

**Vernon County Agricultural and Extension Education Committee**  
*Monthly Meeting Minutes – August 18, 2014*

Chairman Kevin Larson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were: Larson, Johnson, Easterday, Mitchell, Pulvermacher, Lenzendorf and Traastad. Visitors were Herb Cornell, Greg Lunde, Matt Hanson and Don Subera.

The public meeting notice was emailed to the Vernon County Broadcaster, County Clerk and IT Departments on August 12, 2014.

Johnson moved, Mitchell seconded to approve the July 11, 2014 minutes as sent. Motion carried.

Visitors were in attendance.

The next meeting date is set for September 15, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

Johnson moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the July Teen Court expenses of \$813.41. Motion carried.

Mitchell moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the special accounts expenses of State Fair Trucking of \$650.00 and Grape Grant Project of \$1,076.14. Motion carried.

Mitchell moved, Johnson seconded to approve the July office expenses of \$2,665.96. Motion Carried.

Easterday moved, Mitchell seconded, to accept Tim Rehbein's resignation letter stating he will retire with his last day of employment being Friday, December 5, 2014. Motion carried.

Johnson moved, Easterday seconded, to enter into closed session for contract negotiation. Johnson and Easterday rescinded the motion to receive information from Traastad.

Traastad reported the contract UW-Extension sent for the July meeting was changed and a new contract was sent. The new amendment was handed out with Traastad noting that equity compensation was lowered for Rehbein and Traastad and revised for Pulvermacher.

Traastad also noted the UW-Extension Business Office sent notification we would receive \$1,867.00 toward the fringe benefits in 2015. All this information will help lower the future increase to the department's 2015 budget. Traastad also noted this proposed increase was less than the increase from 2012/2013 to 2013/2014 state contracts.

Johnson moved, Easterday seconded to enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 19, Section 19.85 (1) (E) for consideration of 133 UW-Extension contract renewal for competitive or bargaining reasons requiring closed session. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Johnson moved, Easterday seconded, to reconvene to open session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (2). Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Mitchell moved, Easterday seconded, to approve the 133 UW-Extension contract for July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 for Traastad, Rehbein and Pulvermacher. Motion carried.

Discussion held on refilling of the agriculture program position. Matt Hanson reported the position can be posted as soon as the committee agrees to fill the position. The faculty position with the UW-Extension requires a master's degree and the committee gives input on level of experience they feel is needed for the county program. That will affect the salary level posted in the job description.

A visioning session to gather public input on the needs of agriculture in the county will be held as soon as possible. Larson asked the committee to bring names of interested citizens for the visioning session to the next committee meeting.

Discussion held on the need for short-term backfill for county fair departments where Rehbein was instrumental in data collection for the youth hog, beef and dairy projects. Rehbein will contact possible volunteers.

Easterday moved, Mitchell seconded, to approve the 2015 proposed UW-Extension department budget for Finance Committee's review. Motion carried.

The 5 year WACEC certificates will be presented at the next meeting.

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