

**EXTENSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
AUGUST 15, 2019**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Josh Docheff	Gail Fiolkoski
Deanna Herbert	Pat Kindvall
Keith Maxey	Gary Schaneman
Sean Short	Lori Stevens
Amber Webb – FCS Program	Daryl Wiest
Cindy Nosko – Minutes	

GUESTS:

Elena Rosenfeld-High Plains Library District
Stacey Swanson – Annie’s Project

ABSENT:

Amy Cooksey	Commissioner Scott James
Ron Marshall	Brad Walker

Chair Daryl Wiest welcomed the group and called the meeting of the Weld County Extension Advisory Council to order at 12:05 p.m. Minutes from the June 20, 2019 meeting were approved as written. He introduced new Council member, Josh Docheff, who is representing one of the Livestock positions; Elena Rosenfeld with the High Plains District; and Stacey Swanson with Annie’s Project.

Josh shared information about his background. His family operates a 650-head dairy near Mead. He has a wife and two children, is a graduate of CSU, and coaches the collegiate Dairy Judging Team.

Amber Webb gave an update on the FCS (Family and Consumer Sciences) Program. She has been with Extension for about a year and her programming focuses on food preservation, food safety and nutrition. She has experience in culinary nutrition, community development and food systems. Among her various activities, Amber:

- Tests pressure cooker gauges for people in the community;
- Taught food preservation classes at seven different libraries throughout the county.
- Partnered with Amy Lentz, Weld’s Horticulture Agent, at the White-Plumb farm in Greeley, to teach workshop participants how to grow and preserve vegetables and herbs (White-Plumb Farm created the “Grow-A-Row” project to help benefit the Weld County Food Bank.)
- Participated in the Centennial Village History Fest illustrating life in the 19th and 20th centuries. Nearly 2,000 3rd & 4th grade students visited.
- Started the New Master Food Safety Advisor Volunteer program, designed to teach people the basics of food spoilage and preservation, foodborne illnesses and prevention, emergency preparedness, basic principles of home canning, etc.
- Became certified to train Cottage Foods classes. She trained and certified 24 cottage food business owners in the Food Safety requirements of CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment). She has a partnership with SBDC (Small Business Development Center) who offers free business planning basics course in conjunction with her class.

- Is piloting two sites to offer fresh food samples and cookbooks that are in English and Spanish, and kitchen utensil sets (measuring cups and spoons) in partnership with the Weld Food Bank.

Elena Rosenfeld, the Associate Director of Community Engagement for the High Plains Library District, shared about their program efforts. They focus on people that work/live in the Urban/Suburban environments to teach them about Agriculture. She wants to gather information and explore ways to collaborate with community partners, including Extension.

Stacey Swanson told of Annie's Project which is dedicated to empowering women in Agriculture. APEFW (Annie's Project-Education for Farm Women) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational programs designed to strengthen women's roles in the modern farm enterprise. Their mission is to empower farm and ranch women to be better business partners through networks and, by managing and organizing critical information. The classes have been offered in 33 states and foster problem solving, record keeping and decision-making skills in farm women. She is seeking recommendations of women for a steering committee; interested farm women who have experience with the local agriculture and are willing to share their thoughts and concerns. Recommendations can be sent to Stacey by September 30th at sswanson@gvcaponline.com. or call (970) 313-7792.

Keith gave the Director's report. He and Debbie Carpio traveled with dairy judging team members Kyndall & Morgynne Tucker, Awna Hirsch, and Megan Podtburg to Scotland & Ireland June 19th - July 3rd on the International Dairy Judging Tour. They participated in two judging contests, one in Scotland and one in Ireland, and toured several farming operations, scenic areas, and historical sites. He reiterated Josh Docheff's appointment to the Council-Livestock position and noted that the Media representative position is still vacant. There are no staff changes other than our seasonal staff which completed their duties for the summer. Jenn Eastwood, Fair Coordinator, is on maternity leave until the end of September, and Amber Webb will be going on maternity leave in the next month or so. One staff request was included on Extension's 2020 budget request - to make the half-time 4-H Endowment position full-time. It is proposed as a 5-year plan, starting with 50% support for the position, and declining 10% each year. Lastly, the Fair Board restructuring is in progress. It will reduce the size of the board from 21-members down to seven. The new board will begin on October 1. Finally, a reminder to all Extension Advisory Council Members about the Board of County Commissioners appreciation event on September 4th from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Discussion then focused on the recently completed Weld County Fair. Positives included that the staff thought the Fair went well; there was good cooperation from the City Crew; the switch to an online fair book was well received; volunteer support and organization was great; and the Junior Livestock Sale grossed over \$1.1 million. Some concerns included finding ways to get more people to visit the exhibits in the 4-H and Bunkhouse buildings; an issue with a political group being on the grounds; the number of exhibits seemed to be lower; and the need for more publicity and reporting on results.

The media position on the council was discussed and it's still up in the air as to what to do with the position. It was decided to place this on the agenda for the October meeting for further discussion.

The next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled for October 17th at 12:00 noon. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.