

## Kansas State Extension Advisory Council (SEAC)

February 16, 2015

The State Extension Advisory Council was called to order by President Wally Wolfe at 10:15 am on Monday, February 16, 2015 in the Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. meeting room in Topeka, KS.

**Members present:** Wally Wolfe-Chair (NE Area), Tatum Kimzey (NW Area), Rhonda Gaede (NW Area), Rich Barr (Metro Counties), Diana Gauntt (NE Area), Randy Lucas (SW Area), Larry Justice (Metro Counties), Marvin Beesley (NW Area), Brad Carter (SE Area), Jay Weseloh (SE Area), Dean Fitzsimmons (SW Area), Dave Twiner (SW Area), Larry Lintner (NE Area), Jodie Bartelson (SE Area), Loren Snell (Guest), Lisa Pfannenstiel-Garrison (Metro Counties), Ray Bartholomew (NE Area)

**Kansas State University Administrators Present:** Paula Peters-FCS Asst. Director, Chris Onstad -NW Area Admin., Zelia Wiley-Asst. Dean & Dir. Diversity Programs Office, Dale Fjell-NE Area Admin., Jim Lindquist-FO Asst. Director, Barbara Stone-4-H Asst. Director, Gregg Hadley- ANR Asst. Director, Daryl Buchholz-Associate Dir. of Extension & Applied Research, Steven Graham-Assistant to the Director.

Introductions included members telling what Extension meant to them. Although most but not all had some 4-H background, it was interesting to hear their connection. It was also stated by some that we are a "Human Relations Organization" working on human development and how we impact water, food systems, health and tomorrow's leaders and community vitality" Also that we are People with a Passion working towards a Purpose and a family.

Daryl encouraged us to thank Rita Petty [rpetty@kepco.org](mailto:rpetty@kepco.org) organized and provided the facilities for us.

It was moved by Dean Fitzsimmons to accept the August 22, 2014 minutes as presented, and seconded by Rich Barr, motion carried.

It was moved by Tatum Kimzey to accept the treasurer's report as presented, and seconded by Rhonda Gaede, motion carried.

Daryl went over Opportunities, Roles and Expectations for State Extension Advisory Council including to gain the broadest understanding of the overall mission, delivery methods and impacts. Think critically of how to strengthen our future, give feedback and ask questions at the state level. He also provided the by-laws for SEAC. Chris presented the challenge northwest area is having with districts having fewer board chairs to choose from as they serve longer terms and counties are combined into districts and suggested expanding to maybe executive board members with a few years of experience. To be brought up at the August meeting after the executive board has discussed and brings a suggestion. Contact Rich Barr, Wally Wolfe, Jodie Bartelson, Richard Poland or Dean Fitzsimmons with suggestions. A recommendation from the executive committee will be distributed prior to the August 2015 meeting in hopes to have changes, if any, approved before the election at partnership meetings in January 2016.

### **Partnership Meetings review and discussion**

Jim Lindquist presented the cumulative totals of Excellence in Board Leadership program. Forty-six awards were presented at partnership meetings with 5 more mailed as they were received too late for the meetings. Twenty-five units did not submit the rubric to the state office and discussion on how to get those counties/districts that did not turn in one to make sure they are completing it as a tool. A suggestion was that a letter be sent to board chairs encouraging them to include a board leadership module at each meeting. Maybe have each board member pick one to present to the board or a suggested "Module of the month" schedule. Be more intentional on who the 25 units are and have areas administrators and more so SEAC members to discuss importance of the rubric and the modules. Mentioned PDC task force training that begins in April 2015 and that they will be touching on PDCs including organizing demographically represented committees. Need to discuss in August what we want to do for 2016 Partnership meetings. Need to impress upon boards the importance of sending multiple board members or PDC members to it for interaction between

them and benefits of presentation. Stress that now everyone is SUPPOSE/highly encouraged to come and the more members the better, not just the board chair are invited. A summary of top topics from partnerships was presented. It was mentioned that members liked that we discussed the grand challenges in more depth at these meetings. It was suggested that SEAC members maybe attend an area meeting that they hadn't in the past.

### **Next Steps for PDC**

Gregg Hadley – April the committee will engage agents in training session that walks through products that were developed and share issues that agents are having with PDCs and work towards solutions. People are feeling more confident to get the issues addressed at PDCs, but how do we get to the next step. Meetings will be April 1 in Manhattan, April 2 in Iola, April 7 in WaKeeney, April 8 in Garden City, and April 9 in Pratt. Positive response from partnership meetings roll out. Effective recruitment will be a topic. Three questions will be on the annual review for agents related to PDCs. Suggestions that board needs to step up and help direct new member recruitment. Office professionals need more training related to PDCs as well.

