

## Richland County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee

### Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.

Room 713, Extension Office, East Hall, UW-Richland

Present: Marty Brewer, Marc Couey, Brad Wegner, Steve Williamson, Karleen Craddock, and Craig Saxe;

Participated via phone: Sheena Cook-Fuglsang; Excused: Chelsea Wunnicke; Guests: Sandra Campbell & Jennie Silver

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brewer at 1:00 p.m.
- II. Saxe gave proof of notification.
- III. Motion by Couey, seconded by Wegner, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- IV. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Wegner, to approve the August 2019 minutes. Motion carried.
- V. Public input - None
- VI. Unfinished Business
  - a. FoodWise Educator Update: Sheena Cook-Fuglsang, Crawford-Richland-Vernon FoodWise Coordinator, gave an update via phone. She will be interviewing applicants for the Richland County FoodWise Educator position next week. There are several good candidates.
  - b. Agriculture Educator Position: Saxe presented the job description which has been approved by the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is ready to be posted. He stated that it will be a general Agriculture position with an emphasis on Livestock. Decision to post the job description was tabled until after the discussion on the proposed Richland County budget.
- VII. New Business
  - a. 2020 Educator Contracts - Tabled until after the discussion on the proposed Richland County budget.
  - b. Budget Considerations – Brewer reported that the 2020 Richland County budget proposed by the Finance and Personnel Committee includes a \$50,000 cut to the Extension budget. Saxe presented the following options for reducing UW-Extension's budget:
    - A. Eliminate the 28 hr. Administrative Support Staff position = \$30,097.26
    - B. Eliminate the 35 hr. Support Staff position = \$44,450.41 (and close office 1 day per week?)
    - C. Eliminate support for shared Ag Educator = \$22,750
    - D. Eliminate BOTH the 28 hr. Administrative Support Staff position AND support for the shared Agriculture Educator position = \$52,847.26Lengthy discussion followed about how the proposed budget cut would impact programs and services available to Richland County residents. Motion made by Wegner, seconded by Williamson to send the proposed budget back to the Finance and Personnel committee with the recommendation from the Ag and Extension Education that UW-Extension's budget not be cut by \$50,000. Motion passed by a vote of 3-1 (In Favor-Williamson, Wegner and Couey; Opposed-Brewer).
- VIII. Out of County Requests - None
- IX. Approval of Repairs/Purchases over \$1,000. None.
- X. Expenditures: Office, Agent, Soils, Program and Pesticide accounts – Motion by Wegner, seconded by Couey, to recommend payment of all accounts. Motion carried.
- XI. AED Update – Saxe requested the committee's decision regarding the posting of the Richland/Crawford Ag Educator position. The committee asked Saxe to let Crawford County know the posting will be delayed due to budget concerns. The Ag position will be discussed at the next Ag and Extension Education Committee meeting.
- XII. Educator report by Karleen Craddock, 4-H Program Coordinator. Craddock reported on new 4-H club starting in October and upcoming National 4-H Week activities. Discussion followed about Richland County 4-H program.
- XIII. Next meeting date is November 6, 2019 at 1 p.m.
- XIV. Motion to adjourn by Williamson and seconded by Wegner. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by: Karleen Craddock