



PORTAGE COUNTY

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

MEETING AGENDA

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 10, 2022

7:00 PM

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial +1-929-205-6099, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 926 3451 5965. You may then be asked to enter a passcode. Use passcode: Extension.

To attend this meeting by video go to:

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/92634515965?pwd=Z2p3RmhERHkzRXdEbnNBTENGyXFHdz09>

When prompted enter passcode: Extension.

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

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

Members Present: Matt Jacowski, Charles Gussel, Barry Jacowski, Dan Martinson, Vincent Miresse

Attending In-Person: Matt Jacowski, Charles Gussel, Barry Jacowski, Dan Martinson, Vincent Miresse

Attending Online:

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

Staff Attending: Jason Hausler, Ken Schroeder, Nathan Sandwick, Lisa Henriksen

Others Attending: Supervisor Larry Raikowski

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 January 13, 2022.

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

REPORTS

2. Review Vendor Invoice List

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

3. Area Extension Director Report

Area Extension Director Jason Hausler reported attending the 2nd WEXA regional meeting. A face-to-face WEXA meeting is being planned for the summer. An Area 7 face-to-face meeting will be held on March 29th for all Extension staff in Portage, Wood, Clark and Marathon counties and will include professional development and programming updates. The Portage County Extension office will be closed that day.

4. Educator Report

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

5. Vegetable Crop Regional Specialist Position

Hausler reported the Agriculture Institute is looking to hire a vegetable crop regional specialist. This position will be a potato and vegetable specialist with an emphasis on water quality and will be funded by multiple counties, WPVGA, and UW-Madison Extension. Portage County is looking at options to invest in this position. The hiring process is moving forward and they are hoping to have this position staffed by early summer.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

6. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Regarding 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

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

A motion was made by Chair Jacowski, seconded by Vice-Chair Gussel, to postpone the vote on the drainage district commissioner recommendation until the April 14th Ag & Extension Committee meeting.

Chair Jacowski reached out to Judge Eagon prior to the meeting to get clarification on whether the Ag & Extension Committee should interview the additional candidates that were forwarded to the circuit court judges from the Portage County Farm Bureau, WPVGA, and the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association. At the time of the meeting Chair Jacowski had not received a response.

Supervisor Miresse opposed the postponement, stating it is not in the Committee's purview to interview applicants that were not submitted to the Committee. Supervisor Martinson questioned if there was any precedent in this situation and what actions taken this year would do to set precedent in the future.

Discussion followed. The motion was put to a voice vote and carried with 4 ayes and 1 nay vote.

8. Discussion/Possible Action: Office Space Redesign and Remodel

Hausler reported that Portage County Extension has received a request to house three regional UW-Madison Extension positions. Hausler and staff have been working with the Portage County facilities department to build three closed-door offices in the current cubical space for Lisa Baxter, UW-Madison Finance Specialist, a Human Development & Relationships Institute program manager, and an extra office space for the potential vegetable crop specialist. UW-Madison Extension is willing to cover the cost of the remodel.

CORRESPONDENCE

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REMINDER

NEXT MEETING DATE

9. April 14, 2022 7:00PM

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor B. Jacowski, seconded by Supervisor Martinson to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

Notice: Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact the Extension Office at 715-346-1316 as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made.

Notice: A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, or any committee thereof, may be present at this meeting.