### **Marketing**

Daryl realizes that marketing tools are scattered all over the KSR&E website and the department is working to put it together in one spot. Dean John Floros, set a priority and will move forward with a position focusing directly on marketing hopefully within the next 30 days. Get a slogan "Knowledge for Life" is ours currently.

Zelia Wiley, Assistant Dean and Director of Diversity Programs gave us a quick overview of her departments work. A graduate received the 2014 Commerce Bank Award for diversity. Still doing training on Navigating Differences and your county can sign up. She will hopefully send out the handout to the listserv.

### **Program**

Chris Onstad introduced our special guests, David Hallauer (Meadowlark District), Leah Robinson (Central Kansas District), Candis Meerpohl (Shawnee County), Marlin Bates (Douglas County) and Laurie Chandler (Shawnee County). He started with statistics on Specialization- Specialization is evolutionary. He emphasized how quickly knowledge is doubling. From every 100 years in the 1900, to every twelve months now with an expectation that in the future it could be every 12 hours. Since 1991, districts have allowed for faster specialization to handle this increase of knowledge. Currently there are 39 extension educators within the counties and 109 extension educators in districts with some form of specialization. The agents gave very insightful answers to a variety of questions several expressing that they would not want to go back to being generalists, even though it was pointed out that they may only spend 40% of their day on their specialty directly. They also emphasized they would not leave a "customer" without an answer; they would work to get the answer by consulting other specialists. They said they were able to delve deeper into a topic and be more focused and have a greater impact than when they were generalists.

### **Legislative Overview –**

Sue Peterson, KSU Gov't Relations Director reported that this year her office hand delivered the annual report tri-fold document with a letter providing who the elected official's board chair and paid employee were and their contact information. Dr. Schulz, KSU President took copies for the board of regents. Sue requested that we let Daryl or others in Extension know any feedback you may receive from legislators. She reported that it was very early in the budget process and unclear how it might end up and added that Shawn Sullivan, budget director, will be speaking to our group on Tuesday.

Lots of change going on – unwinding 20 plus years of policy – school funding block grant – Colleges already there –

Roads & bridges changing – Sales tax transfer – 1989 – to hi-way plan – Look at putting money back into general fund – KPERS – 1 billion bonds – Medicaid –

Bills – SB 171 – regarding moving spring nonpartisan elections and all other special districts to fall elections. Several issues are related to this such as would they be partisan or nonpartisan and who would incur the cost if not shared with city and school board elections would it be too high of cost for Extension districts and other small groups such as library

and townships. Sue felt there was enough support to expect the bill to pass the Senate; the bill may have trouble passing in the House.

Hemp – research program for Industrial Hemp -

Not a bill yet, but an idea is unfolding to change publishing requirements of budgets – 1 newspaper in the counties you cover – instead of 1 in each county you represent. Would decrease the cost required of districts.

Sue has not heard anything about a dissolving districting bill. Over 50% of House is new from 4 years go so we need to continue to educate them about Extension

SB 178 – USE Value of Agriculture land for property tax – Farm Bureau – would be a constitutional change – Sue is not sure where this bill will go.

We then broke up into small groups to formulate message to legislators. Different groups shared successful programs from their counties/districts and their outcomes and how these programs make an impact on not only their counties and the state and world. An example is leveraging highly trained volunteers, researching drought tolerant plants for feeding the world, how 4-H is successful in educating our future leaders and members of society.

Daryl share his understanding of the impact the Governor's budget announcement would have on KSR&E– 2% reduction would be \$950,000 for R&E – 60% out of experiment station and 40% out of Extension. Meaning \$380,000 extension has to turn back, he doesn't know how it is going to happen since there is a chain that this request for return of funds goes through. He stated the bigger issue is where does the state budget go for 2016/17. He said the rumor is they may pull funding from vacant positions and there are about 12 extension agent positions open that are in the process of being filled, but state looks at those as vacant.

Wally announced the summer 2015 meeting will be held August 20th & 21st in Abilene, KS at the Eisenhower Presidential Library. Right now Thursday would be a tour of the library with possibly some other programming and then Friday we would hold the business meeting.

Rich Barr moved and Rhonda Gaede seconded that we adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Jodie Bartelson, Secretary