

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2008

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2008-19 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole November 25, 2008, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Klaus Alberts opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present: Klaus Alberts District #1
Lyle Tjosaas District #2
David Erickson District #3
Don Gray District #4
David Hanson District #5

Members absent: None

Also present: David McKnight County Administrator
Becky Lubahn Deputy County Clerk
Peggy Espey Public Health Director

University of Minnesota Extension Campus Regional Director LuAnn Hinicker and Health and Nutrition Extension Educator Kathleen Lovett met with the Board to discuss the 4-H and Nutrition Education Program Memorandum of Agreement requests.

4-H and Nutrition
Education Program
Discussion

During the County Board meeting November 12, 2008 the Board had a concern about the Nutrition Program being included in the Memorandum of Agreement for 4-H Coordinator services between the University of Minnesota Extension Services and Dodge County. Typically these two services were agreed upon under two separate contracts.

The program currently provides one part time employee who works out of our Extension office and provide nutrition education to certain segments of Dodge County residents. The cost for this program for 2009 is \$74,900. The county does not pay actual cash for this program but instead supports this program through office space, technology support, etc.

This year the Board has an opportunity to enter into either a one year or three year contract for these services. The cost of the 4-H coordinator services for 2009 is proposed to increase by 3.5% over 2008 to a cost of \$64,900. This amount has been included in the Board's 2009 Dodge County budget. The potential costs for 2010 and 2011 will not be determined until a later date.

Ms. Lovett briefly shared with the Board the Nutrition Education Program mission, discussed collaborative efforts, reviewed the various programs that are offered, provided lesson examples, shared 2008 participation information, reviewed funding sources and reported on 2008 nutritional education goals.

Concern was expressed about entering into a three year contract without knowing the costs of the second and third year of the contract and the fact that the county may not have enough room for the Nutrition Education Program due to space constraints.

Public Health Director Peggy Espey was present to discuss the collaboration of efforts between the two organizations and clarify questions on the possibility of duplication of services.

It was the consensus of the group that Nutrition Education Program is seen as more of an in-kind contribution and that the services they offer compliment what the Dodge County Public Health office is doing.

Ms. Hinicker reported that the current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) expires December 31, 2008 the University requests that they try to have the 2009 MOA signed before the other contract expires if possible. Ms. Hinicker further explained the Memorandum of Agreement and noted that the funding comes from federal sources to the county through in-kind contributions.

Discussion took place regarding the people that each program is trying to target, the possibility of duplication of efforts, space concerns and funding for next year.

The University of Minnesota Extension Campus Regional Director clarified that it is up to the County Board to determine if they wanted to sign a one year or three year contract. Ms. Hinicker informed the Board that there is a huge return on the county's investment into this program.

Ms. Lovett commented that they do not want to duplicate any efforts or services that are provided by the Dodge County Public Health office.

The Board thanked Ms. Hinicker and Ms. Lovett for the information and Ms. Espey for the input.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m. CST.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

KLAUS ALBERTS
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK

DATED: