

**MINUTES**  
**Trempealeau County Extension Education and Communication Committee**

Mike Nelson, Chair

1. Meeting called to order by Mike Nelson at 9:04 a.m. in the Trempealeau County Government Center in the Tremple Room on August 22, 2013.

2. Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

**Committee members present:**

     Jay Low  
  X   Sally Miller (after TV Studio)  
  X   Arild Engelién  
  X   Olin Fimreite  
  X   Michael Nelson

**Others present:**

  X   Steve Okonek  
  X   Pat Malone  
  X   Marilyn Whalen  
  X   John Kelly  
     Catherine Emmanuelle

3. **MOTION:**                   **Adopt agenda as printed**  
    (    Engelién / Fimreite    ; PASSED).

4. **MOTION:**                   **Adopt minutes of the July 18, 2013, meeting as (printed)**  
    (    Engelién / Fimreite    ; PASSED)

5. **MOTION:**                   **Approve agents' out-of-county travel requests**  
    (                            ; PASSED).

NONE

6. **Revision of Resolution for archiving and reviewing meeting on county website:**

John Kelly reviewed revisions of resolution for archiving and reviewing meetings on the county website. **Motion by Engelién seconded by Fimreite to approve the resolution. MOTION CARRIED**

7. **2014 Budgets:**

John Kelly reviewed the proposed TCCTV 2014 Budget. **Motion by Fimreite seconded by Engelién to approve the 2014 Budget Request. MOTION CARRIED**

8. **Update Equipment Check-out form with user agreement:**

John reviewed the updated equipment check-out form with user's agreement. It included date item borrowed, by whom and date when it was returned.

9. **Implementation of new Programming Policy:**

John reported that the implementations of the new programming. Policy is working well and going smoothly.

10. **Possibility of TCCTV Scholarship/Award for local youth produced television program:**

John Kelly is interested in encouraging Trempealeau County young people to develop and produce TV programs for TCCTV. He suggested a Scholarship as an incentive to get youth involved. Pat Malone suggested a non-profit organization be organized that could raise funds for a scholarship.

11. **Data Channel Policy Update:**

John discussed developing a policy for TCCTV Bulletin Channel which is channel 8. He will be working on a draft of this policy and will present it at the September meeting. The committee extended their best wishes to John who will be married to Mary in two days, August 24<sup>th</sup>.  
*(The above minutes were taken by Olin Fimreite)*

12. Report from 4H Executive Board:

Marilyn reported on the fair, said that 19 youth exhibit and perform at state fair. Four of the nineteen received merit awards at the State Fair. October 6-12 is National 4H Week and this year is the 100<sup>th</sup> year of 4H. Marilyn and Pat Malone have been trying to resurrect Environmental Education Day for 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the county. So far only three schools said yes. Blair and Independence declined. "Good Drugs gone Bad" train the trainer seminar at the Whitehall High School sponsored by the Trempealeau County Health Department and Jackson County Health Department.

13. Extension Programming Updates:

Steve said he met with Progressive Ag Farmer Group about P.A.F. days. Went through what did and didn't work/ He's been meeting with a farmer who has some issues with his barn. Did skid steer safety training. Hispanics attended the afternoon training. Skid steers are the number one cause of injuries on farms.

Pat and Steve are starting a soil conservation survey-erosion control. A new program that's starting is a garden at the Health Care Center for inmates and Huber. It's designed to help teach some life skills and problem solving. Looking at grants and donations, the food will be used in kitchens of the jail, TCHCC and will also look at food pantries.

Pat read a letter from Catherine Emmanuelle. (see attached). Pat updated on the strategic planning with the Health Department and quality improvements. Did three presentations on sand mining, two on the economic benefits of sand mining and one on the role of extension in controversial issues. Pat and Sally Miller attended WACEC. Deb Suchla, the new Director of Human Services has asked Pat to look at strategic planning for that department it has also been suggested the Extension will be able to assist in the new sand moratorium committee. Also met with Katherine Wangert, the Nutrition Educator Coordinator who will be working with Trempealeau County and Jackson County. She will meet the committee in September. Olin asked about soil erosion; Pat said extension work on that with Steve the Ag Agent helping.

14. Update on 4H Position:

Pat read a letter from the State Extension Director who responded to the committee's letter requesting that Marilyn Whalen be hired, or at least included in the final pool of candidates to come the final interview process. The committee reiterated its firm resolve to be able to have Marilyn Whalen as the 4H Coordinator for Trempealeau County. Committee members stressed a desire to balance the educational requirements with all the assets a local candidate – working in the position already – can bring.

15. WACEC Report:

Sally reported that she did an agri-business tour around Bayfield County. Orchards and pick your own farms, as well as timber plots of timber being grown to harvest for profit.

16. Budget:

Steve said the budget for 2014 is a zero percent increase. Pat said that's remarkable because they will be back up to full staff.

17. **Next meeting date** was set for September 19, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., in the Trempealeau County Government Center.

18. **MOTION: Adjourn meeting at 11:35 a.m. Mike Nelson adjourned the meeting by order of the chair.**

Sally Miller, Secretary  
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee

Olin Fimreite, Interim Secretary  
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee