

**University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee**  
**Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room**

**Members Present:** Tom Snider, Julie Gordon, Steve Binder, George Scherck, and Al Long.

**UW-Extension Staff:** Catherine Neiswender, Darrell McCauley, Jody Bezio, and Amy Hendrickson.

**Others Present:** None.

**Meeting called to order** at 1:28 p.m. by Tom Snider.

**Comments from the Public related to items on the agenda:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Gordon moved to approve the 7/19/2017 minutes; seconded by Long. Motion carried **4-0**.

**Program Reports:**

**Agriculture:** McCauley reviewed the various program events he's been involved in recently. Darrell participated in *Farm Tech Days* July 11-13 in Kewaunee County. The Winnebago County *Pasture Walk* was held July 26 on the *G – Farm*. There were 12 participants at this event geared towards small farms. McCauley trained 38 Youth Instructors who led 3 different themed demonstrations for at the *AG Oasis* at the 2017 Winnebago County Fair. The *Soil Sundae* demonstration made more than 412 ice cream sundaes, using marshmallows, graham crackers, brown sugar, and oreos to represent different layers of soil, which were then poured over ice cream. *Soil Health Field Day* was this week Wednesday in Pickett. This event featured strategies to prevent soil compaction. McCauley distributed his PowerPoint presentation of Soil Compaction and the Impact on Soil Health presented at the Soil Field Day. The Rainfall Simulator was back and showed 5 different types of soils this year: conventional clean tillage without cover crops, reduced tillage with cover crops, no till with cover crops, no-till without cover crops, and conservation reserve prairie. McCauley received 21 participant evaluations from this event that will be compiled soon. McCauley started distributing Goal Cards to participants at these recent events that will allow him to follow up with them at future dates. Seven farms filled out a goal card with a request to follow up on goal progress in three months.

**4-H Youth Development:** Bezio distributed samples of the *2017 4-H Awards Ceremony* program and announcement for the *Key Award* winners. Bezio reviewed the awards application and selection process and highlighted some accomplishments of the year so far. One of the Winnebago County 4-H Youth Leaders served as a counselor at the *National Space Camp*. One Winnebago County 4-H member attended the *American Spirit Experience* and has been teaching other youth about American history as a result. Bezio distributed an invitation to the committee members to assist with *Outstanding Record Book Reading* to see more examples of what the Winnebago County 4-H members are learning. Bezio distributed and reviewed the promotional materials developed for the *4-H Endowment Fund*. An anonymous donor pledged \$5,000 to the Endowment Fund if 4-H members could raise funds to match the donation. Their goal has been met for a current total of \$12,000. The plan is to grow the fund to \$50,000 before they begin spending the interest on experiences for the 4-H members to learn and practice new skills. This will allow larger contributions for 4-H members to participate in events or allow for more members to attend these events. The 4-H Endowment Fund will have a display in the JPCC hallway display case for the next month.

**Committee Chair Report:** Snider gave an introduction to the 2018 Budget Meeting he and Neiswender attended yesterday.

**UW-Extension – Administration:** Neiswender shared that the two Academic Associate Dean positions are now filled and they will be working on staffing our statewide Centers and Institutes. Neiswender also updated the committee about the 2018 Budget Proposal. UWEX was one of the departments with the largest increase in Labor and Fringe Benefits due to the results of the Compensation Study and updates in insurance coverages. The requested amount for the 55030 Other Contracted Services line item represents a fully staffed UWEX office at Winnebago County. Snider summarized that the county wants to maintain their support for a full staff, with the intent of encouraging the state to support a full staff in Winnebago County as well. Neiswender shared that the plan for installing a Hoop House has been cancelled due to increasing costs and concerns with the project.

**Staff Updates:** Amy got married last month, so her last name and email have changed. Please update in your contacts list.

**Comments by Committee Members:** None.

**Next Meeting:** Next meeting will take place on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 9:00 am.

**Adjourned:** Binder moved to adjourn, seconded by Long. Motion carried **4-0**, 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson