

Agriculture & Education Committee  
UW-Madison Division of Extension  
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Agriculture & Extension Education Committee  
**Wednesday, April 8, 2020**  
UW Extension  
Teleconference

Unapproved Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Chair Bostwick, Supervisor Sweeney, Supervisor Davis, Supervisor Aegerter, Supervisor Lokrantz

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Chrissy Wen, Nick Baker, Tara Hanley, Dave Froeber, Brent Sutherland, Shilo Titus, Dara Mosley

Others Present:

None

1. Call to Order: Chair Bostwick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Adoption of Agenda: Supervisor Davis moved approval of the agenda for April 8, 2020 second by Supervisor Lokrantz. ADOPTED
3. Approval of Minutes from March 11, 2020: Supervisor Aegerter moved to approve March, 2020 minutes, second by Chair Bostwick. ADOPTED.
4. Citizen Participation, Communication and Announcements  
None

**Extension:**

5. Review of Payments  
Reviewed

6. Extension Program Update

Ms. Wen updated the committee on how the Extension office has been transitioning to teleworking and amending programming to accommodate social distancing.

Discussion ensued regarding the Health and Well-being Educator vacancy. Importance was stressed on hiring an individual as soon as possible.

a.) Agriculture

Mr. Baker provided the committee with a programming update. In recent months he has attended approximately 12 meetings to provide Farm Bill education to farmers in the area.

Mr. Baker stated the Dean has granted permission to all of last year's researchers to again conduct research at the County Farm in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Social distancing and safety precautions will be followed. Soy beans and winter wheat is returning to the farm after being absent for five years. There will also be an industrial hemp plot.

Mr. Baker has also been working with farmers on farm continuation planning. Supervisor Sweeney noted the importance of that programming for farmers. Mr. Baker stated that farm specific information that is produced as a result of this planning is kept by farmers and is not retained by the University.

**Fairgrounds:**

7. Review of Fairgrounds Maintenance Bills and Contracts  
Reviewed

8. Fairgrounds

a.) Policy: Fairgrounds Rental at No Charge – Discussion & Possible Action  
Discussion ensued regarding background of no charge fairgrounds rental. Agenda item will be carried over to next committee meeting.

b.) Policy: Storage of Group Items/Trailers/Equipment on the Grounds – Discussion & Possible Action  
Discussion ensued and agenda item will be carried over to next committee meeting.

c.) Grandstands: New, New Bleachers or Rental Bleachers – Discussion & Possible Actions  
Mr. Sutherland provided the committee with three possible options for replacing the grandstand located at the Fairgrounds (i.e.: rental bleachers, permanent aluminum bleachers, or new grandstand). Supervisor Bostwick suggested reaching out to the Fair Board for discussion prior to moving forward. Agenda item will be carried over to next committee meeting.

9. Fair Board Report

No report

10. Comments from the Committee

Supervisor Aegerter announced the Janesville Farmer's Market would be beginning Saturdays in May. Booths will be farmers only.

11. Adjournment

Supervisor Lokrantz moved to adjourn at 8:06 p.m., second by Supervisor Bostwick. ADOPTED

Tara Hanley  
Rock County UW Extension Office Coordinator

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