



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOMS 1 & 2
1462 STRONGS AVENUE
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Thursday, March 14, 2024

6:00 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 6:00pm.

Members Present: Barry Jacowski, Matt Jacowski, Dave Peterson, Steve Cieslewicz

Attending In-Person: Barry Jacowski, Matt Jacowski, Dave Peterson, Steve Cieslewicz

Attending Online:

Members Excused: Pat Keller

Members Absent:

Staff Attending: Jeremy Solin, Ken Schroeder, Katie Livernash, Connie Creighton, Denise Rocha, Lisa Henriksen

Others Attending: John Pavelski, Leif Haferd, Jacob Haza, Skyler Human, Caleb Jura

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 February 8, 2024.

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

Solin presented the 2023 Extension Annual report in lieu of an Area Extension Director report.

4. 2023 Portage County Extension Annual Report

Solin presented the 2023 Extension Annual Report that was included in the meeting packet to the Committee. Solin reported he plans to also present to the full county board in May and hopes to include educators in that presentation.

5. Educator Report

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

Katie Livernash, Community Development educator, invited Committee members to attend one of two large scale solar development community conversations in Portage County being held on March 27th & 28th.

Ken Schroeder, Agricultural Agent, also presented the results from the first-year of a two-year DATCP Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program (NOPP).

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

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

- Request for special meeting attendance: Large-scale solar development community conversations on March 27th at Boston School Forest or March 28th at Portage County Annex for any Committee Members who wish to attend.
- Approval of attendance of special meetings: None
- Special meeting attendance reports: None

7. Discussion/Possible Action: Drainage District Commission Annual Recommendation

Vice-Chair M. Jacowski stated as was discussed at the January & February meetings, drainage district commissioner interviews will not be conducted. In lieu, Committee members will bring forth names to submit to the judicial for the annual drainage district commissioner recommendation.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair M. Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Peterson, to forward Paul Cieslewicz as the drainage district commissioner recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

8. Discussion/Possible Action: Potential Partnership with Extension on Portage County Groundwater

Solin reported that a summary of potential Extension collaborations with the Portage County water quality specialist was included in the committee meeting packet. Solin has had meetings with Tim Reed and Executive Pavelski regarding future collaborations when the Portage County water quality specialist position is filled.

NEXT MEETING DATE

April 11, 2024, 7:00pm

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REMINDER

CORRESPONDENCE

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice-Chair M. Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Cieslewicz, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.