

MINUTES
Trempealeau County Extension Education and Communication Committee

Mike Nelson, Chair

1. Meeting called to order by Mike Nelson at 9:00 a.m. in the Trempealeau County Government Center in the Packer Room on January 18, 2011.

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

Committee members present:

X George Brandt
X Robert Duellman
X Arild Engelién
X Olin Fimreite
X Michael Nelson

Others present:

X Steve Okonek
X Cyndy Jacoby
X Pat Malone
X Megan Stuessel
X Jami Kabus
X Ron Henry

3. **MOTION: Adopt agenda as (printed/amended)**
(Engelién/Duellman: **PASSED/FAILED**).

4. **MOTION: Adopt minutes of the November 23, 2010, meeting as (printed/corrected)**
(Brandt/Engelién: **PASSED/FAILED**).

5. **MOTION: Approve agents' out-of-county travel requests**
(Brandt/Fimreite: **PASSED/FAILED**).

See attached Out of County Travel Request.

Megan Stuessel, Pat Malone, Cyndy Jacoby and Steve Okonek will be attending the District meeting on February 14, 2011. The expense will be approved at the next month's meeting.

6. **Report from 4-H Executive Board:**

Megan reported the Leader's Board Meeting is tonight. The 4-H newsletter is scheduled for once per month and is committed by Megan and Michelle. They were complimented by the committee on the excellent and informative monthly newsletter.

7. **2010 Extension Budget:**

The 2010 Extension, once again all expenses are cleared, will give back to the County General Fund about \$8,600.00.

8. **Interim Ag Agent info and introductions:**

Steve Okonek the interim ag agent introduced himself. He farms in the Taylor area. Worked as an Ag Consultant.

There is a State hiring freeze until September 2011, so the hiring of the Ag Agent will be delayed. The activities of Pat Malone, Cyndy Jacoby and Lorna Anderson are attached.

9. **Ag visioning report:**

Cyndy reported that the Ag Visioning report will be summarized and finalized and distributed at the next meeting.

10. **WACE update:**

The WI Associated County Extension Committee (WACEC) State Conference will be held on March 28-30th in Madison. The focus will be on Capital Connections. They show case money area. (see attached) Committee members are invited. Those going must notify Pat Malone as soon as possible.

11. **Agent Report – Megan Stuessel:**

Megan was off 2.5 months with medical leave. During the last month she has been working on the following: she is working on tenure; working with the Health Dept on Youth Alliance Program; Youth Risk Behavior Survey in Trempealeau County; working on Fairbook for 2011 and other fair related things; Meat Animal Quality Assurance class; showing and fitting workshops; getting ready for 4-H comp; State Fair exhibitors class. Megan reported about 400 youngsters in 4-H & 150 adult volunteers. Two Resolutions relating to 4-H Funding carryovers were not approved by the County Board because Extension Committee members were unable to provide adequate explanations. 4-H Agent Megan Stuessel explained the reasons for the carryover Resolution. The first resolution “the balance of the 2010 4H Summer Intern Funds in the amount of \$623.41 be carried over to the 2011 budget”. Megan pointed out that this money is not tax levy. It is money given to the University Extension 4-H program by the 4-H Leaders of Trempealeau County. It is used by a summer intern helping with the fair, 4-H newsletters and other 4-H related activities. The second Resolution “the balance of the Youth Education funds account 101.55650 in the amount of \$2425.00 be carried over to the 2011 budget”. Megan Stuessel said this money is ear marked for youth education for all 7th & 8th grade students in the seven schools in Trempealeau County. The money goes to schools for transportation and speakers at Youth Education experience at Perrot Park (Mississippi River, Brady’s Bluff, etc.) Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge near Trempealeau and Lock and Dam 6 on the Mississippi River.

12. **2010 TCCTV Budget:**

Cyndy Jacoby and Michelle Rose have spent much time working on budget. Cyndy reported that Rick Joten and Michelle Olcott are doing a great job at the TCCTV. Ron Henry was complimented on his excellent sports filming and volunteer efforts in the studio. The TCCTV contributions have far exceeded what was expected. Expenses are within the 2010 budget.

13. **TV Visioning Update:**

The TCCTV Visioning session will be January 31, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. in the Tremplo Room. It will be coordinated by Pat Malone and Cyndy Jacoby.

14. **TV Programming Content – Sheriff’s issues**

Sheriff Richard Anderson attended the management and was very complimentary and appreciative of TCCTV. He did receive a number of complains people who heard a person who has a TCCTV program use some derogatory and inflammatory remarks about the Sheriff personally. The committee had a long discussion and what should or could be done regarding the matter. A letter regarding TCCTV programming content and language from corporation counsel Rian Radke was reading letter. (see attached letter).

15. **TCCTV January Programming Report:**

Jami Kabus, County Personnel Director was present to discuss the Resolution passed by the County Board, that a control room operator position courthouse union grade 3 be created for one hour per day 5 hours per week to post to the courthouse union. Much discussion followed. The committee indicated that the Resolution was developed with the intention of having a third person trained and available to assist in keeping TCCTV on the air.

16. **Next meeting date** was set for February 15, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., in the Trempealeau County Government Center.

17. **MOTION: Adjourn meeting at 11:55 a.m.**
(Brandt/Duellman : **PASSED**).

Olin Fimreite, Secretary
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee