

Green County
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
February 5, 2020 MINUTES

The February 5th, 2020 meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order at 12:30 PM by Chair Ken Hodgson. Members present were: Ken Hodgson, Oscar Olson, Art Carter, Jody Hoesly and Erica Roth. Also present—Paul Ohlrogge, Extension Area Director, Jayne Butts, Extension Green County Office Manager, Joe Bonnell, Regional Water Specialist, and Ellen Andrews, 4-H Youth Development Educator.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 2020 meeting was made by Olson, second Hoesly (with minor word adjustments). Motion carried.

Green County Educator Reports—

- **Ellen Andrews:** Shared some of the training the 4-H Adult Volunteers get; Volunteer in Preparation Training, etc. covered as an overview, then slowed down and spoke a bit more in depth about liability and differences in accepted roles as volunteers. Ellen shared the new incident reporting information with a contact number for her through Google, so she can protect her personal cell phone number. Ellen also shared a project she is working on with Green County Leader participants regarding a “Multicultural Monday” event for diversity inclusion. The program will be piloted with Parkside Elementary in Monroe in March for 5K-5th Grade.
- **Victoria Solomon:** Jayne presented a written report from Victoria regarding Green County Leader Community Projects and gave simple updates on the status. An update was also given on the Water Trends project noting a 78% return on the water bottle samples to date.

The committee reviewed the UW-Extension office bills for January 2020. The EFT payments totaled \$114.92 and the check payments totaled \$384.09. Motion made by Carter, second by Olson, to approve the vouchers for payment. Motion carried.

Paul Ohlrogge, Area Extension Director/Jayne Butts, Office Manager, Extension Green County:

Health and Well Being Educator: Ohlrogge gave an update for the position noting 14 applications have been received so far. The application process closes on Sunday and then screening will begin to determine interviews.

Regional Water Specialist: Joe Bonnell introduced himself as the newly hired Regional Water Specialist. Joe was born and raised in Southeast Ohio. He earned his PhD from The Ohio State University in Natural Resources. He is looking forward to the opportunities in Wisconsin with this position.

Extension Green County Annual Report – Butts discussed the timeline for the Extension Green County Annual Report—there will be no February County Board meeting, therefore the Extension Annual Report will be mailed out. Ag & Extension Committee Members will review the report at the March AEEC meeting and Extension will present to the County Board on March 10th.

Other Business:

- **College Intern--** Butts noted the office has hired their college intern for the summer 2020 season. Samantha Wileman, from Edgerton will be starting in late May. Wileman has been a Rock County 4-H member for 11 years and exhibited in the many areas, including Swine, Beef and Drawing/Painting. Samantha is currently a sophomore at UW-Platteville majoring in Art Education.
- **Student Assistant**—Butts discussed the hiring of Marissa Vosberg to be the new student assistant. Marissa is a sophomore at Monroe High School and will begin as soon as paperwork is complete for county employment. Marissa has been a Young Americans 4-H Member and exhibited in the areas of Swine, Dairy, and many exhibition hall areas. She is also a Green County Jr. Holstein member and Youth in Government participant at this time.

- **Clean Sweep Contract** – UW-Extension is under new regulations regarding signing contracts and therefore, at this time, educators are unable to sign contracts. McCarville asked (via Jayne) for the Ag & Extension Committee to sign the contract and accept the terms for this year’s grant process. Carter, who has previously signed this, agreed to sign again.
- **Association Dues**—Butts questioned paying association dues for educators. In the past, the County has paid one professional association dues and others were the educator’s responsibility. Carter felt if it benefits the county, the county can pay the dues. No further discussion was made.
- **4-H Camp Fees for Ellen-** Butts questioned paying fees for Ellen to attend 4-H Camp. Previously these costs have been funded through camper fees, however, with the rising costs, the 4-H Adult Leaders are looking for alternate methods to fund camp. Ellen thought the fees would be around \$131.00. Discussion included 4-H Foundation Money—Ellen noted the 4-H Adult Leaders are using a \$10,000 donation left for Adult Professional Development and last year used \$1,000 for that purpose. Questions were also asked about the Professional Development Fees paid to the State. Ohlrogge noted that money was for professional development of the educator and this would not qualify. Hoesly also questioned paying association dues from the Professional Development which was denied. Butts and board members questioned balances of the Professional Development fund fees and where used. Follow up will continue at next month’s meeting.

The next meeting will be scheduled for March 4th, 2020 at 12:30pm.

Motion by Hoesly second by Olson to adjourn at 1:35 pm. Motion carried.