

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Steuben County

Agriculture & Natural Resources Program Advisory Committee

September 9, 2025

4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Steuben County Annex Building, Conference Room C/D

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order – 4:31 pm K. Callero, S. Walker, C. Susick, C. Comstock, J. Hill, E. Merry, G. Longwell, D. Massaro
2. Approval of Minutes – June 2025 – C. Susick motions to approve, and C. Comstock seconded. All approved.
3. CCE Reports/Updates – 15 **minutes**

Susan - CCE Updates

- CCE Steuben is losing SNAP-Ed funding at the end of December
- 4-H Showcase went well
- Ag in the Classroom starting in classrooms this week
- Ag in the Classroom Dairy in the Classroom educator workshop at Lismore Dairy for educators in the area → Oct 10

Upcoming Steuben County Dates to Remember:

- September 23rd – Soil Health Field Days - Pasture and Silvopasture event at Evermore Farms & Jeff BeGell's Farm
 - Chuck recommends the event
- October 10th - Dairy in the Classroom Workshop at Lismore Dairy and HP Hood
- October 11th - Farm Trail Day
- November 6th - Annual Dinner 5 - 9 PM @ the Y at Watson Woods
- NYS Agritourism Conference November 10-11 in Saratoga Springs

Jen Hill – Farm Trail Day Update

- 13 farms across the county participating this year

Katie Callero – Team Updates and Fall Events

- Past events
 - Pasture walk in the Jasper area at the end of August, gave away grazing sticks → Soil and Water gives out grazing sticks if you work with them on a grazing plan.
 - Attended the Beef extravaganza at County Crossroads and made some new connections with Steuben Farms.
- Livestock specialist working to recruit butcher apprentices

- First cutting coming in late
- Working with campus to create micro learnings on dairy to train workers
- Artificial insemination training coming up at Bath, NY Empire Livestock → details to come

4. Member Input & Updates – **What are Committee members seeing as needs for the community related to Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Horticulture? 20-30 Minutes**

- E. Merry – Lismore parlor is going well, dairy industry delay due to plant having fishkill incident, drought affecting corn
- C. Comstock – Mud Creek is doing well, rodeo was a success, will have another in May
- G. Longwell – Connect the Kid to the Park grant and Edith Saxton grant for adventure-based learning trips, took trips to state parks averaged 21 per trip, hoping to go to the Adirondacks this fall for hiking, geology, and education
- C. Susick – Soil & Water doing a lot of projects, mainly stream projects; FEMA helping on some projects; Ag projects are wrapping up; training for conservation district first week of October in Cortland potentially open for college students as well; Climate Resilient Farming opening grants, Ag Environmental Management program getting funding in the Spring hoping to take on larger projects in that program
- D. Massaro – Liked Crooked Line Tree Pest Event in August, would like to see more events like that; advocating for better cell phone service from Verizon, Verizon has responded looking for places in the county to put more towers; also losing power at least once a week

5. Any Other Business?

6. Future Meeting Dates:

The October meeting is cancelled due to a scheduled conflict. Meetings will resume in January 2026, look for the email and calendar invite in December with the 2026 meeting dates.

Meetings are 4:30-5:30 pm in Conference Room C/D of our office building (20 East Morris Street Bath 2nd Floor). We are required to have at least **4 meetings** (with quorum) each year.

7. Motion to Adjourn 5:33 – E. Merry motions to adjourn, all approve.