

AGENDA
Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
810 Lincoln Street, Kewaunee, WI
Wednesday, February 2, 2022
Conference Room Near Main Entrance
8:30 AM

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Review/Approval of Minutes of the January 5, 2022 meeting minutes
5. Public Input
6. Educators Reports – Written/Narrative/Q/A
7. Department Head/Area Director Report – Judy Knudsen
 - a. Extension Updates
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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KEWAUWEE COUNTY

Aerica Bjurstrom
Regional Dairy Educator
Prepared for February 2, 2022

Pesticide Applicator Training – I coordinated private Pesticide Applicator Training for Kewaunee, Door, Manitowoc, and Brown Counties in January. Two trainings were held, one in Luxemburg and another in Green Bay on January 13 and 14. The Agriculture Institute administrators want PAT training to be done on a regional basis and conducted by Glenn Nice, the PAT coordinator in Madison. I organized logistics for both trainings and our office did the follow after the programs were complete. Because of COVID-19, anyone who needed to recertify last year were given an additional year on their license, which normally would have expired after five years. We had 29 people attend the Luxemburg training and 15 people attend the Green Bay Training. I will hold a training at a Brown County farm in February and hold three exam proctors in February and March for those who either took the training online or did self-study.

Media – I was on Midwest Farm Weekly in January promoting the Five Minute Farm Focus videos. The Link to the segment can be found here: <https://www.wearegreenbay.com/midwest-farm/five-minute-farm-focus-series-offers-quick-learning-opportunity/>



Badger Dairy Insight – The Badger Dairy Insight (BDI) series is part of the Farm Ready Research series of webinars put on by the Extension Agriculture Institute. BDI is held every other Tuesday and focuses on a series of dairy-related topics. The BDI series kicked off in January and had two programs, the first about calf care and the second on data management. The BDI series will be held online into February. The full list of Farm Ready Research programs and registration information can be found here: <https://extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research/>

New staff/regional role – Two new educators in agriculture started in late December and early January. I met with both educators Angie Ulness (Manitowoc County) and Krishna Bhandari (Brown, Kewaunee, Door Crops & Soils). I will be working with both educators on a variety of projects in the future. As of January 1, I have officially moved into my regional role of Dairy Educator. In this role, I will focus more on dairy and cover a larger area while reducing/eliminating my role of being a generalist. I will not be answering or covering horticulture and Master Gardener work and will have a significantly reduced expectation to cover livestock programming.

Program planning – I am a co-chair of the Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference, which will be held at Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center on 2/22/22. The conference will focus on calf care, fitness for transport, breeding a healthier cow, heat stress, and the Farmers Assuring Responsible Management (FARM) version 4 program. Registration and full agenda can be found here: <https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/events/wisconsin-dairy-and-beef-well-being-conference/>

Outstanding projects/Committees – I am a board member of Epsilon Sigma Phi (Wisconsin Chapter) and service as a county representative. I will be ending a two-year term in April. I also serve on two committees (grants and awards). In addition to state responsibilities, I am on the national ESP marketing committee. All of these committees met in January via Zoom.

Research – I am beginning a research project on the use of copper sulfate in footbaths on dairies. The focus of the project is to sample soil and plants (alfalfa) intended for dairy forage. The intention of the project is to establish a baseline of how much copper is in the soil and if it is building to an unhealthy level in the soil and plants that will ultimately impact cow health and soil health. I have received funding to start the project in May and am seeking additional funding to expand the project to sample more farms in multiple counties. The project will conclude at the end of the 2022 growing season.



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Renee Koenig, MS
Associate Professor, Human Development & Relationship Educator
Report for February 2, 2022

Qualitative Research Findings from Co-Parenting Classes –

I am collaborating with Dr. Margaret Kerr at the School of Human Ecology at UW-Madison. We are researching the feedback surveys from 1322 parents who attended our co-parenting classes across Wisconsin last year. Our goal is to examine how mothers and fathers may or may not differentially experience co-parenting education. Existing research evidences mixed results on the role of gender in co-parenting effectiveness, suggesting there could be value in exploring parents' answers to open-ended evaluation questions. A related factor that may impact the effectiveness of co-parenting courses is the level of conflict in the relationship that has dissolved. Many scholars consider high conflict couples to be a special group that needs additional or ongoing support. It may be useful, however, to examine whether couples with high levels of conflict report different takeaways from standard co-parenting education courses. Many parents do not have a supportive co-parenting relationship, and lack of co-parenting relationship is one of the main reasons why fathers are not involved with children. The results of our research will inform our future curriculum development and adaptations.

Financial Education and Weekly Money Tips for County Employees –

I am continuing to provide timely financial education and resources for the public and county employees. A few examples of the financial topics and resources that I have shared include:

- Student Loan Debt Relief
- Stop “spending leaks”
- COLA adjustments and the impact on Social Security
- Donating safely on Giving Tuesday
- Safe Online Holiday Shopping
- Veterans and their finances
- Retirement planning basics
- What is Your Money Color? Understanding Your Money Values

Wise and Well Wednesdays –

A series of six short programs are planned for Wednesdays at 9:00-10:00a.m. starting on February 2, 2022. The presenters are from UW-Madison's Life Span program. Feel free to register by contacting me. You're welcome to invite a friend or family member.

2/2 – Old at Heart: Reframing the way we think and talk about aging.

2/9 – Compassion Resilience and our well-being, how to build resilience.

2/16 – Advanced Directives? What are those?!?!

2/23 – Jump Start Your Energy! Discover how Friluftsliv can help!

3/2 – The Retirement Transition

3/9 – Preparing for the Growing Season, presented by Master Gardener Tom Jerow



Planning for Parent Education for Well-being and Budgeting in 2022 –

The education that I provide in 2022 will continue to include topics on family wellness and budgeting. Examples of classes include: positive parenting, self-care for caregivers, mental health first aid, money matters, aging mastery, home alone, raising caring kids and focus on fathers.