

**IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Iron County Courthouse, Hurley, Wisconsin 54534**  
**Thursday, January 26, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by William Thomas.

**Roll Call and Introductions:** Staff and Committee members introduced themselves and roll call was taken by Extension Office Manager Rebecca Holm. Committee members present: William Thomas, Paul Mullard, Brad Matson, Opal Roberts. Committee member excused: Karl Krall. Also in attendance: Holm, Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Deb Leonard, Darrin Kimbler, Kathy Beeksma, Heidi Ungrodt, Joyce Gayan and County Board Chair, Joe Pinardi.

**Acknowledge proper meeting posting:** Holm acknowledged proper meeting posting.

**Motion to approve meeting minutes for September 6, 2016:** Matson moved to approve minutes for September 6, 2016, seconded by Mullard. All in favor.

**Motion to approve financial reports:**

a) Extension

b) 4-H and Youth Clubs

Committee members received Extension and 4-H and Youth Clubs financial reports through December 31, 2016. Matson moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H & Youth Programs, seconded by Roberts. All in favor.

**Public Comment:** Matson revisited the idea of having youth delegates to the Iron County Board. He said that it would be a great resume builder for area youth and would like to see something happen this year. Klemme is on board, citing that it was one of his goals when he started working for Iron County.

**Update on staffing of Iron County UW-Extension:**

- a) **New Family Living Educators:** Klemme reported that he is pleased with the programming that Family Living Educators, Beeksma and Ungrodt have been working on since they started working part-time in Iron County. This includes presentations at Hurley Head Start, financial classes in Mercer, and upcoming programming at the Hurley School.
- b) **Amend 133 Contracts:** Since the current 133 contract has a salary overage, Klemme requested that the contract be amended. He suggested moving the \$1600 overage into a travel fund, which would help cover expenses incurred when Beeksma and Ungrodt travel from Ashland to Iron County. Amending the contract would allow them to submit mileage to the State rather than Iron County. To be clear, regular programming travel expenses will continue to be paid by Iron County. Klemme will have the contracts drawn up and asked if the committee would tentatively approve the amendment. Matson made a motion to do a tentative approval upon review. Seconded by Mullard. All in favor.
- c) **FoodWise Coordinator posting date:** Klemme also shared that the fulltime Nutrition Educator position has been posted as of January 18th. This will be a shared position between Iron, Bayfield and Ashland counties. Home office will be determined when the position is filled.

**Update on reorganization of Cooperative Extension:** Andresen updated the committee on the reorganization of Cooperative Extension. He stated that everything is still up in the air but made it clear that there will be a local presence in every county. He also stated that there will be a multi-county arrangement, with a federal and state budget. The chancellor is expected to make an announcement in early February, in which counties will be given a six week response time. Implementation will start July 1, 2017, with full implementation expected to be complete sometime in 2018. Andresen is hopeful that there will be changes within the 133 Contract that will cover travel, technology and programming needs.

## **Agent Reports**

**4-H Youth Development** – Klemme reported updates on the following:

- Impact Report, which each committee member received in their packet. This report defined youth-adult partnerships in Iron County. Klemme explained the Social Network Analysis, a survey that named Klemme as the main conductor between youth and leadership opportunities in Iron County. His goal is to expand the youth-adult connection between other members of our community, such as Board Chair, Pinardi and other committee members. Klemme will be doing a presentation on this topic at the Hurley School District in-service on February 17th.
- First Robotics Competition, which Klemme has fundraised almost \$15,000 through grants and donations. 12 area youth have joined the Gogebic Range Robotics team, with the help of Coaches Jake Hostettler, shop teacher at the Hurley school, and employees from Extreme Tool and Ironwood Plastics. The competition takes place in Duluth, March 1-4th.
- Tenure review - Klemme has been preparing for his Tenure review, which takes place on January 30th.

**Community Resource Development & Iron County Interim Community Educator:** Nosal reported updates on the following:

- Revitalizing the FE Live Life website, with a goal of improving communication with community members who want to hear about programs and events in our area.
- Ongoing trail projects, which has been a huge success as far as collaboration with motorized and non-motorized groups. Maps are needed to complete the next phase, so Nosal asked that Pinardi remind Neil Martinko to finish the maps.
- Nosal commented on the positive momentum within the office, despite the uncertainty of the reorganization of Extension. She praised Holm for her enthusiasm and work ethic since taking over the Office Manager position.

**FoodWise:** Nosal gave updates on behalf of Leonard, who was excused for programming.

- The blender bike has been a success and is used in programming on a consistent basis.
- Nosal praised Leonard for her work, stating that even though she hasn't had a coordinator for many years, Leonard communicates with other educators, finding new and fun ways to engage kids in nutrition education lessons. Instead of repeating, Leonard reinvents herself through her curriculum, without having the support of a coordinator.

**Horticulture:** Kimber updated the committee on the upcoming events:

- Horticulture Therapy Summit, which takes place on March 1-3, 2017, is open for registration. This Summit is designed for caregivers, social workers, and volunteers who would like to learn about establishing a Horticulture Therapy program within their organizations.
- Since Zona Wick retired, Kimber has taken over as Coordinator of the Iron County Community Garden. With plans to build a new county garage in the gardens current location, Kimbler is hopeful that it will be relocated, due to its importance with community members, especially seniors and children. Pinardi suggested the possibility of moving the garden up the hill vs. relocating to a different location, which would be beneficial to Human Services and nursing homes that currently use the garden.

**Family Living:**

Beeksma discussed how well her programming is going.

- Currently there are three different presentations set up for Iron County, one being Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE). This will take place at the Hurley School District teacher in-service on February 17th. She will also be providing the presentation at an upcoming Head Start meeting and a public meeting in the county boardroom.
- Beeskma praised the Iron County team and the work that is done for the community.

Ungrodt discussed some of the programming that she has been working on.

- She spoke with Human Services Department regarding education opportunities that their clients could find useful.
- Family Living Classes – Each member received a class brochure in their packets. The classes will be offered on a continual basis, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, from 12-2. They focus on parenting and financial education.
- Ungrodt recently held a budgeting workshop at the Hurley Head Start parent meeting.
- The Hurley School District agreed to have the eParenting High-Tech Kids Program, which is designed for parents of kids 9-14. They agreed to send out the weekly emails for that program.
- Ungrodt discussed possibly collaborating with Nosal with the Food Presentation classes.

**Department Head:** Klemme pointed out the March 15th WACEC North Central Region Annual Meeting date, inviting committee members to attend. He also discussed the growth of the office and the positive changes that are happening from within. He is excited to see the Family Living Program making connections at the Hurley and Mercer School Districts, as well as the Hurley Head Start.

**Schedule next Extension Education Committee meeting:** Next Extension Education Committee meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

**Adjourn:** Roberts moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Mullard. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.