

AGENDA
Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
810 Lincoln St, Kewaunee, WI
Monday, March 11, 2019
1:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Review/Approval of Minutes of February 13 and January 2, 2019
5. Citizen Input
6. Educators Reports – Written
7. Department Head/Area Director Report
 - a. Madison acquisition/merger/branding of UW-Extension progress update
 - b. Legislative Days Update
 - c. Office equipment needs
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.

Aerica Bjurstrom
Agriculture Agent
Prepared for March 11, 2019

Pesticide Applicator Training – Trained 11 people in private Pesticide Applicator Training. I hold the training once a year and anyone who needs a license to purchase chemicals for use on their own farm. Anyone who would like to purchase general and restricted chemicals in large volume must have a license from the Wisconsin Department of Trade, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. UW-Extension manages the on-site testing and submits exams to DATCP. I also proctor exams for people who would like to certify but cannot make the training. I will be holding the exam for three people in March 2019.

Master Gardeners – Started a new Master Gardener Volunteer class this month with 11 participants. Class will take place Tuesday nights through the end of May. I have guest speakers lined up for some of the classes and some classes will take place off site for “field trips” including an apple orchard for the fruits class and a soil pit for the soils class. Winter weather has forced me to cancel two classes, but we are moving along and the class is a great group to work with.

Professional Development – I attended professional development programs in February, they included the Midwest Manure Summit, Better Heifers-Better Cows, and we had a program on NR151 and Silurian bedrock presented by Jamie Patton. I also attended the Peninsula Pride annual meeting and participated in a quarterly Save the Bay Meeting. I will be serving on the planning committee for the annual field day with Congressman Gallagher in July. I hosted a industrial hemp webinar that was also available to anyone who wanted to listen from home. The webinar is achieved and available to watch if requested.

Program planning – These are programs I am currently planning:

- **Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times**, Tundra Lodge Green Bay, March 20
- **Renovating Dairy Barns....Giving them a Second Career**, March 22 (webinar)
- **Conservation Day – May 15**
- **Rural Safety Day – May 22**
- **Grains and Forage Meeting** – Location TBA, June 13
- **Goat AI Course** – Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds, Dates TBA (June 18-20?)
- **Beef Cow/Calf Meetings** – State wide, dates TBA

I am also working on a new program with four educators on improving the quality of a cull cow. The program will include fact sheets, a PowerPoint, and worksheets/decision tools to help farmers make a decision to cull a cow based on his or her best options.

Farm management teams – I continue to work with farm management teams. Times are very difficult for farmers right now and providing them with resources and tools to work through stress. Vouchers are available for mental health sessions, grants are available for smaller bills (under \$1,500) in emergency situations, and a variety of other support avenues are available to help them through difficult times. As we head into spring, Wisconsin will see an influx of dairy farms going out of business. UW-Extension will continue to work with farmers providing them tools to make informed decisions.

Kewaunee County Agriculture & Extension Education Committee
Renee Koenig
Associate Professor, Family Educator
University of Wisconsin-Extension

Report for March 2019

Powerful Tools for Caregivers of Children with Special Needs – I am co-instructing this 6-week class which is designed to support parents or grandparents who are caring for a child of any age (minor or adult) who has special health or behavioral needs. The curriculum focuses on the unique challenges that these parents face. Caregivers who attend the program experience better emotional well-being, increased use of self-care behaviors, and increased awareness and use of community resources. The classes are held in Luxemburg on Thursday evenings in partnership with the ADRC of the Lakeshore.

Resilience for Families and Communities – On February 27, I presented on the topic of childhood adversity and resilience at the UW-Green Bay campus. I shared recent research, community resources, educational programs and ways to get involved to make positive changes. Research shows that building resilience in children and families leads to a better quality of life for individuals and for the communities where they live.

Stress and Brain Health – I presented a workshop on Stress & Brain Health for the Kewaunee County Association for Home & Community Education on February 13. The workshop included a guest speaker from the Alzheimer's Association.

Home & Community Education – I am continuing to support the educational programs of the Kewaunee County Association for Home and Community Education, Inc (HCE). I gathered data from state reports and calculated percentages of economically disadvantaged school students in the county. This data has helped inform the HCE leaders to make decisions about delivering the Bookworms reading program in our county. I have also provided guidance on revisions to the constitution and bylaws of HCE.

Farm Stress event – I will be presenting on the topic of mental health at the event for Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times in Green Bay on March 20th. Aerica and her Agriculture colleagues have been planning for additional presentations at this event.

Health Literacy – I am continuing to chair the Health Literacy Committee. The committee met in February to develop a plan for programs. The focus of the education is on reaching underserved and low-literate families.

Money Smart Week – I am developing financial education programming for Money Smart Week, March 30-April 6, to be offered at the public libraries.

Grant Award – I wrote a small grant for farm safety and was awarded funding on behalf of our mental health coalition. The purpose is to offer training to farm workers on suicide awareness and prevention.

Rural Safety Day – Planning has already begun for the annual Rural Safety Day for 3rd grade students. The event will be held at the fairgrounds on May 22.