

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION
EDUCATION/FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, December 3, 2018

9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Roger Guthrie. Present, in addition to Guthrie were, John Patcle, Mark Stead, Mike Lieurance, Gary Northouse, Bob Keeney, Amy Olson, Paul Ohlrogge, Lori Vesperman, James Schneider, Amanda Cauffman, Donna Peterson, Shane Drinkwater and Ron Brisbois.

The meeting notice was posted at the UW-Extension Office, Youth & Agriculture Center and mailed to media and Administration Building by Lori Vesperman and posted on the website by the Grant County Clerk's Office.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by John Patcle, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Gary Northouse, to approve minutes of the meetings held October 15 and November 27, 2018. Motion carried.

Grant County UW-Extension and Youth & Agriculture Center business was presented.

Agent reports were given by Donna Peterson, James Schneider and Amanda Cauffman. A report from Charisse Orth was shared with the committee.

James presented information on the Grant County Tourism Grants. He proposed two categories for 2019. One category would be for event or activity development and a second category would be added for marketing/advertising using social media.

Motion by John Patcle, seconded by Mike Lieurance to offer 2019 Grant County Tourism Grants with two categories. The application deadline will be Wednesday, February 6 at 4:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Paul Ohlrogge gave the Area Extension Director update. James Schneider was hired as the Grant County Community Development Educator. Josh Kamps has been hired as the Lafayette Agriculture Educator. The preliminary interviews for the Iowa 4-H Coordinator is at 1:00 p.m. on December 3. With these hires, the four counties in Area 17 will be fully staffed with educators.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by John Patcle, to sign the UW-Extension Educator Contract GRAN2019A for January 1-December 31, 2019. Motion carried.

Ron Brisbois, Grant County Economic Development Director, presented the Revolving Loan Application for 4X Innovations. The loan is for \$50,000 at a rate of 3.25% for a term of up to 10 years. The loan use is to expand from the Platteville Business Incubator to a property in Platteville Township. The business currently employs three full-time people and will add two new full-time positions.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by John Patcle, to send the 4X Innovations Loan application to the full County Board recommending passage of this loan. Motion carried.

Paul Ohlrogee spoke on the topic of Expanding Access. It covers intentional efforts of educators to reach out to under-served audiences. Paul spoke with each educator in the office.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by John Patcle, to approve UW-Extension vouchers. Motion carried.

Amy Olson gave the grounds and maintenance and Youth & Agriculture Center report.

Replacement of two poles on the grounds is complete. Brenda resolved an issue with the heat in the Eckstein Exhibit Hall. Two benches in front of the Youth & Ag Center will be replaced by Upbeat Site Furnishings due to color fading. The refrigerator in the North Room is now working and will not to be replaced at this time.

Amy Olson presented Fair and Fairgrounds business.

Shane Drinkwater spoke about antiviral software and gave an update on fiber optic installation.

The theme for the 2019 Fair is Life is Better at the Grant County Fair - So Get Your Happy On.

Discussion was held on carnivals.

A coupon book is available for the 2019 Grant County Fair. The value of the book is \$31 and they will be sold for \$25.

Discussion was held on the on the 2019 C & C Bucking Bulls contract. Amy will contact Cory Check regarding the cost stated on the contract.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by John Patcle, to sign a contract with Bungart Motorsports, LLC for Friday night and Saturday night tractor pulls. Motion carried.

The Pork Supper Fundraiser will be held Tuesday, April 9. The cost will be \$8.00 for adults and \$4 for age 6 and under. Amy will have t-shirts available for sale and hold a raffle and silent auction.

Jeremy Reuter is willing to help with the tractor pull on June 7, 2019.

Lancaster Schools would like to use the Youth & Ag Center for youth and middle school wrestling practice, and the Eckstein Exhibit Hall for cheerleading practice. Practices will start in December and go into February. Proof of insurance will be provided and a donation given.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to allow Lancaster middle school and youth wrestling, and the cheerleaders, to use the Youth & Ag Center and Eckstein Exhibit Hall respectively, for practices. Motion carried.

Amy will work with the IT Department to update the Grant County Fair website.

Motion by John Patcle, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve fairground vouchers. Motion carried.

John will further investigate a livestock claim presented to the committee. The claim does not state whether lambs died from injuries.

Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Gary Northouse, to approve the livestock claim in the amount of \$300 to the Grant County Humane Society and send on to the full county board for approval. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to adjourn. Motion carried.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be Monday, January 28, at 9:00 a.m. and to the call of the Chair on January 7, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Stead
Secretary

Lori Vesperman
Recording Secretary