

EXTENSION EDUCATION & RECYCLING COMMITTEE
Douglas County Board of Supervisors
Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 1:00 p.m., Government Center, Boardroom 201
1316 N. 14th Street, Superior, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair Hendrickson.

ROLL CALL: Present – Sue Hendrickson, Michael Raunio, Wendy Bong, Kelly Peterson. Absent – Mike Streveler. Others present – Ashley Vande Voorte, Mary Pardee, Tracy Henegar, Katie Stenroos, Julie Montgomery, Jane Anklam, Tara Nichols, Ashton Gronning (remote), Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Peterson, second Bong, to approve the September 22, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Reports:

Recycling – S. Johnson: Ashton Gronning introduced, new Environmental Service Specialist, for Northwest Regional Planning. Continuing to monitor recycling program across the county; with containers removed at several locations due to the winter slow-down. Gronning reported sharps disposal available at Waste Management and Rural Eight Action Network in Duluth, MN. Plan to research disposal options for Superior, WI area as well.

Extension (Written Report Distributed Prior to Meeting):

Area Extension Director – M. Pardee: Pardee attended virtual conference on digital technology and rural broadband, continuing to work with counties and others to increase broadband access.

Agriculture & Horticulture – J. Anklam: Master Gardeners’ model revised to utilize volunteers in the community. Anklam retiring in March, 2022.

FoodWise – J. Montgomery/T. Nichols: Montgomery and Nichols worked on pilot program, “Wisconsin Harvest of the Month”, providing materials to schools and connected to their menu, serving seasonal foods.

Human Development & Relationships – T. Henegar: Really looking at 2022 to see what the needs are, how capacity can be expanded, and provide an entire year of scheduled programming up front so families know what is coming up. Behavioral Health highlighted.

4-H and Youth Development – K. Stenroos: One youth member attended the national 4H congress in Atlanta, Georgia; will follow-up with her on experience details. Advised that youth not allowed to attend 2022 Superior Days. Working on Youth in Governance Program in 2022.

ACTION ITEMS/REFERRALS: 2022 Responsible Unit Administrative Contract NWRPC – Douglas County: Reviewed. Same language as last five years – dates revised.

ACTION: Motion by Raunio, second Peterson, to recommend approval of 2022 RU Administrative Contract NWRPC and signing by Douglas County Administrator. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL:

Agriculture and Horticulture Discussion – M. Pardee and J. Anklam: Pardee advised that as educators are leaving and retiring, the state system is moving towards regional educators and specialists. Discussion about impact of specific agriculture educator loss to Douglas County, and detriment to local farmers. Vande Voorte reflected on importance of Anklam’s position in her work with the Land Conservation Department. Pardee to contact Institute Director and research options available and bring back to committee at future date.

WEXA Update – S. Hendrickson: No updates.

Future Agenda Items: Next meeting date is April 20, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Peterson, second Raunio, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk