

**EXTENSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2022**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rick Bowen	Commissioner Perry Buck
Amy Cooksey	Shaley Dehner
Josh Docheff	Kim Eastwood-4-H Agent
Teresa Johnson	Pat Kindvall
Erin Mathews	William Nelson
Cindy Nosko-Minutes	Katey Nyborg
Gary Schaneman	Sean Short
Lori Stevens	Hanna Swanbom

ABSENT:

William Owsley	Mike Schwan
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Amy Cooksey welcomed the group and called the meeting of the Weld County Extension Advisory Council to order at 12: 05 pm. The minutes were approved by Pat and seconded by William Nelson. Everyone introduced themselves to the new board members.

Hannah gave the Director's report. She introduced Katey Nyborg who is a Program Assistant working with Horticulture and helping out other staff as needed. She's part-time working Tuesday – Thursday and is working with the Master Gardeners right now, doing some exciting projects with them. We will be interviewing next week for the Ag Agent. Monday's state interview will be here at the Extension Office and Tuesday's interview will be in Akron. The agent will be housed in Weld County but will be shared with Washington County. We got approved to work on getting the Horticulture Agent going and hope to begin interviews in June or July. Cheryl Aragon, our new admin/Secretary is currently working part time and will be coming on full time in May to prepare for the Weld County Fair. We are also getting the 2 4-H interns and a Data Entry Clerk-Fair that will also begin in May. Extension Office worked on a two-year strategic plan a couple of weeks ago and am currently in the process of writing that up, we are starting a mentorship program for new employees and also an off-boarding system. We do have the goat extravaganza this weekend.

Commissioner Buck gave the Commissioner's report. Honored to be with Extension this year and her door is always open for comments or if you just want to talk.

Kim and Teresa gave the update on the 4-H program and what is currently happening. Enrollments wise we currently have 186 volunteers, 846 traditional 4-H members and 143 Cloverbud members bring our total 4-H membership at 989 so far. We have been steadily growing. Larimer County was running at a higher membership than us, but we have now surpassed them in number of memberships. Thanks to the Commissioners helping us through the COVID era, we were able to keep things going for 4-H, so had quite a few transfers coming in. CWF (Citizen Washington Focus) 2020 trip was cancelled due to Covid, but we were able to have a trip in 2021. We take kids every 3 years and have the conference then do some additional travelling, visiting Washington DC traveling all around Washington and there were very few people around, then on to the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Times Square, the 9/11 museum, Amish Country, and Gettysburg. We were the first county to get approval for out of

state travel and for overnight stays. We did have an 8-day trip with the youth. We had a tour guide and went to all the monuments that we would have seen if the actual conference had not been virtual and got more information we needed.

We do Camp Cloverbud twice a year. Once in the Summer and once in the Winter. About 5 years ago was when we started doing the winter program. This is a camp held for Cloverbud members. This year in the Summer we're doing a Science Camp. Last year we did a wildlife camp. We had a wildlife rescue that brought in all kinds of animals and the kids got to go through those. This year we are doing things like walking on eggs, sucking eggs into bottles, volcanos, lava lamps, fun things like that. This program is for the kids 5 to 7. The Youth Executive Council is youth from 13-18 and we are in the middle of a community service where we've worked with the clubs on things like a drive for backpacks that will go to the Foster Care System. We have about 30 of them and they are packed for different groups such as elementary boys, girls, and the different sizes of clothing. The kids got to stuff them with things like stuffed animals, blankets, pillows, personal care items and hand games, journals. We also received baby items. We encourage the kids to do some type of community service through the year, one on their own and a couple as a group. In addition to that we do a county wide workday like at the food bank packing emergency boxes or bagging fruits and vegetables. The next one is in July if you would like to help packing boxes or sorting fruits and vegetables. We also are doing leadership conferences which have thankfully started up again this year. We had our first state conference in January. We also had the youth fest typically geared to 9–13-year-olds. This year was 11-13 age group, which was held in Pueblo, and we had 3 of our kids that went to the conference. The state conference will be in June. The Children's Festival is put on by United Way and was on April 9th. In years past it's been held at Island Grove and usually saw about 900 Kids. This year it was held at Downtown Rec Center & DoubleTree by Hilton Greeley @ Lincoln Park. We have different 5-minute projects that they can do like ice cookies, plant plants, etc. This year due to the location, it was much smaller and we only had two tables, enough for 4 kids to be behind working on their project. We still did about 300 cookies, and we saw about 300-400 kids that weekend. We painted snakes, made bird houses, and a variety of different little projects.

We also do a pop-up booth at the Greeley Stampede which means we can set up a booth, but we don't have to be there the entire time and hours. We do the three nights of the rodeos, except for the finals. We do a quick hands-on project that the kids can do as they're coming through on their way to the rodeo. Its our way to get the youth interested in 4-H.

We also do a 4-H Showcase in January which is a day dedicated to show different projects that youth can participate in if they were to join 4-H. Fifteen different projects were showcased this year and over 100 people attended the event in a three-hour period.

As for the 2023 CWF trip, we will be doing that. The National 4-H Center used to have a place that the conference was held, but then they decided to sell it so it is being moved to a Conference Center still in D.C. So we'll be back to doing the conference with the trip to different places after that. Have about 50 kids signed up and we're still working on the logistics of the trip. All ideas for fundraising would be appreciated as with not being able to fundraise during Covid, they're a little behind.

We also are having a Treager raffle going on where the different clubs can sell the tickets to earn money for their club. They receive ½ of their total sales for their club.

With no further business or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Council meeting will be on June 16th at noon at the Extension Office.