

Richland County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.
Room 713, Extension Office, East Hall, UW-Richland

Present: Brewer, Sebranek, Marshall, Hady, Wunnicke, Craddock, Lenzendorf, Saxe, Williamson (by teleconference) and Kinney (by teleconference).

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brewer at 9:00 a.m.
- II. Hady gave proof of notification
- III. Motion by Kinney, seconded by Sebranek, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- IV. Minutes approved as published.
- V. Public input-none
- VI. Unfinished Business
 - a. nEXT Generation – Craig Saxe, Area Extension Director (AED) said there were no new updates. The process is moving forward with some hiring in other counties. Official transition to remove Department Head status from Hady and Wunnicke (and transfer it to Saxe) happens on January 1, 2018. Hady said that the proposed transition to place Cooperative Extension under the administrative umbrella of UW-Madison is scheduled to occur in the next 6 months. There are no plans for changes at the county level as part of this transition. Meeting of Extension Educators in Wisconsin Dells on December 6th explained that all Educators will be placed in Centers (Example: Center for Animal Agriculture). Centers will have authority over budget and programming.
 - b. Civil Rights Review—Wunnicke reported that Civil Rights review team visited the office in November. The reviewers were peer-educators from other counties who have been trained to do these reviews. The result of the review is that the office is working on the 2018 action plan, but overall, there were no red-flags and the office is on the right track for outreach and service to underserved and minority audiences. Brewer asked if Richland County Educators are able to provide programs in other languages. Karleen and Adam both described examples where LEP (limited English proficient) individuals were able to access programs.
 - c. FoodWise Educator Position—Lezendorf announced that the position was posted and now is closed, as of 12/11/17. There were 16 applications submitted. She will be doing screening and final, in-person, interviews are planned for January 4th. Brewer, Sebranek, and Williamson all indicated an interest to be notified of when interviews are scheduled.
- VII. New Business
 - a. County MOU—Saxe provided a draft of the County annual contract and draft MOU for review. The MOU is for discussion & revision and will be used starting in 2019 as a 3 year MOU. The annual contract is the fiscal contract for 2018. Positions supported and county costs are listed. Committee discussed that there is not a need to send this to Richland County counsel. Motion by Sebranek, second by Kinney to authorize the committee chair to act on behalf of the committee and sign the 2018 annual contract once wording is finalized.
- VIII. Out of County Requests - Motion by Sebranek, seconded by Marshall, to approve out of county requests. Motion carried.
- IX. No purchases over \$1,000.
- X. Office, Agent, Soils, Program and Pesticide accounts – Motion by Marshall, seconded by Kinney, to recommend payment of all accounts. Motion carried.
- XI. Agent Report – Hady, Agriculture Educator, explained his role in assisting in the formation of a new cooperative that is specializing in pasture-raised pork. The Driftless Area Returning to the Land Co-op includes producers

from Crawford, Richland, and Monroe Counties, and may eventually branch in to other types of production, as well. There are 15 producers enrolled and they plan to have products to market in 2nd quarter 2018. Hady shared an article from Agriview from December 6, 2017. In response to a question from Brewer & Sebranek, Hady explained that the pigs are on rotating pasture, usually about 1 week per rotation and are trainable to electric fence. The producers are sensitive to pasture sustainability. Since pigs are monogastric, they require grain and other feed beyond grass. Hady has seen that there is a large demand for pork raised this way.

XII. Next meeting date is Wednesday, January 10, 2017 at 9 a.m.

XIII. Motion to adjourn by Marshall and seconded by Sebranek. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by: Chelsea Wunnicke.