

**AGENDA**  
**Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting**  
**County Board Room**  
**810 Lincoln St, Kewaunee, WI**  
**Wednesday, October 7, 2020**  
**8:30 AM**

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Review/Approval of Minutes of the September 2, 2020 and September 9, 2020 meeting minutes
5. Public Input
6. Educators Reports – Written/Narrative/Q/A (VIA REMOTE/ZOOM)
7. Department Head/Area Director Report – Judy Knudsen
  - a. Extension Updates
  - b. Joint Meeting with Door County
  - c. Door/Kewaunee Legislative Days
8. Review and Set Future Committee Meeting Dates.
9. Adjourn

The Committee welcomes all visitors to listen and observe, but only Committee members and those invited to speak will be permitted to do so. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to attend or participate should contact the County Administrator's Office at (920) 388-7164 prior to the meeting so that accommodations may be arranged.

A majority of the members of the County Board of Supervisors or any of its committees including: Finance & Public Property, Personnel, Advisory & Legislative, Health, Child Support, & Veterans Service, Human Services, Aging Services Unit Advisory, Extension Education, County Farm, & Zoning, Law Enforcement & Emergency Management, Land & Water Conservation, Highway & Solid Waste, Promotion & Recreation, and others may be present at this meeting to listen, observe, and participate. If a majority of any such committee is present, their presence constitutes a "meeting" under the Open Meeting Law as interpreted in State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Board, 173 Wis. 2d 553 (1993), even though the visiting body will take no action at this meeting.



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**Aerica Bjurstrom**  
Agriculture Agent  
Prepared for October 7, 2020

**National Association of County Agriculture Agents Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference (NACAA AM/PIC)** – The NACAA AM/PIC was supposed to be held in Virginia Beach Virginia in July, but was postponed to the last week of September. Over summer, the meeting was moved to a virtual format. In March I submitted an entry in the Wisconsin chapter communication contest and was selected as a state winner. My entry moved on to be a regional and national finalist. During the AM/PIC, my entry was named the Program Promotional Package National Winner. As a national winner, I will receive a plaque and cash award. This is the second time one of my entries has been named a national winner and I have also been named a national finalist three additional times. I am also participating in professional improvement sessions online during the virtual conference.

**Corn Dry Down** – Corn Dry Down is an annual event held by Extension in Kewaunee and Door Counties. The purpose of the event is for farmers to submit samples of whole-plant corn intended for silage. The corn is chopped and tested for moisture. We had on-site testing at one site which usually has a larger crowd, and samples collected at the other site were submitted to the forage lab. Farmers are shooting for approximately 65% moisture and that can vary depending on what type of structure they will store the silage in. I held two corn dry down events in September, one in Kewaunee County and one in Door County. In the absence of an agriculture agent in Door County, I am covering agriculture programming. I felt it important to hold this event in Door to serve the needs of the farmers in the county and maintain an Extension presence during the hiring freeze. Due to Covid-19, I had to request special permission to hold these events and take extra precautions at the events such as wearing masks and asking farmers to remain in their vehicles until waited on to maintain social distancing. These events require tremendous organization, preparation, and labor, all of which fell on Kewaunee County staff this year. Some tasks involved with these events include lining up host sites, soliciting sponsors, picking up and returning the corn chopper, chopping and collecting samples, delivering samples to the lab, post-event paperwork, and reporting results to farmers and media to name a few. This year's events collected 92 corn samples.



**Farm Technology Days** – I have continued work with the parks department on the ice skating rink and warming building. The building is nearing completion and will be fully operational by our target timeline of winter sports season. The ice skating rink will be excavated this fall and the Ransom Moore Cabin is being restored by a professional. Electricity will be upgraded in the cabin and chinking will be replaced where needed. If Winter Park can open this year, the ice skating area should be fully functional and ready for the public. As the keeper of the FTD checkbook, I continue to pay out grants and pay bills as needed.



