

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION/
FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 18, 2021
9:00 a.m.

The October 18 meeting was held in the South Room of the Youth & Agriculture Center and by Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Schroeder. Present in person were Chairman Schroeder, Mark Stead, Mike Lieurance, Gary Northouse, Amy Olson, Lori Vesperman, Shane Drinkwater, Lynn Perkins, James Schneider, Amanda Cauffman, Bev Doll, Joe Bonnell, Vince Heiman and Kathy Mead. Present by Zoom were Bob Keeney and Tonya White. Roger Guthrie and John Patcle were excused.

The meeting notice was posted at the Extension Office, Youth & Agriculture Center, Administration Building, on the Grant County website and emailed to media.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Gary Northouse, to approve minutes of the meeting held September 20, 2021, with correction. Motion carried.

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

Educator reports were given by James Schneider, Bev Doll, Amanda Cauffman and Joe Bonnell. Joe shared that Grant, Iowa and Lafayette Counties applied jointly for a Clean Sweep grant from DATCP in the amount of \$90,000 and were awarded \$46,500. Each county committed \$15,000 as a match. A Clean Sweep for collection of household and agricultural waste will be held in late summer or early fall of 2022 in each county.

Lynn Perkins, AED Director, shared that the FoodWise Program Coordinator/Educator position has been reposted. She presented the Educator contract between Grant County and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System. Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Gary Northouse, to accept the contract for the term January 1 through December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Mark Stead, to approve Extension vouchers. Motion carried.

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

There is a water leak in the manhole by the swine barn that needs to be repaired. Mike Bennett will do the repair. Brian and Brenda, maintenance staff, would like to cut down and remove three more ash trees before winter. Amy will try to locate a telehandler. Someone will need to be hired to grind the stumps.

Vince Heiman and Kathy Mead were present to discuss the cost of insurance for the carnival for 2021. There was a drastic increase from the year 2019 (2020 fair was not held). Vince will get financial information for the insurance policy to share with the committee during their meeting at Fair Convention. Discussion was also held on overall operation of the carnival at the 2021 Fair. Further discussion will be held at Fair Convention.

Amy Olson presented Fair and Fairgrounds Business.

Amy is requesting to carry over \$175.63 from 2021 to the 2022 budget, the balance of sponsorship money for Fair goat trophies that was collected by a volunteer. Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to allow the \$175.63 balance be carried over to 2022. Motion carried.

The cost of purchasing six trees from Grantland Growers to replace the ash trees on the fairgrounds is \$2,610. The cost includes planting and mulching. Amy will be receiving a grant from Alliant Energy to help cover costs. The remaining amount will be paid from the Youth & Agriculture Center and Fair budgets. Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Gary Northouse, to purchase six trees from Grantland Growers and pay the cost not covered by the grant from the Youth & Agriculture Center and Fair budgets. Motion carried.

Amy will be attending the IAFE Conference the end of November. Lancaster Sluggers will no longer need to use the Eckstein Exhibit Hall for practice. The Lancaster Wrestling Club is holding their drive-thru breakfast in the Eckstein Exhibit Hall on November 13 and requested to have the fee waived. The consensus of the committee was to waive the fee.

A John Deere Gator was ordered for the Fairgrounds. The Gator may not be available until 2022. There are funds remaining in the 2021 budget that were designated for gravel for the Fairgrounds. Amy requested to carry those funds over to 2022, if needed, to cover the cost of the John Deere Gator. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to reassign 2021 funds and carry them over to 2022 to cover the cost of the John Deere Gator if it is not received and paid for in 2021. Motion carried.

A Livestock Auction Committee meeting is being held October 20, 7:30 p.m., to discuss the 2022 Auction.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve Fairgrounds vouchers. Motion carried.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mark Stead, to pay livestock claims in the amount of \$310 to the Grant County Humane Society. Motion carried.

Amy shared that a family contacted her regarding ordering memorial benches. Amy offered to assist the family with ordering if an account was needed for a personal order. The family would reimburse the costs if ordered through the Fair.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held November 15, 2021.

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

Mark Stead
Secretary

Lori Vesperman
Recording Secretary