State Extension Advisory Council Minutes - August 20 & 21, 2020

Director for Extension Gregg Hadley called the meeting, via Zoom, to order and welcomed everyone.

Present – Nathan Leiker, Jerry Hall, Cindy Bervert, Susan Campbell, Larry Justice, Brenna Wulfkuhle, Michael McDermott, Betsy Patrick, Sheri Grinstead, Don Hellwig, Michaela Bliss, Bruce Leisy, Kurtis Gregory, Joel Sprague, Dean Fitzsimmons, Gregg Hadley, Jim Lindquist, Susan Metzger, Gayle Price, Franny Miller, Sarah Sawyer, Barbara Ames, Cheryl Boyer, Tom Buller, Brooke Garcia.

Chris Onstad introduced new Associate Director Rick Peterson who shared the vision for online learning to be inclusive and engaging for all. The goal is for extension to be a one stop shop and accessible anytime and anywhere.

Gayle Price, Sara Sawyer and Barbara Ames gave updates to Kansas’ extension involvement in the national extension online diabetes learning module.

Cheryl Boyer, Tom Buller, Brooke Garcia and Frannie Miller shared information on the K-State Garden Hour and the unprecedented interest in gardening since the pandemic.

Meeting adjourned for the evening.

Laurie Chandler reviewed the agent expectations document that was updated with a consistent set of expectations for board members and agents.

Gregg Hadley and Jim Lindquist said the Regional Directors for local units will have administrative oversite of local units. The positions will offer upward mobility for agents (master’s degree required). Extension Center Heads will be tenured faculty (PhD’s), and will have responsibilities for out-state Extension Centers, and regional research and extension faculty. They will not have responsibility for local extension units.

Jennifer Wilson reviewed the telecommuting policy and said it will be evaluated after this year.

Gregg Hadley, Jennifer Wilson and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion task force members Zelia Wiley, Bertha Mendoza, Stacy Brown, Linda Gilmore and Kari Smith shared the need for accountability at every level of extension and being intentional in reaching audiences in appropriate ways.

Approval of SEAC February 2020 minutes – Jerry Hall moved to approve, seconded by Joel Sprague, motion passed.
Approval of treasurers’ report – Jerry Hall moved to approve, seconded by Dean Fitzsimmons, motion passed. Gregg Hadley recognized those members moving off the board.
Nathan Leiker presented the slate for SEAC Executive Committee: Jerry Hall-Chair, Susan Campbell-Chair-elect, Betsy Patrick-Secretary, Brenna Wulfkuhle-Treasurer. Dean Fitzsimmons moved to cast a unanimous ballot, seconded by Joel Sprague, motion passed.
Gregg Hadley noted the 2021 PILD conference is April 11-14, and asked for volunteers to attend. Bruce Leisy, Jerry Hall, Michael McDermott, Susan Campbell, Kurtis Gregory, Joel Sprague and Dean Fitzsimmons expressed interest.

Don Hellwig moved to adjourn SEAC and convene the Kansas Citizens for Extension Education meeting. Dean Fitzsimmons seconded, motion passed.