



PORTAGE COUNTY

FOOD + FARM EXPLORATION CENTER
3400 INNOVATION DRIVE
PLOVER, WI 54467

MEETING MINUTES

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 10, 2023

7:00 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial +1 312 626 6799. After dialing the number, you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 943 8291 0922.

To attend this meeting by video: [Click Here](#)
If prompted, enter passcode: Portage.

CALL TO ORDER

The Agriculture and Extension Education Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Members Present: David Peterson, Matt Jacowski, Barry Jacowski, Pat Keller, Steve Cieslewicz

Attending In-Person: David Peterson, Matt Jacowski, Barry Jacowski, Pat Keller, Steve Cieslewicz

Attending Online:

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

Staff Attending: Jeremy Solin, Lisa Henriksen, Sherry Daniels, Connie Creighton, Ken Schroeder

Others Attending:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Review/approval of minutes from July 13, 2023.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair M. Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Peterson, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

REPORTS

2. Review Vendor Invoice List

The vendor invoice list and budget report were reviewed by the Committee.

3. Area Extension Director Report

Area Extension Director, Jeremy Solin, gave an update on the 2024 Extension budget. A draft of the 2024 Extension budget was distributed to Committee members. Solin reported that budget numbers remained the same except for two exceptions, those being the increase in the educator contract and the proposed increase in office support staff hours.

4. Educator Report

Educators submitted a written report that was included in the committee meeting packet.

5. Community Development Educator Update

Solin reported Katie Livernash has been hired as the new Community Development Educator and will start on September 5th.

6. UW-Madison, Division of Extension funding at state level update

Solin reported the cuts to UW-Madison in the state budget are not expected to have any impact on Extension.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

7. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)

- Request for special meeting attendance: None
- Approval of attendance of special meetings: None
- Special meeting attendance reports: None

8. Discussion/Possible Action: Drainage District Commissioner Interview Appointment Process

Chair B. Jacowski reported that the Portage County Drainage Board is moving from a 3-member to a 5-member board. The Committee will conduct interviews for the two open positions. Staff has placed the Drainage District Commissioner position advertisement in the Stevens Point Journal with interviews scheduled for September 13, 2023.

9. Discussion/Possible Action: Administrative support staff position increase

Solin brought forward the proposal for an increase in support staff hours to meet the needs of expanded Extension programming and services. A written justification and budget impact were included in the Committee meeting packet.

A motion was made by Chair B. Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Keller, to support the increase in administrative support staff hours. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

CORRESPONDENCE

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REMINDER

NEXT MEETING DATE

- 10. September 14, 2023 7:00PM**

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Cieslewicz, seconded by Vice-Chair M. Jacowski, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.