

**Lincoln County Land Information, Conservation and University Extension Committee**  
**Minutes of Tuesday - December 5, 2006**  
**Land Resource Center Meeting Room**  
**1106 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St.**  
**Merrill, WI 54452**

Members Present: James Alber, Frank Saal, Gail Schneider, Wayne Plant

Members Absent: Carl Short (called in ill)

Visitors: Brenda Janke, Debbie Moellendorf, Tom Cadwallader, Art Lersch, Brenda Herrell

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jim Alber at 9:30 am.

**2. Approval of Minutes from the November 1, 2006 Committee Meeting**

Moellendorf mentioned that the minutes included an incorrect day for the next meeting (should be Tuesday instead of Wednesday).

**Motion** by Schneider, second by Plant to approve minutes from November 1, 2006 with the correction of the December meeting day. Motion carried, all ayes.

**3. Public Comment**

None

**UW-Extension**

**4. Review Extension budget monthly report**

Moellendorf included in the committee mailing a written explanation for line items that appear to be over budget. Committee members present indicated that this explanation was helpful and had no further questions. Moellendorf also indicated that she will be bringing the 2006 budget modifications to the February 2007 committee meeting for their action. She also reported that Tom Cadwallader's laptop computer (which is over 6 years old) needs to be replaced this year at an estimated cost between \$1,500 and \$1,600 per computer services. This purchase will be made out of the 2006 budget.

**5. Discussion/Action on Appointment of Department Head**

Supervisor Alber read a letter from UWEX Central District Director Sue Buck stating to the committee that Moellendorf received a majority of votes from staff to once again serve as department head in 2007. The letter also requested that the Extension Committee either approve or disapprove the appointment.

**Motion** by Saal, second by Plant to support Moellendorf for department head for 2007. Motion carried, all ayes.

**6. Discuss/Action on Community Partner Advisory Group Invitation List and Letter**

Moellendorf distributed the CPAG mailing list to committee members and requested that they contact her with the missing addresses and any corrections. She also distributed a draft of the CPAG invitation letter and return postcard that will be sent to this list of individuals in early January. She requested that the letter be reviewed by the committee then, if acceptable, that a motion be made to approve it. After a review of the letter:

**Motion** by Alber, second by Plant to approve the letter and to move the CPAG member recruitment process forward. Motion carried, all ayes.

**7. Update on Cooperative Extension Dean and Director Position**

Moellendorf announced that UW-Extension Dean Arlen Leholm was stepping down effective February 1, 2007 to become Executive Director for the North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors. She mentioned that the Extension Chancellor is currently accepting advice

on who should serve as Interim Dean and that the Interim Deanship will be in effect for three years. The Chancellor plans to name this Interim Dean by mid-December.

**8. Preparations for District 3 Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committees (WACEC) Annual Meeting to be held on Friday, January 5, 2007 at the Elizabeth Inn in Plover**

Supervisor Plant reported on preparations for the upcoming event. He mentioned that legislators attending the event will be asked several questions relevant to UW-Extension. Four primary categories of questions were chosen to submit to the legislators before the event. They relate to unfunded state mandates, fair funding at the state level, school funding, and healthcare. He also reported that the event will include four breakout sessions and that the Extension Committee will soon be receiving a final agenda from Sue Buck's office.

**9. Q & A on Agriculture Development Agent Written Report**

Tom Cadawallader's written report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Cadwallader elaborated on the recent successes drawing nontraditional students in the Wisconsin School for Beginning Dairy and Livestock Farmers.

**10. Q & A on Community and Economic Development Educator Written Report**

Art Lersch's written report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Supervisor Saal asked how a retail training designed by the educator to be given in Merrill (already given in Tomahawk) advises Chambers to take a stand on the planned Merrill Wal-Mart Supercenter. Lersch stated that he is merely providing retailers with concrete suggestions on how to better deal with and thrive in areas where such big box stores exist. He stated that Chambers must decide for themselves how to respond to big box stores announcing that they want to build in the area. He also was asked to elaborate on the mission of Comunidad Hispana.

**11. Q & A on Family Living Educator Written Report**

Brenda Janke's written report was handed out at the meeting and will be placed on file.

**a. Overview of Social Norms Project Working on in Collaboration with Merrill Area Public Schools through Drug-Free Communities Grant**

Janke provided a detailed overview of the project. She explained that social norms is a way to look at positive rather than negative results about student behaviors (i.e. perhaps 70% of student population is not drinking). She showed a video describing the social norms concept and updated the committee on the project with MAPS. Supervisor Alber asked whether the project would take place in Tomahawk as well. Janke stated that the reason the project is being done currently within the Merrill School System is because they have received a Drug-Free Communities grant to support the project. There is some interest in the Tomahawk area to do the project but to date no funding is available to support. Supervisor Saal commented that he very much appreciated the update and complimented Janke on the good work she and Moellendorf are doing on the project. He also commented that staff should feel comfortable reporting at committee meetings on projects/work they are involved in.

**12. Q & A on Wisconsin Nutrition Education Written Report**

Brenda Herrell's written report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Upon committee request, Brenda gave further information on the Nutrition for the Young at Heart program in the effort to expand it to Tomahawk.

**13. Q & A on 4-H Youth Development Program Advisor Written Report**

Amanda Kostman's written report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file.

**14. Q & A on 4-H Youth Development Agent/Department Head Written Report**

Debbie Moellendorf's written report was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file.

a. **Presentation of Letter of Appreciation for “After the Bell” program/Action per November 1, 2006 meeting**

Plant asked for a status report on After the Bell funding. Moellendorf reported that about \$3,000 is still needed to run the program for the remainder of the school year and that about \$4,900 has been raised so far. Moellendorf presented the recognition letter of the program per the committee’s direction at the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting..

**Motion** by Plant, second by Saal to forward the letter as a public relations piece to County Board supervisors, media, County Department Heads, and School Board members. Discussion:

Supervisor Alber encouraged Extension staff to look into publishing articles about their projects in the Wisconsin Counties Association Magazine. Motion carried, all ayes

15. **Next Meeting Date**

Wednesday, January 3, 2007 at 9:30 am, Land Resource Center meeting room.

16. **Adjournment**

**Motion** by Plant, second by Schneider to adjourn at 10:48 am. Motion carried, all ayes.

Minutes prepared by Art Lersch and Debbie Moellendorf