

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION/
FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, September 15, 2025
9:00 a.m.

The September meeting was held in the Extension Office Conference Room at the Youth & Agriculture Center and by Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roger Guthrie. Present in person in addition to Guthrie were Joe Mumm, Kathy Kopp, Pat Schroeder, Bob Keeney, Nate Dreckman, Amy Olson, Lori Vesperman, Bev Doll, Charisse Orth, Jackie McCarville, and Lynn Perkins. Present by Zoom was Tonya White. Gary Northouse and Mike Timmerman 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 Pat Schroeder, seconded by Joe Mumm, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Mumm, seconded by Kathy Kopp, to approve the minutes of the meetings held August 14, 15, 16, 17, 2025. Motion carried.

Educator reports were given by Bev Doll, Charisse Orth and Jackie McCarville

Lynn Perkins gave the AED update. The FoodWise program is ending September 30, 2025. The Regional Livestock Educator position was approved by the Ag Institute. Final approval is needed from the Dean of Extension. Blake Roberts, Rural Economic Development Specialist, is meeting with people in Grant, Lafayette, Crawford and Richland Counties and will attend the October meeting. Lynn shared the 2026 draft educator contract with the only change being 3.1.b. which is an address change.

Discussion was held on filling the Community Development Educator position or creating a county position for tourism and marketing. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Joe Mumm, to create a Grant County Tourism & Marketing Coordinator position if the budget allows. The Committee requested Lynn Perkins, AED Director, ask that it be allowed to increase the percentage of time that can be committed to tourism in the Community Development Educator contract. Motion carried.

The 2026 Extension budget was presented and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Kathy Kopp, to approve the Extension vouchers. Motion carried.

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

Work continues on pole replacement in the dairy poleshed. Amy will meet with the Livestock Trust regarding costs relating to the project. Buildings are clean ready for winter storage.

Fair and Fairgrounds Business

Discussion was held on the 2025 fair, including the wood carver, income and carnival. The animal health inspector will attend the superintendent meeting for the 2026 fair. Discussion was held on horse show dates and location due to weather. Fair comments were reviewed. Discussion was held on swine loadout, livestock auction pictures and locations of livestock shows.

The Fair district meeting will be held October 16 at the Chula Vista.

Amy presented 2026 budgets for Fair, Youth & Ag Center, and the Barn. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Joe Mumm, to approved and pass budgets on as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Mumm, seconded by Kathy Kopp, to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

James Schneider shared that the Spirit of the Driftless film will be premiered September 23 at Viterbo College. Grant County Economic Development, as a sponsor, will have access to all A and B roll footage with unlimited rights to show and distribute the film.

Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Joe Mumm, to adjourn. The next scheduled meeting is October 20, 2025. Motion carried.

Kathy Kopp
Secretary

Lori Vesperman
Recording Secretary