

**University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee**  
**Thursday, August 20, 2009**  
**James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room**

**Members Present:** Tom Widener, Susan Locke, Paul Eisen, Nancy Barker, and John Reinert.  
**UW-Extension Staff:** Chris Kniep, Nick Schneider, Darlene Kramer, and René Mehlberg. **Others present:** Jeff Gilderson-Duwe, Winnefox Library System Director and Oshkosh Library Director; Mark Arend, Winnefox Library Assistant Director; Theo Knigge, Omro Library Director; Stephen Proce, Neenah Library Director; Tasha Saeker, Menasha Library Director; Holly Selwitschka, Winneconne Library Director; and Tom Egan, Winnebago County Fair Association President.

**Meeting called to order** at 9:00a.m. by Chair Tom Widener.

**Comments from the Public related to items on the Agenda:** None

**Motion to approve July 16, 2009 meeting minutes as recorded** by Reinert/Locke. Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and Action of Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program Agreement - Chris Kniep & Darlene Kramer:** Kniep reviewed the questions from the June Extension Committee meeting including the \$43,000 “extra cost share” in the proposal. Kramer met with all Family Living Educators with the 3-county project to make a plan for the extra cost share. The plan includes increasing staff time as needs are identified. Increase can be done throughout the year. Kramer reported that Soper will be increased from 95%-100% time as of October 1.

Kramer also reported on upcoming efforts at the Oshkosh Community Pantry, efforts regarding the Hispanic Outreach in the Omro area, and partnering with the county Public Health department. Committee members questioned if some of these efforts were a duplication of programs and services. WNEP provides the educational component of many of these programs.

Kniep shared how some administrative tasks for the program were divided out between the three Family Educators in the county project. Kniep shared and talked through the cost share information provided from Bev Phillips at the state. Kramer shared the Agreement Letter and statement to be signed.

Motion Barker/Reinert to accept and sign WNEP agreement. Motion passed 5-0.

**Winnefox Library System – Jeff Gilderson-Duwe:** Gilderson-Duwe – presented a 5 year plan, agreement for services, 2010 budget request.

- Winnebago County Long Range Plan of Library Service 2010-2014: Highlighted the key points of the Long Range Plan and each year will come back with a report of progress based on the plan. Eisen suggested modification of the long range plan. Amendment to the agreement under VI, to add a letter d: “Look for opportunities for cooperation with other county agencies and community groups.” Motion to accept the Long Range Plan as amended by Barker/Eisen. Motion passed 5-0.
- Agreement for Services: Agreement lays out the method of how the budget request is calculated. Request to pass it as a 5-year agreement, with the possibility of amending if needed. Motion to Eisen/Barker as presented. Motion passed 5-0.
- County Budget Request: The request comes in 2 parts: 1) operations & 2) facilities. Gilderson-Duwe talked through the Budget Request. Motion to accept budget as presented Barker/Locke. Motion passed 5-0. Budget still needs to be passed by the Winnebago County Board.

Shared, “News from Winnebago County Libraries 2009” with each library director reporting their highlights.

Arend reported on the partnership with the County Court Commissioner to assist people who were representing themselves in the court system but not criminal cases. The partnership began in November 2008 and is with Winnebago County, UW-Oshkosh Business School, and Winnefox Library System. The partnership provides a clinic where people can come in to receive guidance in navigating the legal system. The clinic is twice a month with one at the Oshkosh Library and the other at Menasha Library averaging 25

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people per session. Participation far exceeded what was expected. The partnership committee will be meeting to review the past year and how to move forward.

Widener commented on maintenance of effort concerns, encouraging Winnefox to be proactive.

**Fair Association – Tom Egan:** The fair started with attendance up and when the weather changed (rain and hot, humid) the attendance numbers went down significantly compared to 2008. Egan shared an overview of outstanding bills and what monies are to be received. Egan left treasurer's report as of today, but report is not final. Egan stated that there is a board member who is looking to chair a parade for 2010 parade.

Egan also reported that they worked with the Sheriff's Department to receive work-release workers who worked-out very well and will pursue this arrangement in the future. He also mentioned various issues that came up. The committee suggested making a list of issues that came up to make a plan to move forward in the future; be pro-active.

Kniep commented on the successful transition of responsibilities with the Fair Board thanking Egan for his support. New software used went well.

Egan asked for suggestions regarding financial concerns – what if bills exceed Fair Association funds? Widener recommended Egan return with a plan – dollars needed for 2009 and the future.

**Program Report – 4-H Youth Development – René Mehlberg:** 4-H aspects of the fair overall went well. The 4-H Board of Directors and other 4-H leaders with fair responsibilities have debriefed regarding the 2009 fair and are moving forward for 2010.

**Committee Chair Report – Tom Widener:**

- Attending the NACO conference in Tennessee and participated in the Extension session. The focus was on youth saving money which adults will then do. He saw the Extension program doing a lot of the same things in TN, which is a reaffirmation of the work being done here.
- Widener also highlighted the article in the August issue of the **Wisconsin Counties** magazine written by Allen Biechel, Fond du Lac County Executive, on UW-Extension

**UW-Fox Valley Update – Tom Widener:** Communication/Arts Center is almost done with the Grand Opening on September 12.

Engineering Building: Elevator project should be done by January 1. 2010 budget included monies for the engineering building design; 2011 monies to build the project.

**UW-Extension - Administration – Chris Kniep:**

**2009 Budget Up-date:** Shared 2009 budget-to-date with changes made following 2010 budget review regarding clarification of monies received.

**2010 Budget Proposal:** The 2010 Budget Review went well with Orenstein and Harris pleased that the budget came in at target.

**UWEX Staff/Office Updates:**

- Passing of Ted Nortman, 30 year 4-H leader, Melody Piper's father-in-law, and Jim Harness, husband of HCE officer Margaret Harness.
- Kniep will not be at the September Extension Meeting as she will be at the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Science meeting. She will be presenting 2 workshops

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and presenting the findings of the national needs assessment.

- Neiswender and Kniep will be facilitating the “Community Health Initiative Process” discussions for the Oshkosh and Winnebago County Public Health Departments. A series of meetings is scheduled August through December to identify issues and develop action plans.
- At the request of the Winnebago County Courts and Mark Harris, the Volunteer Room will be used for Foreclosure/Bankruptcy hearings.
- Money Smart week is in October where “Penny the Pig” will be used to help teach youth about money with 4 specific sections: save, needs, philanthropic, spending. Kristi Cutts is co-chairing this effort locally.

**Comments by Committee Members:** Reinert suggested that Focus & Travel be sorted by staff member instead of by date.

Next meeting is Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned by Reinert/Barker at 11:49a.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
René L. Mehlberg, Recording Secretary