Jackson County Extension Education Committee

July 15, 2016

Attending: Max Hart, Tom Reid, Larry Blaken, Karen Thayer, Tom Clark, Alex Galston, Monica Lobenstein, Trisha Wagner, Luane Meyer

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Thayer at 8:30AM. Motion by Clark and seconded by Reid to approve the June minutes as presented. Carried. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 18, 2016. Tom Reid will host.

Motion by Blaken and seconded by Hart to approve the bills and place them on file. Carried.

The proposal to increase the time of Support Staff at the Extension Office passed through the appropriate committees with approval. The increase in time will be focused on support for the WNEP and also other Extension programming projects as time allows. WNEP is be providing financial support for position in addition to county dollars.

nEXT Gen update: counties have been directed to move forward with proposed 2017 budgets as in previous years; the formation of the sub-work groups is continuing.

A big THANK YOU was expressed to Alex Galston for his commitment of 4 years to the AmeriCorps VISTA Program in the county. Due to the fact that VISTA funds are no longer available in a partnership with Extension, it was suggested that perhaps there might be other grant funds available.

Education Reports:

Monica highlighted the following programming efforts: 3 of the 5 Summer of Science programs have been completed, Summer Youth Camp was held; Meat Animal Quality Assurance workshop was held with the co-leadership of a former BRF high school student; Lisa and Monica taught an overview training to Special Education teachers in the BRF School District for the MindUP curriculum with plans to use over the coming year; participated in multiple professional development opportunities.

April presented the following WNEP projects and events: working with Jackson In Action and 5210 work groups in the county; reviewing and providing feedback on the pilot WNEP online training course for new educators; programming at JC WIC, JC Food Pantry, and JC Early Head Start Grocery Tour.

Trisha summarized the following programs: on-farm field work includes the state-wide trap network for the SWD pest, monitoring the presence of the Western Bean Cutworm in field and sweet corn, and working with farmers wanting calculations on cost of manure handling using tool from UW Center for Dairy Profitability and UWEX; responding to request from Hoard’s Dairyman publication to provide articles on employee management issues on dairy farms; Safe Operation of Tractor & Machinery Certification Program was held; MGV working on several county and community projects.

Luane reported the following programs: completion of Taking Care of You Program in Melrose; providing co-parenting sessions with families from Bolton Refuge; completion of 2 of the 3 planned Preschool Discovery Camps; working with JC Farmer’s Market and GreenLifeXpo committees as these events are taking place or will take place soon; worked with April Duval (WNEP) and the county committees in the expanding of Support Staff at UW-Extension to 5 days.

Information shared regarding the proposal from Chris Hardie, BR Chamber Executive Director, to get the county involved in the 7 Rivers Economic Development Plan.

Motion by Blaken and seconded by Clark to adjourn at 9:50AM. Carried.

Submitted by: Luane Meyer

(Complete Education Reports available at the Jackson County Extension Office or <http://jackson.uwex.edu>