**National Farm Safety & Health Week** – National Farm Safety & Health Week was September 20-26. Farm safety has been part of my plan of work since I started at Extension, so every year I do a concentrated effort to inform the public and farmers about being safe around machinery and on the roads. This year a colleague and I created a series of videos to focus on the 2020 theme of “Every Farmer Counts.” The videos featured interviews and focused on road safety, mental and physical health, emergency preparedness, and women on the farm. Five videos were recorded and I edited and released the videos on social media. The videos were a successful effort and they were shared on many social media pages.

You can find the videos online at: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/agsafety/videos/>

**Agriculture Lenders Update** – The Agriculture Lenders Update is usually held the first Friday in September, but since we cannot hold events in person, it went to an online format that will be held once a month September – December. September’s featured speakers focused on forage and the quality of the 2020 crop. I provided analysis data from corn and alfalfa samples I collected this year and it was included in one of the presentations. Thirty-eight people attended the September session and the planning committee is already lining up speakers for the October session. Featured speakers will present on the dairy market and feeding the 2020 crop to the dairy herd.

**Publication Revision** – I wrote two publications in 2007 and 2008 on sheep and goats. Extension is currently revising its websites and one of the first to be completed in agriculture is the Livestock Program Topic Hub. I am currently revising one of the publications with two colleagues to be the first post on sheep on the topic hub.

**Research** – I am working with a small workgroup on a research project focusing on the Phenotype of Dairy Beef cross calves. Dairy farmers are breeding their dairy cows to beef sires as a herd management tool. Heifers are expensive to raise, so low-end cows are bred to beef to produce a value-added beef calf. The calves vary greatly in their phenotype (how they look). Approximately half of the calves take on a 50/50 mixture both parents while approximately a quarter look like the sire, and a quarter look like the dam. This project is designed to record measurements and weights on baby calves with the hope it can be determined what the calf will look like as a feeder calf (approximately 500 pounds) so special management considerations can be made when feeding the calf to market weight. I am currently recruiting farms to participate in this project. I hope to measure and weigh 750-1,000 calves for this project.

**Media Interviews** – I have done multiple media interviews via Zoom and phone during the month of September for TV and radio. September interviews focused on the results of corn silage August interviews focused on the upcoming corn dry down events in Luxemburg and Sturgeon Bay. Interviews were broadcast on Door County Daily News and Local 5 - WFRV.

**Manitowoc & Door Counties** – The Manitowoc County agriculture agent retired in August and I have been covering dairy, livestock, and farm management questions for that county. I am continuing to cover Door County crops and soils, dairy and livestock, and other random questions that come directly to the Kewaunee office. Extension is in a hiring freeze and I will continue to cover Door and Manitowoc indefinitely.



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Renee Koenig, MS  
Associate Professor, Human Development & Relationships Educator  
Report for October 2020

**Families, Finances and Wellness**

In September, I virtually attended the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) Annual Conference. This was a great opportunity to gain professional development without the added burden of time and expense to travel to Utah to attend. I attended sessions that gave me ideas to implement new programs for families in Kewaunee County and I was able to share my programs with colleagues across the country.

**Instruction on Youth Mental Health First Aid** - I am a certified instructor for the national program of Youth Mental Health First Aid. I recently completed required training to update my qualifications to teach virtual and blended courses. I will be offering these courses to parents and youth-serving providers.

**Research to Promote Father Involvement** - The research confirms that when fathers become more involved in parenting – and in working with mothers as co-parents and partners – healthier parents, children, and families are the outcome. I have been working with Extension Professor Dr. Margaret Kerr to collect data, develop and revise parenting resources such as the Common Ties project for co-parents. On September 28, Dr. Kerr was interviewed and featured on NBC26 (see photo) discussing her new research about parenting in a pandemic.

**Evening Parenting Workshops** - In October I will be teaching a program called, “Raising Caring Kids” and connecting parents to provide support to each other. There is a lot of preparation to plan, promote, enroll participants and teach the workshops. These workshops will be attended by English language learners and language interpretation is provided.

