

**EXTENSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
JUNE 18, 2020**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Gary Schaneman	Olga Gonzalez
Keith Maxey	Commissioner Mike Freeman
Amy Cooksey	Lori Stevens
Erin Matthews	Sean Short
Pat Kindvall	Josh Docheff
Larry Hooker-Program Update	Cary Weiner, CSUE Asst. Director Program Support
Cindy Nosko-Minutes	

**ABSENT:**

Daryl Wiest	Gail Fiolkoski
Ron Marshall	

Co-Chair Amy Cooksey welcomed the group and called the meeting of the Weld County Extension Advisory Council to order at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2020 meeting as written. Motion passed.

Larry Hooker, Extension Agent, 4-H and Livestock gave an update on his programs. Several programs were cancelled due to COVID 19. From March 18<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup>, CSU restricted Extension to “no face-to-face” programming of any kind. All programming that has happened was delivered electronically or by conference call. He was involved with the Colorado Farm Show’s Beef and Sheep committees that produced educational programming for people involved in those industries. He is developing a series of educational videos called “Down on the Farm” that will cover a variety of topics, such as “How to A.I. pigs” or “Beef on small acreages” that are targeted for those just starting out in farming. A poultry workshop is tentatively set for December 5<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, he developed a guide for new 4-H families to help them better understand things like animal identification, MQA, and other things associated with having a livestock project.

Keith gave the Director’s report. As of April 13, 2020, Jenette Masarie is the new Fair Coordinator. Stella Vigil, EFNEP Educator, retired effective May 29<sup>th</sup>. At this point it’s not definite that the position will be refilled. Three candidates have been invited to interview for the Family Consumer Sciences position. Olga Gonzalez is the Council’s representative on the search team. There is one vacancy on the Advisory Council for a person representing Crop Science. Lori Stevens and Amy Cooksey were both reappointed to 3-year terms. This year’s Weld County Fair will be limited to 4-H/FFA competitive events. There will be no vendors or entertainment, and it is not being advertised to the general public. On the budget side; CSU is forecasting a drop of greater than \$143 million in revenue. They are currently discussing several budget saving strategies. The expected net effect to Extension’s portion of the budget is estimated to be 3.5%-3.8% reduction.

Commissioner Freeman provided a brief update, noting that they are working through the budget process by looking at it from a 3-year perspective, for the years 2021-2023. There is an expected budget surplus in 2021, however it will be used to lessen the impact of an estimated 60% reduction in property tax in 2022, with things stabilizing in 2023. The County has not cut staff and does not expect to have any furloughs. Weld County is continuing business as usual and offices have remained open the entire time of the current situation.

Cary Weiner, Assistant Director of Program Support for CSU Extension, gave a report on a planned need's assessment being conducted state-wide. He is working with a team of extension agents, county directors and administrators to develop the assessment and what it might look like for the state of Colorado. There will be a couple of counties pilot the program as early as September, and it's expected to expand to every county in 2021. Cary shared the expected timeline and how they anticipate being able to pull county-specific results from the survey. While Extension is the focal point of the assessment, it wouldn't be limited to Extension; it could inform other county departments and county operations in addition to other units within CSU and the Office of Extension Engagement such as the Ag Experiment Stations, Forest Service offices, etc. He hopes to offer opportunities for counties to partner in the process.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup> and will likely be in-person. It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.