

GRANT COUNTY COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

September 11, 2009

The Complete Count Committee of Grant County met in the Grant County Administration Building in Room 264, Lancaster, WI, on Friday, September 11, 2009 at 10:09 a.m., pursuant to the adjournment of the July 16, 2009 meeting.

Chair John Patcle called the meeting to order.

Committee members present were as follows: Kristine Zenz, Village of Bagley Clerk; Frank Fiorenza, Village of Potosi President; Marlene Esser, Village of Cassville Clerk; Cinda Johnson, Village of Muscoda Clerk; Tori Armstrong, Social Services; Gabe Loeffelholtz, Town of Smelser Chair; Donald Splinter, Town of Hazel Green Chair; Allan Jansen, Town of Jamestown Clerk; Carol Stagman, Village of Hazel Green Clerk; Jerry Wehrle, City of Lancaster Mayor; Jerry Linder, City of Boscobel Mayor; Paul Thares, Comm. Resource Development Agent, UWEX; Mary Culligan, Village of Bloomington Clerk.

Verification of compliance with the open meeting law was a notice in the Herald Independent and WGLR stating the date, time and place of the Complete Count Committee Meeting. Al Jansen, seconded by Frank Fiorenza, moved the meeting is in compliance with the open meeting law. Motion carried.

Frank Fiorenza , seconded by Kristine Zenz, moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Frank Fiorenza, seconded by Cinda Johnson, moved to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Paul Thares, Comm. Resource Development Agent, UWEX, reported that the booth at the fair set up by The 2010 Census Bureau went well. Paul has been working with Scenic Rivers, Alliant and the Shopping News to insert press releases to inform the public about the upcoming census count by inserting them in their billings and publications in the Shopping News.

Frank Fiorenza, Potosi President, has formulated a letter that he circulated to the committee member to use as an example to send out in the municipal utility bills/tax bills/News Letters, etc. The committee agreed that the letter would be more effective if all the committee member's names and their affiliation to the municipality were on the bottom of the letter. Another suggestions was to emphasize that there would be no long form for this census, like in 2000; there is only a short form to be filled out by the citizens.

In further discussion of the 2010 Census information, it was suggested by committee members that any free interviews or radio spots that are available in the communities should be utilized to spread the word about the census. Posters to post in the municipalities would help get the word out. Web sites could be used to spread the information if it applies in the municipality; this form of communication is a new entity from the 2000 census process. The committee questioned if the schools could hand out information about the 2010 Census, the committee members could look into the privacy act policy of their local schools. Social Services would be a good outlet to get the information out; they are in contact

with the general public and can target the lower income and handicapped/ mentally challenged citizens which are two of the groups that were missed most in the last 2000 census. The Amish communities are another target area. It was suggested that Tim Slack, Realtor, could help with the Amish and Menninite community; he works very close with them. Dairy farms that employ the Spanish/Mexican population are another idea that came up. The communities that have these large dairy set ups should contact those farmers to obtain names. Dave Wachter of the Extension Office may be of help to these municipalities that have large dairy herds.

The question was raised, if the Census Bureau web site had Logos, or posters that could be downloaded to use in their municipalities. Paul Thares stated he knew they have some things available but has not had a chance to fully investigate their web site. In his opinion, most of the available items were very general.

Paul Thares asked if the committee had a time frame to do the publications. The committee agreed that at least a three month lead time would be appropriate. Paul Thares suggested that each publication should have a different look and not just keep the same material each time. His office would compile some releases and try to have them published in the most inexpensive method that he could kind.

Adjournment: Al Jansen, seconded by Don Splinter, made a motion to adjourn the meeting until Friday, November 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.