

EXTENSION-LCC COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 3, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Room 2151

Members present: Kirsten Huth, Jim Gores, Randy Cook, Fran Langman, Louie Okey (alt.) and Audrey Kusilek. Staff present: Tyler Gruetzmacher, Justin Everson, Bronson Thalacker, Pat Brown, Jeff French, Lori Baltrusis, Rhonda Sukys, and Kim Collins.

Absent: Jamie McCready, Gary Nelson.

Cook called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and Collins confirmed proper posting of the meeting. No public comment was received.

Motion: (Kusilek/Langman) to approve the agenda; carried. **Motion: (Kusilek/Langman)** to approve the minutes of April 1, 2025 meeting; carried. Announcements: Gruetzmacher provided information on the upcoming West Central Area Summer Tour. Edit list question answered.

Item #5. Pat Brown provided information regarding the request to expand the boundary of the Staples Lake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District to include 19 parcels located across the Polk-Barron county line, explaining that, per State Statute, the county with the greatest valuation is required to complete the expansion process. Committee questions followed; a public hearing is scheduled for June 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Items #6. & 8. Baltrusis discussed the Emerging Crops Educator position and the option of a shared position with 3 Counties in the area. Committee questions and discussion followed. Committee consensus was for Baltrusis to discuss this option with the other counties and report back in July; no action taken. She also provided her staff report, discussing the likely impact of SnapEd funding which may raise the required County contribution for programs.

Item #7. Sukys and Gruetzmacher presented the draft 2025 Farmland Preservation Plan, explaining the requirement for the update every 10 years and review the draft plan. Committee questions and discussion followed, with their recommendations incorporated into the plan.

Item #8 cont. Staff Reports –

FSA – Huth (on behalf of Sarah MacDonald) discussed crop reporting and CRP sign up deadline dates.

SWCD – Gruetzmacher is working on a grazing plan and Everson discussed his work with FPP compliance.

Executive Committee – French provided an overview of the upcoming agenda.

Fair Board – French provided a brief update.

After discussion, the next meetings are set for June 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. and July 1, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Future agenda items: *Emerging Crops Position, 2025 Farmland Preservation Plan Approval*

Motion: (Kusilek/Langman) to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 a.m.; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Russell-Collins

Administrative Secretary, Land Services

Minutes are not official until approved by the Extension/LCC Committee at the next meeting.