

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION/
FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, March 28, 2022
9:00 a.m.

The March 28 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, Roger Guthrie, Mark Stead, John Patcle, Mike Lieurance, Gary Northouse, Bob Keeney, Amy Olson, Lori Vesperman, Shane Drinkwater, Lynn Perkins, James Schneider, Amanda Cauffman, Charisse Orth and Bev Doll. Present by Zoom were Larry Kalina, Angela O'Brien and Andrea Bahl.

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 Roger Guthrie, seconded by John Patcle, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve minutes of the meeting held February 21, 2022. Motion carried.

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

James Schneider, Bev Doll, Charisse Orth and Amanda Cauffman gave their reports. Lynn handed out Jessa's written report.

Lynn Perkins, gave the AED Director update. Work continues on the Regional Agriculture Staffing Plan with a draft plan to be presented at the April committee meeting. Lynn, along with Bev Doll - Grant County, Barry Hottman - Iowa County and Victoria Solomon - Green County are working on an orientation for newly elected County Board members. Lynn will give an overview of Extension at the May committee meeting. A retreat will be held for Area 17 Educators on April 22.

James Schneider presented 16 Grant County Tourism Grant applications requesting a total of \$7,000. A total of \$5,000 is available with a single grant award cap of \$500. A single community/organization will not be awarded more than \$1,000. Representatives from organizations were invited, but not required, to attend the meeting via Zoom. Due to the amount of business on the agenda, the committee decided to make awards at the April 18 meeting, allowing them time to review the applications.

Farm Progress Scholarship applications were reviewed. Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Gary Northouse, to award the Farm Progress Scholarship to Olivia Adams. Motion carried.

Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Gary Northouse, to approve Extension vouchers. Motion carried.

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

Usual maintenance continues. Campers are out and water is on in the Livestock Facility. Amy is getting a quote from Seamless Gutters for automatic openers for the two large overhead doors and the pavilion door in the Livestock Facility. She will be working with Shari Zenz, from the Livestock Trust.

Amy Olson presented Fair and Fairgrounds Business.

Badgerland Midway Carnivals signed a two-year contract. Ashley Barron and Jared Turner will perform in the entertainment tent Friday night. Dylan Gerard was no longer available. Contracts were signed for Jimmy Welter and Danny Parker Project bands for Saturday Night in the entertainment tent.

The topic of avian influenza in Wisconsin was discussed. The situation will continue to be monitored and any guidelines WDATC may have will be followed.

The District Fair Meeting will be held in Vernon County on April 13.

Amy has been receiving sponsorship collected by committee members for Movie Night. Movie choices are being narrowed down.

A total of 16 trees, including stumps, and 4 additional stumps need to be removed from the Fairgrounds. Amy received proposals for removal from Scott Klein and Mill Branch. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Gary Northouse, to accept Scott Klein's proposal of \$4,800 for tree and stump removal from the Fairgrounds. Motion carried.

Amy also received a proposal from Bob Meier for \$2,670 to plant six trees. She will apply for a grant from the Lancaster Community Fund to help with removal and planting expenses. She also has prospects for donation of trees. Motion by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Mark Stead, to have trees removed and new trees planted. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by John Patcle, to move to closed session per state statute 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility as it relates to the performance evaluation of the Grant County Fairgrounds & Operations Manager and Grant County Extension Educators. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Gary Northouse, to return to open session. Motion carried.

Amy gave the Fair Director's report.

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

Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to pay livestock claims in the amount of \$160 to the Grant County Humane Society. The County Board approved the claims at the March 15 meeting, contingent upon this committee's approval. Motion carried.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held April 18, 2022.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by John Patcle, to adjourn. Adjourned at 12:10 a.m.

Mark Stead
Secretary

Lori Vesperman
Recording Secretary