**Extension Connection** - The formerly named “Foghorn” newsletter is published monthly in print or electronic format. There is a lot of planning, writing and rewriting that goes into deciding the information that is shared in the limited number of pages printed. We are working to increase the number of households who receive the publication.



University of Wisconsin-Extension Family Living Programs

Yesterday at 11:48 AM

Extension Specialist and Professor Maggie Kerr talked to NBC26 on how to stay positive right now. She said, “just sitting down at the end of the day and think about what good thing that happened or one positive interaction that we had today, and then sitting with that for a few minutes.”

[https://www.nbc26.com/\\_/tips-on-how-to-stay-positive...](https://www.nbc26.com/_/tips-on-how-to-stay-positive...)



NBC26.COM

**Tips on how to stay positive right now**

Emotions remain high right now for many people as we continue o...



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## Kewaunee County 4-H Youth Development Extension Update

Jill Jorgensen, 4-H Youth Development Educator

October 2020

**WI 4-H Hall of Fame Inductees:** I am proud to announce that Kewaunee County 4-H Volunteers, Joe and Linda Pribek will be inducted into the WI 4-H Hall of Fame this Fall. Together with a retired colleague, I submitted a nomination for the volunteers to the vigorous selection process. They will be inducted virtually this fall and will be celebrated at an in-person ceremony in 2021.

**Regional Meeting Training:** A team of colleagues and I created a training session for the three 4-H youth development regional meetings for staff throughout the state. This training centered on the annual leader training that we will be presenting state wide to adult and older adult volunteers throughout the state during the next year. In addition to training, gathered information about needs statewide regarding volunteer training and staff needs as we continue to work in these unprecedented times.

**Clover Connections Videos:** I continue to work with team of three colleagues to create clover connections videos for 4-H volunteers. This series is being created a a direct need from volunteers addressing topics for beginning the new 4-H year in light of Covid 19 directives. The videos are conversational, timely, short, and cover a number of pertinent topics. Six videos are now posted for volunteers to view and they will also be available on the state 4-H website shortly. We have created six more that are in review and will continue to create them throughout the upcoming months.

**Canvas Volunteer Training Development Team:** I continue to work on this statewide, multi-program area team that is working on moving a training to be delivered in a Canvas online course for volunteers. Moving the course to this format will readily provide volunteers an opportunity to take the course at a time and place that works well for them. In addition, I am learning how to work in this new system which will ultimately enable me to use this in other places.

**Virtual County Project and Club Meetings:** Clubs and projects are still be directed to meet virtually when possible but have an option for small group and “podded” meetings with a program approval. We are working together with volunteers to come up with some good options for the new 4-H year I continue to facilitate and provide opportunities for club and county projects to meet in virtual settings. For example, we held the Leaders Association meeting and board elections meeting via zoom. While we have been holding Leaders Association Meetings for several months, I was able to work with the board to figure out how to hold their elections in a virtual and positive way that felt fair. I have been working with clubs to work through some of the same options.

**Program Planning Guidance:** I continue to work with volunteers to create program plans to meet in person. Virtual/online program delivery remains the approved method. However, volunteers can work with me to develop plans and seek organizational approval. Plans will need to be created using the Extension template and shared with the 4-H Program Educator who then uploads them for further multi-step organizational approval.

### *Upcoming Activities and Events:*

**4-H Awards Ceremony Drive-in:** I worked with the awards and banquet committee on a proposal for a drive in 4-H awards ceremony to be held at the fairgrounds on October 24<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. This low contact event was approved and will be broadcast with the help of Door County Daily News. Stay tuned for more information

**4-H Enrollments:** We are waiting for the state 4-H office to roll out 4-Online 2.0 to begin 4-H enrollments. This is the computer program that is used and it is being updated for this year. Once all the changes are made statewide and locally we hope to begin enrollment in early October.