

Kansas State Extension Advisory Council Meeting
August 28, 2009

The Kansas State Extension Advisory Council met on Friday, August 28, 2009 at the Huck Boyd Foundation in Phillipsburg, Kansas.

The Kansas State Extension Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 8:25 a.m. by Chair Kevin Journagan. Members and Staff introduced themselves and told how their areas are dealing with their budgets.

Members Present: Kevin Journagan, Jerry Dreher, Judy Parsons, Bob Gottlob, Brad Fuller, Kelly Overmiller, Dan Johnson, Andy Sramek, Donita Sparks, Janel Harman, Tresa Jones, John Kramer, Carolyn Harms, Gary Price, Larry Turner, Michele Janson, Jerry Hall, Bryan Brauer and Jay Weseloh.

KSU Administrators Present: Fred Cholick, Daryl Buchholz, J. Pat Murphy, Pat McNally, Paula Peters, Jim Lindquist, Phil Sloderbeck, Dale Fjell, J.D. McNutt and Chris Onstad.

Members read and reviewed the enclosed minutes from the February 16, 2009 Council meeting. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes from the February 16, 2009 meeting. Motion passed. Treasurer Jo Ann Murray was absent so Kevin and Daryl reviewed the Treasurer's report. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Fred Cholick gave updates on several issues. He gave an update on the National Ag Bio-defense facility project that was awarded to Kansas. Homeland security wants to proceed with the project and KSU is securing the area to prepare for building. Fred also gave us a budget update. The budget was reduced by \$5.9 million which is 10.67%. We cannot reduce the higher education budget anymore or stimulus money will become at risk. We have to look at our budgets like we do our programming and do what needs to be done to fulfill our mission. Fred shared information from his visit with the new KSU President, Kirk Schulz. Fred then gave us an update on our staffing. We have 60 vacant positions and there are more that will occur due to resignations and retirements. Fred also asked us how we want K-State Research and Extension to look in 2025. We discussed staffing, districting and putting together teams to serve our counties.

Daryl gave thoughts on KSRE Vision for the Future. He referred back to the 2004 Strategic plan which our goal was to have programs that are relevant, sustainable and of high quality. He pointed out the similarities of our current strategic plan and the 1922 Extension Workers Code. We always need to strive to do the things that count. Daryl summed everything up into three goals (1) Grow youth involvement in experiences of leadership, citizenship and life skills, (2) Give citizens enhanced opportunity to experience the comprehensive capacity of Extension and (3) Increase our speed toward relevancy, sustainability and quality.

The Assistant Directors presented a program on the Local Extension Response to Strategic Opportunities. Pat McNally explained three outreach programs – Cloverbuds, Operation Military families and the youth in science & technology initiative. She then turned into an Investigative Reporter asking several Advisory Council members - What is your county/district doing to keep Extension relevant, sustainable and high quality? Several examples were given.

Next Paula Peters talked about doing too many things. How can we focus our work into the 7 Strategic Opportunities that are stated in the new Extension handout. Each agent is encouraged to pick 1 or 2 things to focus on. Agents will implement action plans for their picks. There will be specializations in all areas of Extension. Everyone broke up into small groups to talk and give suggestions on how we as PDC members might help agents develop these focus action plans, prepare and deliver them. Several suggestions were given including sending the agent for training, giving permission for the agent to drop unimportant things off their plate and finding specialized groups outside of the PDC to help partner with programming. Pat Murphy talked about the state of change. We will see more electronic newsletters and more use of technology at the program level. Advisory Council members were then encouraged to work with local boards by sharing this information with them and showing how important this information is.

The Area Directors shared District Developments: Barriers and Opportunities. Jim Lindquist passed out some handouts and reported that he has made several contacts from counties wanting more information about districting. Districting is a political process. Local dollars provide programs and you have to have programs that people are willing to pay for. J.D. McNutt is looking for volunteers to help with creating more Board Leadership Curriculum for the website. He shared the counties in the SE area that are talking about getting together for better programming. Chris Onstad shared information about the NW counties budget funding. Most had budget decreases but were at sustainable levels. He also shared the counties in the NW that are looking at districting. New SW area director, Phil Sloderbeck has had meetings in a few counties for information on districting in the SW area. Other county agents have also met. Dale Fjell shared the counties in the NE area who are getting information about districting. He also shared experiences working with commissioners and the public/media. Counties have to make strategic choices as budgets get smaller.

The agenda for the January Partnership meetings was discussed. There was a discussion of meeting times that might bring more attendance. Several items that have been discussed during this fall meeting will be brought up during the Partnership meetings. 2010 Partnership meeting dates are: SE area – Jan. 20th, NE area – Jan. 21st, NW area – Jan. 27th and SW area – Jan. 28th,
Election of officers was held and the following will be officers for 2010: Chair Jerry Dreher, Chair-elect Brad Fuller, Secretary Tresa Jones and Treasurer Andy Sramek.

The spring SEAC meeting will be February 15 & 16, 2010 in Topeka, Kansas.

Those attending the 2009 Public Issues/Leadership Development Conference were Jerry Dreher, Brad Fuller, Tresa Jones and Larry Turner. They gave highlights from the conference. Anyone wanting to attend the 2010 PILD conference will need to let Daryl know as soon as possible.

Under other business, Chair Kevin Journagan thanked outgoing Council members Judy Parsons, Donita Sparks, Michele Janson, JoAnn Murray and Julia Strnad for their service.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Parsons, secretary