

**Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee**  
*Monthly Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2010*

Chairman Herb Cornell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were: Cornell, Beitlich, McClelland, Larson, Easterday, Rehbein, Pulvermacher, Traastad, Lenzendorf, Laura Lauderdale and Abbie Holig.

The public meeting notice was sent to the Vernon County Broadcaster, County Clerk, and Computer Department on June 4, 2010.

Beitlich moved, McClelland seconded to approve the minutes as sent. Motion carried.

The next meeting date is July 9, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.

Kelly Jacobs attended the meeting.

McClelland moved, Larson seconded, to approve the May Teen Court expenses of \$620. Motion carried.

Beitlich moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the May office expenses of \$1,175, with grape grant project expense of \$53.69 and internal transfer of \$286.99.

Pulvermacher introduced the summer interns. Laura Lauderdale is the 4-H intern funded by the Vernon County 4-H Leader/Parent Federation and Abbie Holig is the 4-H dairy intern, funded by the UW-Madison Crowley Grant.

***Lenzendorf reported on May activities:*** Sonya talked about the County Letter of Agreement that was passed around to the committee. The letter states that the county supports the WNEP program and contributes things such as office space, electricity, phone use, and basic office expenses for the upcoming fiscal year – 2011. This agreement is the last piece of paperwork that needs to be done in the planning for FY11. All other agreements are set and now will just need to finish 2010 to be able to start 2011. WNEP has been working with WIC and food pantries in the past month. Topics being discussed are physical activity and eating more fruits and vegetables. The summer time is an easier time to get more of those fruits and vegetables.

***Pulvermacher reported on May activities:*** Colleen indicated that Intern Management has presented some challenges, but things are coming together. Colleen explained the funding for these two intern positions. The dairy intern is funded through the Dr. James Crowley Grant program and the 4-H intern is funded through the 4-H leader parent federation. Colleen and Laura taught Putting Your Best Foot Forward, an introductory program about personal presentation, which is a preparatory class for Career Education. Colleen worked with the Hillsboro High School guidance counselor to develop a program to address apathy among the ninth graders, especially those who are already credit deficient. Multiple teaching styles were utilized and the evaluation shows positive impact was made on the 40 youth who attended. The 4-H calendar raffle was restructured to comply with increasing regulations from the Division of Licensing and Gaming. Payout will be \$6,000 with two chances to win each weekday in October. Incentives for 4-H members selling tickets are in place. Projected profits are \$7,500 for 2010. Volunteer orientation was held in May and 5 new volunteers were certified. Photo Tour was held with 23 youth and about 10 parents in attendance. A session on how to take photos was held here and then the group traveled to Sidie Hollow for a photography challenge (they were given a list of a dozen things to take photos of) and lunch. The group calls themselves the Photo Click and welcomes any other 4-H member, whether they are in the photography project or not. Colleen attended the district meeting along with both interns. Colleen noted that we were one of the only counties with two interns. A camp counselor-chaperone training was held last week with good attendance and participation. This training is critical in fostering understanding and rapport between camp counselors and chaperones. Issues addressed included job descriptions, schedules,

risk management, dress code, handling challenging behaviors, and to answer any questions. The Vernon County camp group includes 66 campers, 4 camp counselors (12 applied), 4 base camp chaperones, 2 outpost camp chaperones. Bussing has been arranged with Weston Bus Co. for \$150, which is a phenomenal bargain, given that we usually pay nearly \$400. Colleen will provide an update on the service, etc. next month. Five scholarships were recently awarded. One scholarship is offered by the Shooting Sports Program and went to Logan Moser. The other four scholarships are through the 4-H federation and winners this year included Katie Wendorf, Dieter Henckel, Bethany Peterson and Taylor Boardman. All of these youth attended the scholarship reception held last week. Teen Court will be held tomorrow evening and there are six cases to be heard, most of them disorderly conduct charges. Colleen will serve as the computer migration coordinator and will be spending time on training and implementing this change, which will affect the way we post information to our website. Colleen enjoyed helping serve at the dairy breakfast this year. Abbie has been tremendously helpful in processing the State Fair Dairy forms. Tim and Abbie helped this group with forms last week while I was at a 4-H federation meeting. Teresa Gutenberger is organizing State Fair Dairy this year and has done a wonderful job of communicating and following through on details. We have 25 animals going and 21 youth, so our extra bed we had requested will not be needed.

***Rehbein reported on May activities:*** Met with the Wis. Grape Growers Association Board to schedule summer activities. The summer vineyard walk will be held outside of Vernon County for the very first time. It will be held in Buffalo County. Provided the office staff a training on the new census demographic system that is now being used. Responded to many phone calls from gardeners and grape growers about the mother's day freeze event. Some grape growers lost all their primary shoots, others had no damage. At state expense, attended the 2010 tenure orientation workshop. Continued with planning meetings for the dairy breakfast coming up in June. Conducted the first proxy exam for a grape grower student who is taking an online wine making course from the University of California at Davis. Assisted with the lamb and hog weigh-in and identification. RFID tags were again used. Provided assistance to the state USDA FSA office with information pertaining to weather and cattle loss. Started planning for the Holstein breeder twilight meeting to be held in July. Hosted the summer southern district meeting for ag agents. Topics discussed were: the new census demographic system, breeding cows in larger dairy systems, pastured poultry and hop harvesting out in the pacific northwest. Took a mandatory unpaid furlough day on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

***Traastad reported on May activities:*** Met with the Vernon County Housing Coalition where group is working on a new housing resource book of low income housing listings for the general public and agencies to use.

Attended the Aging In Our Communities state Family Living Program team meeting held in Stevens Point. The team met to plan and work on future state-wide projects and curriculum in aging issues.

Attended Dairy Breakfast planning meetings for the June 5<sup>th</sup> event on the Gerald Schumacher farm.

Helped plan and coordinate the Dairy Princess Contest with the Dairy Promotion Committee. The contest was held May 26<sup>th</sup> at Vernon Manor with the announcement of Princess and attendant to take place at the Dairy Breakfast.

Finished teaching the Strong Women classes at 9 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. in Viroqua and the La Farge class at 3:45 p.m. for the spring sessions. Hope to start fall classes in September.

Took the last of the state mandated furlough days on May 24, 2010, and several vacation days during the month.

Attended the county department head meeting where new phone system was presented by Vernon Telephone Cooperative.

McClelland moved, Easterday seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried.