two farm visits were made. One on pour alfalfa stands and one on pasture grass management. The fall Wisconsin Grape Growers Association board meeting was also attended to start planning the program for the state conference coming up in January. A slide presentation was given of the California raisin and table grape industry and the world's largest industrial, commercial winery in Fresno, CA owned by Gallo.

***Traastad reported on September activities:*** Spent a day in Madison with Ann Keim, UW-Extension Family Living District Liaison for Southern District. Talked about program planning for the family living programs in Vernon County. Shared the 2010-2012 program plan document developed for this purpose.

Coordinated and promoted the fall Strong Women classes which Jane Schmidt will teach. Presented the general public informational session to women interested in future classes. The Viroqua class will be held from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. at Vernon Manor as the basement meeting room is not available due to mold growth. The La Farge class will again be at the La Farge Community Center.

As first reported worked on the development of the department's 2011 proposed budget. Want to thank all staff for their help in this development. Attended the Finance Committee budget hearing for proposed 2011 budgets and the meeting on HoChunk monies proposals.

Attended Housing Coalition meeting and helped with development of new Housing Resource Booklet for the county. Sponsors will pay for the printing of the new booklet.

Worked with Vernon County Fair Board, judges, and department superintendents for another successful fair. Things seemed to go smoothly. The new commercial building is a great asset to the fairgrounds as well. Also attended post meeting of the superintendents – very important avenue to get their needed input.

Conducted one financial counseling session for a newly divorced woman. Helped her set up a spending plan.

Developed new brochures and promoted the Powerful Tools for Caregivers fall session. Again several agencies will work together to promote and teach the sessions.

The large printer that is networked to all the department's computers needs parts replaced that will cost close to \$400. In the past the unit's sensors have been problematic as well. We decided to purchase a new commercial quality printer designed for small to mid-size business use. We will use funds received from the 4-H Leader/Parent Federation owed to the department for the 2009/2010 enrollment needs of 4-H members.

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