

MINUTES
Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
810 Lincoln St, Kewaunee, WI
Wednesday, May 6, 2020
8:30 AM

Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to order** at 8:31 AM by Chairman Tom Romdenne
2. **Roll Call** - Committee members present: Tom Romdenne, Chuck Wagner, Gary Paape, Matt Piesler. Educators present (via Zoom): Aerica Bjurstrom, Jill Jorgensen, Renee Koenig. Also present: Rob Burke, Area Extension Director. Public Access: Remote via internet channel.
3. **Motion by Wagner, second by Paape to approve the agenda and minutes of March 10.**
4. **Public Input** – None
5. **Educators Reports** –

Renee Koenig: Highlighted how she has adapted her regular programs to online formats, responding to new family education needs, and finding new ways to connect with consumers and colleagues. She has disseminated numerous digital resources to hundreds of Wisconsin and Kewaunee residents. Also conducted extensive outreach to other community partners to collaborate on dissemination of programs and information. Also highlighted the Home Alone Safety Program for Children – an online parent and youth videos resource that has proved to be very helpful during this time. The local schools were grateful to receive this resource from Renee right before schools closed so they could share it with families.

Aerica Bjurstrom: The Zoom online meeting platform is UW-Madison's preferred method of communication, and listed some of the Zoom meetings she has participated in, or planned and presented programming...

- Weekly Zoom updates and correspondence with program area
- Weekly Zoom with the Dean of Extension
- Weekly Zoom with Area 12 (Door, Kewaunee)
- Weekly Emergency Operations Center Brief
- Twice weekly program planning Zoom (Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times)
- Weekly Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times Webinar
- Weekly Reduction in Milk Production Workgroup Zoom
- Every other week Dairy Workers' Training Workgroup Zoom
- Monthly Master Gardener Program Zoom

Also reported she had completed the land rent survey analysis and presented a webinar on March 31 and another on April 16. Developed a PowerPoint presentation and recorded it so those who were not able to attend the webinar could watch it at their convenience. It was equipped with closed captioning before being posted the Kewaunee County Extension website. Also wrote a

fact sheet that was also posted on the Kewaunee County website at:
<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/kewauneeag/farm-asset-rental-rates/>

Jill Jorgensen: Jill highlighted Virtual Swine and Sheep Nutrition Meetings in partnership with Lance Miller from Land O'Lakes Inc. to provide nutrition meetings for both sheep and swine. The meetings were originally scheduled to be "in person" but he adapted his materials and the youth responded well to his presentation, even in an online setting.

Virtual County Project and Club Meetings: Jill related how Covid 19 brought an opportunity to collaborate, meet, and teach in different ways. She changed some of the meeting requirements for the year and offered education in different ways. In working with volunteers and community partners to continue offering meetings and educational experiences for young people and volunteers in Kewaunee County and invited other counties to join our offerings as appropriate. We have held several meetings already and more are planned for the upcoming month. While this has been a transition for family 4-H families and volunteers, they have taken it in stride and are readily participating in the educational offerings and meetings.

6. Department Head/Area Director Report-

- a. Burke reported that all functions of the Extension Office and Educators are continuing to function in this Stay at Home Safer era. University directives to all faculty and staff required tele-working of all but the most essential employees (example were employees to maintain experimental materials/animals/plants).
 - b. Burke noted that the Educators have responded quickly and effectively to the new working environment, and have developed and delivered programming, and information that addresses the most recent issues and problems that producers, youth, and families are experiencing during the COVID crisis. For example, a new program delivered by our Educators along with colleagues that addressed the issue of producers needing to land spread or otherwise dump raw milk drew over 350 participants online.
7. Next meeting dates June 3 at 8:30 am., July 1 8:30 a.m.
 8. **Call to adjourn, all aye.** Meeting adjourned at 9:19 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rob Burke

May 6, 2020