

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
AGRICULTURAL & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Monday, May 14, 2018

Catherine Neiswender, UW-Extension Area 10 Director, called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

1. The meeting was properly announced.
2. Members present: Duaine Stillman, Merlin Gentz, Mike Hofberger, Joe Mueller, and Pat Laughrin. Also present: Tami Gasch and Catherine Neiswender, UW-Extension Area 10 Director.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. **Election of Chair.** Neiswender called three time for nominations for Chair. The following Supervisor(s) were nominated:

- Merlin Gentz was nominated by Supervisor Stillman; Merlin accepted.

Supervisor Mueller moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Merlin Gentz. Supervisor Stillman seconded. Motion approved 5-0.

**Election of Vice Chair.** Chairman Gentz called for nominations for Vice Chair. The following Supervisor(s) were nominated:

- Mike Hofberger was nominated by Supervisor Mueller; Mike declined.
- Duaine Stillman was nominated by Supervisor Hofberger; Duaine accepted.

Supervisor Laughrin moved to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Duaine Stillman. Supervisor Mueller seconded. Motion approved 5-0.

5. Moved by Supervisor Hofberger and seconded by Supervisor Laughrin to approve the agenda for the May 14, 2018, Ag & Extension Education Committee meeting. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Moved by Supervisor Stillman and seconded by Supervisor Hofberger to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2018, Ag & Extension Education Committee Meeting. Motion carried 5-0. A request was made to have previous minutes resent when the agenda is sent out.
7. Public Participation – None
8. Report of Committee Members
  - a. Reports of official meetings held since the last Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
    - Supervisor Laughrin attended a meeting in Green Bay that reviewed Robert's Rules of Order. He thinks it may be a good idea to refresh the committee on the rules.
  - b. Upcoming Events – None
9. Communications – None
10. Items for Action or Discussion

Tami Gasch, Interim 4-H Youth Development Educator – Boomerang! Character Education Program. Gasch provided an overview of the program that she is wrapping up in the Hilbert, Stockbridge, and New Holstein schools. She discussed the circle of courage and the four characteristics of positive youth development – Generosity, Independence, Mastery, and Belonging. Tami's role is to train the high school students on the program and practice the lessons before they go and teach the lessons in their respective 4<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. Tami highlighted the evaluations from the students – 94 percent of the students had positive reflections of the program for many reasons, including that it was fun; they learned

how to be respectful and be a responsible person; taught them how to be better people; learned how to be helpful in the communities. Other evaluation results were also highlighted.

Supervisor Laughrin suggested that a presentation be made to the full County Board highlighting 4-H. Tami mentioned that we have been communicating with Todd on when it would be the best to have UWEX do this presentation. Hope is to wait until the agriculture educator is hired.

11. Report of Department

- Update on Agriculture Educator position interviews - Final interviews were held May 4. Neiswender is awaiting a verbal acceptance in order to move ahead with hiring. Neiswender thanked Mike Hofberger, Lyle Ott, and Tony Reali for representing the county on the interview process, and Tami Gasch and Darrel McCauley for representing UWEX during the process.
- Area 10-wide colleague meeting and situational analysis - Neiswender reported that Area 10 colleagues (educators and support staff) are attending an area-wide meeting on June 22 to connect as colleagues. One of the focuses of the meeting will be to conduct part of the statewide situational analysis that will help identify emerging issues, trends, needs, and gaps.
- Third floor courthouse changes - Neiswender provided a brief update about the temporary changes to UWEX offices due to Corporation Counsel moving from second floor into some of our offices. This change will happen after Memorial Day. Neiswender thanked Connie and Tami for helping move, sort, and clean out UWEX materials. Committee members discussed the need to make sure there is adequate space for all educators as the final plans are coming together.

12. Set Next Meeting Date: The next meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee will be held on Monday, June 18, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. Agenda items will include FoodWise letter of support and introduction of new Ag Educator, if possible. Future meetings will continue to be planned for the second Monday at 10:30 am.

13. Adjourn

Supervisor Mueller moved to adjourn and Supervisor Stillman seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Neiswender  
UW-Extension Area 10 Director