



A partnership of the University of Wisconsin-Extension
WISCONSIN ASSOCIATED COUNTY EXTENSION COMMITTEES, INC.

MINUTES

WACEC Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, October 19, 2007
Portage County Extension Office
Stevens Point, WI

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Call to Order: President Colleen Bates called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

Roll Call: Wayne Lato, Wayne Plant, Robert Browne, Tom Rudolph, Colleen Bates, Melvin Pittman, James Costello, James Schroeder. Absent: William Nass and Lynn Moris.

Others present: Chancellor David Wilson, Dean and Director Rick Klemme, Northern District Director John Preissing, Racine County CRD Agent Annie Jones, Washington County FLP Marma McIntee and Public Information Specialist Pamela Seelman.

Approval of the Agenda: Lato moved to approve the agenda, Costello seconded. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes: Schroeder moved to approve the minutes, Rudolph seconded. Motion approved

Treasurer's Report: Bates gave the treasurer's report. The balance in the checking account is \$21,932.61 and \$17,749.86 is held in a CD. Moved by Pittman, seconded by Browne to approve the treasurer's report. Motion approved.

CARET Request: Dean Klemme shared a letter indicating that WACEC needed to vote on a delegate to CARET. He suggested that Bates retain her position as the CARET representative. Moved by Pittman, seconded by Rudolph. Motion approved.

Chancellor's report: Chancellor Wilson shared information about two task forces he convened to look at office co-locations for UW-Colleges and Cooperative Extension and another on the role of district directors. He indicated that in some counties, that have a two-year college, are questioning if co-location with the Cooperative Extension office is feasible. Also, Chancellor Wilson said that with one district director retirement and potential upcoming retirements, it is wise to question whether our current model is a good model. Chancellor Wilson also talked about his county office visits, the UW Colleges/UW-Extension strategic plan, his chancellor's communiqué and budget news.



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Dean's report: Dean Klemme shared an overview of the county budget situation indicating that Cooperative Extension continues to look at the economic value of county programs. He stressed that this will be the topic of the 2008 March department head conference, strengthening our relationships with county government. He also indicated that he is working to build relationships with the Wisconsin Counties Association.

WACEC newsletter: Board members discussed various ways to release the WACEC newsletter. After some discussion, they made a motion to ask department heads in each county to print off a newsletter for Cooperative Extension committee members only. If counties cannot afford to print these copies, up to four times each year, the dean's office will print the copies and mail them to the county department head. WACEC board members also made a motion to create four newsletters each year, in color. Moved by Rudolph, seconded by Schroeder. Motion approved.

2008 State Conference Plans: Lato shared a draft agenda for the 2008 WACEC State Conference, to be held in Stevens Point June 16-18, Monday through Wednesday. The conference for general WACEC members will begin Tuesday morning with the opening general session, followed by the WACEC annual business meeting. The planned speaker over the lunch hour is Molly Jahn, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences dean. Tours will be held in the afternoon, followed by dinner and the live auction. Wednesday will include concurrent workshop sessions, followed by the annual awards luncheon. WACEC members can take advantage of an additional Point Brewery tour Wednesday afternoon, if they wish.

Cooperative Extension: Thinking strategically about our future: Jones, McIntee and Preissing lead board members in group-facilitated discussions about strategic thinking about the future of Cooperative Extension. Board members broke into two groups to answer six open-ended questions. Comments were recorded by Klemme and Seelman and will be shared with members at the next board meeting, if not before.

Future meeting dates:

Friday, March 7, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Portage County Cooperative Extension Office, Stevens Point

Monday, June 16, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m, Holiday Inn & Suites, Stevens Point

New business: The board had no new business.

Adjourn: Rudolph moved to adjourn, seconded by Schroeder. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.