PRESENT: Committee members present: Lyle Lieffring, Alan Rathsack, Gary Swoverland and Ken Pedersen. Staff present: Charmaine Johnson. Appearances by: Andy Albarado, Rusk County Tourism; Paula Carow, Citizen; Ted East, Administrative Coordinator; Ron Freeman, Jr Fair Chair; Josie Paddock, Elizabeth Trott, Julia Jacobson and Robin Trott with Bruce Equestrian Club; and Lori Baltrusis, Area District Director.

CALL TO ORDER: Lyle Lieffring, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion to approve the December 5 minutes by Al with second by Ken. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Paula commented on Finance Committee’s decision to take the Trail’s End non-lapsing funds. She said people donated that money for a certain purpose and wishes they will reverse their decision as it will hinder future donations. Motion by Ken with second by Al to recommend Finance reverse their decision as the money is donated specifically for Trails End. Motion carried.

JUNIOR FAIR BUSINESS:
A. JR FAIR BOARD REPORT: Ron reported they met in December. Discussion topics included working with the rodeo, parking, entertainment options, raised vendor rates, camping issues and updated sponsor letter. Next meeting will be January 21 at 6 pm.

TRAILS END CAMP BUSINESS:
A. TRUSTEE REPORT: No report.
B. MAINTENANCE STAFF REPORT: No report.

FAIRGROUNDS BUSINESS
A. FAIRGROUNDS REPORT: No report.
B. FLAMBEAU RIVER GRAVEL GRINDER USAGE: Andy said the race will be on June 16 but there will also be festivities all weekend. The race will start at the fairgrounds and end at Memorial Park. Requesting camping and also picnic tables and garbage cans for equipment. Motion to approve usage agreement at no cost and equipment use by Al with second by Gary. Motion carried. Will need to follow campground rules.
C. BRUCE EQUESTRIAN CLUB REPORT: Josie Paddock, Elizabeth Trott and Julia Jacobson were present to thank the county for the usage of the grounds and gave a report of their events throughout the year. They are requesting to partner with Rein & Shine Riders and have a fun show on August 4 and 5. They say the trend in the horse community is to not have strict completion but an event that is more family oriented. They will have some classes for parents and team/family events. They are requesting a cheaper camping rate to encourage more families to come. Discussed security deposit. Motion by Gary with second by Al to approve the agreement and waive the fees, get a security deposit check but not cash it and keep camping rates as already established. Motion carried.
D. USAGE AGREEMENTS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION: Received agreement for Tractor Safety June 18 to 21. Motion by Ken with second by Gary to approve. Motion carried.
RECYCLING BUSINESS

A. COORDINATOR REPORT INCLUDING UPDATE ON OUTREACH, VIOLATIONS, & SITES: Charmaine gave a report of current activities and violations. Working on getting year end site attendant bills processed. Still working on quotes for City recycling. Both plans so far are financially not feasible.

EXTENSION OFFICE BUSINESS:

A. EXTENSION OFFICE REPORT: Charmaine reported on late enrollments, background checks for volunteers, weekly email blasts and RRYP/UWEX budget split. Livestock raffle tickets are available in the UWEX office. Passed out a breakdown of non-lapsing funds and requests the Finance Committee reverse their decision for Tractor Safety funds of $504.99 and Pesticide applicator funds of $1024.08. Would like to send tractor safety money to Flambeau FFA to be used for non-FFA students who wish to take Tractor Safety and would like to send pesticide money to Barron County who taught training to our farmers the last 2 years and has assisted the county a lot with agriculture questions. Ted will bring item back to Finance.

B. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT REPORT: Charmaine presented Karrie’s report.
   a. OUT OF COUNTY TRAVEL: Karrie was awarded a scholarship to attend the Northwoods Coalition kNOw Meth Kickoff on January 11 in Eau Claire. Requesting out-of-county travel. *Motion by Ken with second by Al to approve. Motion carried.*

C. HIRING UPDATE: A lot of candidates were weeded out as they did not have skill sets in both 4H and family living. They interviewed 2 candidates. Lori would like to revamp the job description to have a heavier emphasis on 4H and re-advertise right away. Will change some of the required/preferred requirements and make requirement to have degree by 6/1. Will consider hiring interim and once get degree drop the interim title. *Motion by Gary with second by Al to approve the revised job description and to proceed with hiring. Motion carried.* Want to get the message out to the community that we are aggressively seeking the right person.

CURRENT YEAR BUDGET REVIEW: Charmaine went over all of the budgets and gave end-of-year predictions.

REVIEW & APPROVE BILLS: *Motion by Al with second by Ken to approve the bill report. Motion carried.*

NEXT MEETING DATE: Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 6 at 8:30 a.m. in the UWEX Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Gary. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.