



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 13, 2025

5:00 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 5:00pm by Vice-Chair Schwartz.

Members Present: Mike Splinter, Matt Jacowski, Amberle Schwartz, Nancy Eggleston

Attending In-Person: Mike Splinter, Matt Jacowski, Amberle Schwartz

Attending Online: Nancy Eggleston

Members Excused: Vincent Miresse

Members Absent:

Staff Attending: Patrick Gatterman, Jeremy Solin, Lisa Henriksen, Amy Boelk

Others Attending: Paul Cieslewicz, Brion Hackbarth

CORRESPONDENCE

REPORTS

1. Review Vendor Invoice List

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

2. Area 7 Extension Director Welcome

Patrick Gatterman, Area 7 Extension Director, attended the Ag & Extension meeting and spoke with Committee members. Gatterman started his new position on March 10, 2025.

3. 4-H Educator Welcome

Amy Boelk, 4-H educator, attended the Ag & Extension meeting and spoke with Committee members. Boelk started her new position on January 13, 2025.

Supervisor Jacowski requested that agenda item #8 be moved up to accommodate Drainage District candidate. Request approved by Vice-Chair Schwartz.

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 public comment ordinance and the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

Paul Cieslewicz registered to speak on agenda item #8 - Discussion/Possible Action: Interview & Recommendation for the Portage County Drainage District Commissioner Position.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

8. Discussion/Possible Action: Interview & Recommendation for the Portage County Drainage District Commissioner Position

- Brion Hackbarth

Committee members only to receive references' contact information

A motion was made by Supervisor Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Splinter, to forgo interview questions for candidate Brion Hackbarth and instead have Hackbarth give a background of his drainage board experience. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

Brion Hackbarth spoke to the Committee about his qualifications and experience as a current drainage district board member.

Paul Cieslewicz spoke to the Committee to further outline Hackbarth's experience and benefits he brings as a drainage board member.

A motion was made by Supervisor Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Splinter, to approve Brion Hackbarth's recommendation for the Portage County Drainage District Commissioner position. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

REPORTS

4. Area Extension Director Report

2024 Portage County Extension Annual Report

Area Extension Director Gatterman reported that work on the annual report is currently underway. He hopes to present the annual report to the Committee at the May meeting.

Portage County Rosholt Fair Update

Amy Boelk, 4-H educator, gave an update on the Portage County Rosholt fair and transition of duties. Administrative duties of the Rosholt Fair that were previously completed by the Portage County Extension Office are in transition to the Rosholt Fair Board as set by state statutes and in the Guidelines on the Educational Roles of County/Regional Extension Educators at County Fairs document.

5. Educator Report

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6. Review/approval of minutes from January 9, 2025.

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

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: Miresse - Farmers of Mill Creek Annual Meeting 2/24/2025
- Special meeting attendance reports: None

A motion was made by Supervisor Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Splinter, to postpone the approval of Chair Miresse's special meeting attendance until he is in attendance and can give a special meeting attendance report. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

NEXT MEETING DATE

9. April 10, 2025 - 5:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm by Vice-Chair Schwartz.