



# PORTAGE COUNTY

## MEETING MINUTES

### AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

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Thursday, June 12, 2025

5:00 PM

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#### 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: 913 6962 6526.

To attend this meeting by video: [Click Here](#)

If prompted enter passcode: 846413.

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Agriculture and Extension Education Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.

Members Present: Vincent Miresse, Amberle Schwartz, Mike Splinter, Matt Jacowski

Attending In-Person: Amberle Schwartz

Attending Online: Vincent Miresse, Mike Splinter, Matt Jacowski

Members Excused: Nancy Eggleston

Members Absent:

Staff Attending: Patrick Gatterman, Lisa Henriksen, Mallory McGivern, Penny Schmitt

Others Attending: Lorraine Danczyk, Steve Hafenbradl

#### CORRESPONDENCE

#### REPORTS

##### 1. Review Vendor Invoice List

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

##### 2. Area Extension Director Report

Patrick Gatterman, Area Extension Director, provided an update on federal funding for Extension programs. He noted that Extension is currently facing potential reductions in federal funding, with significant uncertainty surrounding the situation at this time. Additionally, Gatterman reported that Extension is actively facilitating strategic planning efforts for Portage County. This initiative emphasizes the value of programming delivered not only by local educators but also through the broader statewide Extension network.

##### FoodWise/Snap-Ed Update

Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator, and Penny Schmitt, FoodWise Nutrition Educator, provided an overview of the FoodWise program and its local impact in Portage County. The program, which is federally funded through SNAP-Ed, is currently facing potential reductions due to proposed federal budget cuts. Two current participants of the Strong Bodies classes were also in attendance and shared their personal testimonials, highlighting the positive impact the FoodWise program has had on their health and well-being.

##### 3. Educator Report

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

#### 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.**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

4. Review/approve minutes from May 8, 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**

5. 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

6. Discussion/Possible Action: Continuation of Human Development Relationship Institute position for Portage County.

Area Extension Director Gatterman informed the committee that, following the recent retirement of Sherry Daniels, the Human Development & Relationships Institute educator position in Portage County is now vacant. Gatterman proposed conducting a scoping session with county stakeholders to assess current community needs and determine which program area within the Institute would most effectively address those needs.

A motion was made by Supervisor Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Splinter, to hold the scoping session with county stakeholders in August to re-evaluate the direction of the Human Development & Relationships Institute position in Portage County. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

7. July 10, 2025 5:00pm

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm pm by Vice-Chair Schwartz.