Jackson County Extension Education Committee

August 21, 2015

Attending: Larry Blaken, Karen Thayer, Tyler Kapfer, Gaylord Olson, Monica Lobenstein, Alex Galston, Trisha Wagner, Larissa Pfaff, Luane Meyer

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Thayer. Susanne Hefty, Support Staff, was introduced to the committee. Susanne started in the position on August 3rd , replacing Emily Crivits. Motion by Kapfer and second by Olson to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2015,meeting. Carried. The next meeting is scheduled for September 10 at 8:30 a.m. Gaylord will host. Motion by Kapfer and second by Blaken to approve the August bills. Carried.

2016 proposed budget – Motion by Olson and second by Kapfer to approve the budget as presented with an additional $500 added to line item: Program Expense – Agriculture to cover additional mileage expense during the year. Carried.

Discussion on update on the impact of the state budget on counties. Work groups are continuing to gather and generate ideas that will be placed in discussion with county staff. Updates to the Extension building and grounds over the summer include: new parking lot, replacement of IT equipment, changes due to Community Center, new signage to go up to clarify main entrance.

2015 fair highlights and observations from staff and committee members included: how to expand numbers of booths entered by youth groups, success of rfd scanning for weigh-in at fair time, an expanded list of bidders and contending bidders, success of distribution of gun locks made available through a grant secured by Together for Jackson County Kids.

Education Reports:

Trisha reported on the following: farm succession peer discussion group met to discuss the benefits and concerns of getting involved in long term care insurance, next meeting set for September; programming on farm building design; SWD has been found in Jackson County this summer and will be of concern to raspberry and blueberry growers; WISCORPS worked at Community Garden; B&GC been meeting with Master Gardener Volunteers at the Garden; Coulee Grazer Network is active in offering on-site education for farmers

Monica and Alex highlighted Summer of Science sessions including Archaeology Day at Norskedalen at Coon Valley; Safety Camp for youth held with 8-10 areas of safety covered; a Mindfulness program is being planned for youth referred through community partners and agencies as well as program for youth in general.

Luane provided a summary of programs including: preschool camps at 3 county sites, working with Larissa and Alex on outreach materials for the Parenthetical sessions coming up in September, the beginning of the Powerful Tools program.

Larissa shared a summary of the programs and activities she participated in as well as those where she provided leadership in. She also had opportunities to present to different audiences during the summer. She provided suggestions on how we could expand outreach with our Extension programming.

Motion by Kapfer and second by Blaken to adjourn meeting at 11:05 a.m. Carried.

Submitted by: Luane Meyer