

**EXTENSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2021**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Amy Cooksey
Olga Gonzalez
Ron Marshall
Will Nelson
Gary Schaneman
Lori Stevens
Daryl Wiest
Cindy Nosko - Minutes

Josh Docheff
Pat Kindvall
Erin Mathews
Commissioner Saine
Sean Short
Hanna Swanbom
Jenette Masarie – WC Fair program update

ABSENT:

Will Owsley

Daryl Wiest welcomed the group and called the meeting of the Weld County Extension Advisory Council to order at 12:10 p.m.

Daryl thanked Larry for all he did in Keith's absence and Amy for taking over the last meeting. He introduced the New County Director, Hannah Swanbom to the group. She is originally from Colorado however, she attended college at Iowa State University where she played soccer while earning a degree in Sociology. In 2012, Hannah received her master's from Iowa State University in Agriculture Extension Education. Upon graduation she worked for the University of Wyoming as a Community Development Educator. Hanna worked for the past eight years as a tenured Community Development Area Educator for the University of Wyoming serving Natrona, Converse, and Niobrara Counties before starting her own consulting business, Yellow Horse Consulting, LLC. Yellow Horse Consulting, LLC has provided opportunities that have allowed her the ability to work with clients on new projects that are important to her as well as continue to work on issues and impact the region. Hanna spent the last year working with clients on workforce development programs, youth development and entrepreneurship opportunities. She has also been able to work with future leaders of agriculture through providing educational classes and experiences. Prior to leaving Extension, my responsibilities included creating and developing curriculum to educate a variety of organizations and individuals on topics ranging from generations in the work force and later adapted to generational ranching, to board governance to conflict resolution to leadership development in addition to other topics. She taught and facilitated several Annie's Projects which focus on women in agriculture or agriculture entrepreneurship. Apart from educating the public she is a certified mediator and facilitator. A facilitation that is most memorable for many reasons was the Thunder Basin National Grassland Prairie Dog Management Plan Amendment facilitation where she was asked by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture and the United States Forest Service to lead. As a result of my efforts to lead this wide and diverse group for a year, we were successful in putting a plan together and she received the Wyoming Department of Agriculture Friend of Agriculture Award. My herd includes cattle, horses, a dairy goat, a dog, and a miniature donkey!

Jenette Masarie gave us an update on the Weld County Fair this year. There were numerous sponsors for the fair this year and over \$80,000 donated to the Fair.

There were 15 dairy exhibitors, ending in about 45 entries and the Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale brought in \$49,250.

We had 80 goat exhibitors with 130 market entries and 45 breeding entries and 55 horse exhibitors and 980 entries between all English, Western, Ranch classes.

There were 165 swine exhibitors and 460 entries between market and breeding swine.

The poultry show this year had record numbers with 50 exhibitors, 186 breeding and 121 market entries.

There were 105 sheep exhibitors with 200 entries between breeding and market and 102 beef exhibitors with 180 entries between market and breeding.

For the Jr. Livestock Sale, the final number was an astounding \$1,355,000 which was record breaking. The sale was also live streamed so had a lot of donations thru "addons" that also made up the grand total. There was a lot of support for our youth this year.

Grand Champion meat pen chickens exhibited by Annabelle Kanzler sold for \$4,000; Grand Champion market goat exhibited by Bryleigh Schweer sold for \$11,500; the Grand Champion market beef exhibited by Jed Sidwell sold for \$24,000; Grand Champion market swine exhibited by Sydney Vaughn sold for \$12,500; Grand Champion market lamb exhibited by Cade Simpson sold for \$16,000; Grand Champion meat pen rabbits exhibited by Aidan Datterie sold for \$3,500 and the Grand champion market turkey exhibited by Avery Loveland sold for \$3,500.

Reserve Grand Champion market goat exhibited by Nate Fetzer sold for \$6,500; the Reserve Grand Champion meat pen chickens exhibited by Rowan Glynn sold for \$2,000; Reserve Grand Champion market beef exhibited by Stetson Gabel sold for \$21,500; Reserve Grand Champion market lamb exhibited by Bryleigh Schweer sold for \$4,000; Reserve Grand Champion market swine exhibited by Karsyn Fetzer sold for \$10,500; Reserve Grand Champion meat pen rabbits exhibited by Brianna Patefield sold for \$2,250 and Reserve Grand Champion market turkey exhibited by Colton Steinke sold for \$3,000.

The Open Division had 977 entries between the baking, crops and veggies, flowers, hand stitchery and many more division. It was down a little from the 2019 Fair since we didn't have any for 2020 due to COVID.

There were 183 4-H County projects, 167 4-H Family Consumer Science projects and 504 General and Natural Resource projects.

Jenette then showed us just some of the photos of the fun that people had at the Weld County Fair.

Hannah gave the director's report. The office is officially full staff at this time.

Two weeks ago, we had recognition awards night and there were close to 400 individuals in attendance, and it was a great celebration.

Upcoming November 20th is the Mardi Gras event that will run from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be a silent auction which will also be online and this year there will be a virtual reality trailer so come on out if you like and visit us.

Larry has been working on the needs assessment and it is now in the works to be completed and we will then be at a place to share it with everyone.

Currently working on mid-year review for the CSU agents as they get reviewed twice a year and then their annual review in February. Will also be working on the county staff reviews also.

We are currently working on rebuilding and reinvigorating the Endowment committee to fund the 4-H Outreach position as his grant and the paid portion of his position ends in December and we have not reached the 2 million mark, so we are actively working to get this going again.

The Weld County Fair will have its annual carcass contest award program on October 28, 2021 at 7pm in the 4-H Building. The only species missing will be the beef awards.

The CSU OEE annual forum will be November 8th through the 10th so all Extension staff will be attending so the Extension office will have minimal staff in the office during that time.

On November 4th the Master Gardeners will be having their end of the year celebration which will be virtual to honor and recognize all the volunteers that they had during the year.

On November 10th the Weld County 4-H Foundation Board will be meeting at the Extension Office.

Commissioner Lori Saine gave an update on the Commissioners. Currently the budget is getting the final touches which will be applied on December 15th. At the same time, gas prices are still going up along with everything else, but considering all that is happening, we are looking pretty good.

We put on an Energy and Environment Leadership Symposium which Patrick and Hannah attended at UNC on October 7th and 8th. The Energy and Environment Leadership Symposium provides an in-person forum for leaders that want to know more about common-sense policy in the intersection of energy and agricultural production and environmental concerns. This symposium will create opportunities for community and thought leaders to come together for high-level discussion, education, and collaboration about the state of the energy and agriculture industries and how those two sectors can be a solution to environmental concerns. This is a symposium with sought-after industry leaders and innovators who will challenge the way our attendees think about the future of sustainability. The Energy and Environment Leadership Symposium seeks to identify common-sense policies that work in the areas of energy, agricultural production, and environmental issues as well as showcasing thought leaders on topics that matter now to industry, community, and government leaders. It was pretty extensive, and they had an impressive list of speakers. Got about 50 surveys back with most of them positive, stating they enjoyed the conference and that it was very professional. We had individuals from both sides of the spectrum such as legislators, mayors, etc. and they were talking with each other and not over each other. Attendance ended up being maxed out and we will be doing it again next year. Everyone is welcome to attend if they would like.

With no further business or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m. The next Council meeting will be on December 16th at noon at the Extension, with a program update by Amy Lentz and Sunshine Gearhart.