

## **IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Iron County Courthouse, Hurley Wisconsin 54534**

**Wednesday, September 18, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by William Thomas.

**Roll Call and Introductions:** Roll call was taken by Rebecca Holm. Committee members present: William Thomas, Opal Roberts, Jamey Francis. Committee members excused: Karl Krall. Also in attendance: Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Deb Leonard, Darrin Kimbler, Mary Pardee, Stephanie Bakker, County Board Chair Joe Pinardi, Iron County Youth Leadership Council members Haley Allen-Rodriquez, Molly Hohner, Jackie Bradley, Ezra Manzer, Adeline Huybrecht. A moment of silence was observed for recently deceased committee member, Brad Matson.

**Motion to approve meeting minutes for July 17, 2019:** Roberts moved to approve minutes for July 17, 2019 seconded by Francis. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion to approve financial reports:** Committee members received **Extension and 4-H and Youth Clubs** financial reports through August 31, 2019. Roberts moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H and Youth Programs, seconded by Francis. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** No comment.

### **Educator Reports**

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

- Outpost Camp
  - Partnered with Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department's Zach Wilson on a service-learning project about aquatic invasives
- Microsoft Digital Ambassadors
  - \$6500 grant will be used to provide broadband education and online trainings with seniors and youth in Iron County
- Iron County Fair
  - Dairy booth, silent auction, and pie auction were all very successful fundraisers for Iron County 4-H youth
- Community Building/Placemaking
  - \$5000 grant will be used to create a training to teach youth and community members how to create healthy, vibrant, sustainable communities
  - Iron, Polk and Iowa County youth will be participating in this project
- Iron County Youth Leadership Council
  - Three new members were sworn in on August 27
- Shooting Sports
  - Klemme used the newly purchased .22 and air rifles at Iron County Summer Youth Camp and held a 5-week shooting sports program in August

- 4-H Volunteer Impact Study
  - Klemme shared the study to highlight the importance of 4-H volunteers in Iron County
- Iron County 4-H Achievement & Recognition Celebration
  - Scheduled for Sunday, October 13, 2019 at the Kimball Community Center

**Community Development:** Nosal reported on the following:

- Sprouts Program
  - Partnership with Iron County Human Services mentee program
  - Nosal provided education at the Hurley School Garden
- Iron County Trail Work
  - Partnership with ICORE on extending the Iron Belle Trail from Hurley to Montreal
  - Working on getting pedestrian access into consideration for the US2/Hwy 51 Interchange project; part of the Montreal River Trail connecting Interstate Falls, the Iron County Farmers Market, and Hurley Trailhead
  - Mercer Bike Trail system extension projects
- NICER (Northern Iron County Engaged Residents)
  - Nosal will be facilitating the next community meeting on Wednesday, September 25, during which participants will be asked to narrow down ideas for upcoming projects
- New partnerships
  - NorthLakes Community Clinic
  - Nosal joined the NorthLakes Community Clinic Hurley Advisory Council
- FeLiveLife.org
  - The Gogebic Iron Range community calendar is looking at the opportunity for non-profit groups to be able to sell tickets on the felivelife.org website

**FoodWise:** Leonard reported on the following:

- Hurley School Garden
  - Provided education to the Hurley Kids Club students in the school garden
- Iron County Senior Dining Sites
  - Provided seniors a variety of produce from the school garden
- Nutrition Education
  - Leonard will be starting nutrition education lessons at the Hurley and Mercer schools
  - The Hurley 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be harvesting the potatoes that they planted this spring and will be having a luncheon to celebrate their harvest

**FoodWise Coordinator,** Stephanie Bakker reported on the following:

- Maternity leave ended in September
- FoodWise Educator position is open for Bayfield/Ashland Counties
  - Mary Pardee and Deb Leonard are on the search and screen committee for this position
  - Bakker providing direct education in Ashland/Bayfield Counties until new hire starts
- Regional FoodWise meeting for the North Area
  - Leonard received a new award though FoodWise called the Golden Community Engagement Award

**Agriculture:** Kimbler reported on the following:

- Iron County Fair

- Master Gardener Volunteers did a great job engaging residents at the fair
- Community members have been stopping by the office with plant and insect questions
- Maple Syrup Happenings
  - Created a flow chart on how state regulations apply to Maple Syrup Producers
  - Presenting at a Beginner Maple Syrup Conference in October
  - Attending the International Maple Syrup Producers Association Conference in October with Nosal
- Master Gardener Training
  - Orientation takes place Wednesday, September 18
  - 8 people have signed up
  - Classes start in October and run until February 2020
- Attending engaging Beginning Farmers conference in October

**Area Extension Director Report:** Pardee reported on the following:

- Superior Days
  - Douglas County Community Development Educator resigned
  - This position coordinated Superior Days
  - Pardee updated Klemme on upcoming plans to hire someone to coordinate Superior Days, which he usually attends with youth from Iron County
- Ashland and Bayfield County Agriculture Educator, Jason Fischbach will be working on upcoming hazelnut projects
  - Fischbach will be working in a specialist role for 4 years, which means there will be an 80% back fill position available in Ashland/Bayfield County
- Ashland County offices will be moving out of the Ashland County Courthouse
- Pardee, Community Development Institute Director Will Andresen and Vilas County Community Development Educator Chris Stark met with Nosal for her 3 year review on September 9

**Motion to forward proposed 2020 budget to finance committee:** Pardee and Klemme reviewed the proposed 2020 budget for Extension and 4-H and Youth Clubs along with descriptions of line items, which committee members received in their packets. Francis moved to approve the budget, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion to approve Extension Iron County 2020 contract and have Iron County Extension Education Committee Chair, William Thomas, sign before year end:** Pardee reported that the contract is in the approval process in Madison. Roberts moved to approve the 2020 contract and have Iron County Extension Education Committee Chair, William Thomas sign it before year end, seconded by Francis. Motion carried unanimously.

**Schedule next Extension Education Committee meeting:** Next Extension Education Committee meeting will take place in January 2020. Date and time to be determined.

**Adjourn:** Francis moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.