

**University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee**  
**Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room**

**Members Present:** Tom Widener, Tom Snider, Nancy Barker, and Ron Hardy.

**UW-Extension Staff:** Darrell McCauley, Sarah Thompson, Kim Miller, and Amy Timm. Chris Kniep via poly-com.

**Others Present:** Tom Egan.

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

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Tom Snider moved to approve the 6-18-2015 minutes. Nancy seconded. Motion **3-0** to approve the minutes as corrected.

**Program Reports:**

**Winnebago County Fair:** Tom Egan shared the brochure and notebook materials being handed out for the fair. There will be new hog pens and goat pens at the fair this year. The 4-H youth got involved in raising the money to purchase the new goat pens. The Fair Department and Parks Department are acquiring and restoring the historical "welcome" arch to be established at the fair grounds for future years. All county board members are asked to sign up for barn judging at the fair. Tom Egan asked the committee to consider whether the extension committee would like copies of the proposed fair budget for 2016. Ron suggesting making it accessible online to save printing costs.

**4-H Youth Development:** Sarah Thompson shared about the 4-H youth participation in the Neenah parade. Interstate youth recently hosted individuals from New Jersey 4-H, showing them around the area, the UW-Extension office, and local 4-H opportunities. About 20 Winnebago County 4-H youth entries will be on display at the Wisconsin State Fair. Preparations and background tasks for making the fair run smoothly are in progress. Volunteer opportunities are still available from 2:30-7:30 pm. on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Let Sarah know if you are interested in judging Cloverbuds (K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) on Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup>. Sarah encouraged the committee to visit the fair to see what the 4-H youth have been learning this year and to visit the Dipper. All committee members are encouraged to help with barn judging. More information will be provided at the County Board Meeting on Tuesday 7/21.

**Review of 2016 UW-Extension Budget Proposal:** Chris Kniep reviewed the 2016 budget proposal that has been submitted to the County Executive. Chris highlighted significant changes in the four budget categories: income, salaries/benefits, travel and operating expenses and responded to committee questions. The budget submitted is within the targeted amount. The impact of the state budget cuts to Winnebago County UW-Extension are unknown at this time. Chris will inform the committee of the official date for the executive meeting regarding the budget.

**Committee Chair Report:**

**Horticulture – Emerald Ash Borer:** Kim Miller shared that they received proposals in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) that had been issued. The county is likely to choose the one arborist who submitted a bid. Kim gave a visual presentation of the tree inventory map with the information in the GIS system. The trees are color-coded according to health and first-year removal priority. Each individual tree may be selected to view a variety of information related to that specific tree. This information can be viewed and updated in the field to include treatment and attach photos. This program will eliminate the need and costs for printing maps and other information. No more than 5% of affected trees will be saved by Facilities. Higher percentages may need to be considered for the Parks Dept. for temporary treatment while arranging for replacement.

**Garage Up-date:** Chris Kniep shared that the garage is finished. Tom Widener urged that we need to be disposing of things that have been left in the old garage for numerous years.

**UW-Extension – Administration –**

**Staff Updates:** Kayla Oberstadt will be starting as the 4-H Educator on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tou Veu has been working with the Community Gardeners and has integrated very well in working between the gardeners and the UW-Extension. He has been gathering information from the gardeners for UW-Extension that will help to expand the program and work with the Hmong population. He will also be developing new teaching methods to work with the gardeners, particularly the

**University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee**

**Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room**

Hmong population that cannot read. Tou's wages have come from an Innovative Grant. Amy Timm and Mandi Dornfeld are completing the last months of their probationary periods.

**UWEX Updates – Department Activities:** Darrell explained that we are in the beginning stages of planning for the "hoop house" that will be used to enhance educational activities related to a Local Food Production program that Darrell has begun implementing. The hoop house will provide the opportunity to include 4-H youth activities along with adult individuals such as the Master Gardeners, but the focus will be more rural food production than the urban focus Growing Oshkosh is currently operating. Darrell has set the initial contact with this group as well as Goodwill Grows.

**Comments by Committee Members:** Ron Hardy inquired about what the state budget cuts will look like within the UW-System. Chris Kniep explained that UW-Colleges and UW-Extension have multiple divisions. The four UW-Extension divisions include Cooperative Extension, Continuing Education, Outreach and e-Learning (CEOEL), Business and Manufacturing (BAMI) and Broadcasting and Media Innovations (BAMI). The budget cuts have been applied across all four. \$6-7 million of cuts will be to Cooperative Extension. Chris serves on the "Reaction Group" committee regarding the budget cuts.

**Next Meeting:** Next meeting will be held Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.

**Adjourned:** Tom Widener moved to adjourn; seconded by Tom Snider. Motion carried **4-0**, 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Timm