

KACAA Spring Workshop Business Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2004 at Marysville

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Mark Ploger.

Chuck Otte moved, and Ron Syfert seconded the motion to approve the minutes as sent out. Larry Crouse noted a correction that needed to be made. The correction was made, and the motion passed to approve the corrected minutes.

Secretary Bill Wood reported we had received a thank you card for the memorial gift on behalf of Gary Gold's mother.

Reports of Officers:

Mike Christian, NACAA North Central Regional Director shared this information:

- He handed out a sheet with NACAA North Central Regional officer leadership, explained that there are still 3 committee vice president openings, and encouraged agents to volunteer for these positions.
- North Carolina will put a bid in to host the 2008 NACAA Professional Improvement Conference.
- The North Central Region received over \$11,000 of the \$25,000 scholarships awarded this year to agents. Glenn Brunkow received \$1,000.
- He stressed the importance of agents applying for awards through our association.
- The Outstanding Young Farmer program is a joint effort of Jaycees, John Deere, and the NACAA. Take time to nominate someone from your county.
- The AMPIC in Orlando will be good.
- Jana Beckman has SARE travel scholarship money that can be used for professional improvement travel.
- Many of the states are in similar financial situations as Kansas is, tight on money.
- The Southern Region has had a change of mind in response to the Galaxy Conference and will support the NACAA being a part of Galaxy in 2008.

Bill Wood shared the treasurer's report. He explained the budget had been built on 100 members, but we only have 84, so dues income is short around \$1600. Larry Crouse moved and Matt Pfeifer seconded the motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion carried. Bill shared his experiences at the PILD Conference in Washington DC he had just returned from.

- Money is tight at all levels of government.
- We need to continually be in touch with elected officials and become experts that they will turn to for information and advice.
- Invite elected officials to programs and get them involved. They like publicity.
- All states are presently in financial crunches, or have been in them. He is glad to work in Kansas.

Chuck Otte passed out the Professional Improvement Account financial report, and made these points:

- We will be paying for 3 new agent scholarships to the AMPIC in Florida.
- We need to try to keep our membership numbers up. If we drop below 100, we can only have one AA winner. If we drop under 75, then we can only have one DSA winner.
- He can use some more help with our KACAA web site.
- The Ag Agents will need to elect someone for the KEAA president this fall.
- The search committee for the Associate Director of Extension has been narrowed down to 3 individuals, 2 from Kansas, and one from Iowa.

Richard Fechter, Vice President reported:

- Russ Smith is leaving Allen County.
- He was able to attend the JCEP Conference, learned more about the NACAA, and is also glad to

work for the Kansas Extension Service.

Keith VanSkiike, NW Area Director shared:

- They have several new agents in the Northwest. Joe Liebbrandt is filling in for Doug Musick at Thomas County. Melissa Warren is in Graham, Rachael Gager is in Rooks, and Ty Faulkender is in Cheyenne.

Rick Snell, Director at Large, thanked us for the opportunity to serve as a director, and said he still has hats to sell.

Mark Ploger, President, reported:

- They have 3 new agents, Zach Deeds in Pratt (present at our meeting), Robert Beely in Clark, and Mike Hanson in Seward.
- He had hip surgery last winter and thanked those who filled in for him at Annual Conference.
- KEAA is working on a mini Fall Conference.
- KACAA needs to submit 3 names from our association for a planning committee for the Fall Conference.

Standing Committee Reports:

Member Resources

National Meeting: Bill Wood reported we have 19 members, 15 spouses and approximately 20 youth going to Orlando in July.

Policy: Chuck Otte reported: Committee met and reviewed three National Meeting First Timer applications and one Scholarship application. They awarded \$250 First Timer Scholarships to Carla Nemechek, Jamie Schmitt and John Schrock, and a \$500 Graduate School Study Scholarship to Joni James.

Program Recognition

Extension Programs: David Hallauer reported: The Extension Programs Committee met at the Spring Meeting of the Kansas Association of County Agricultural Agents on May 6, 2004 in Marysville. Six committee members were in attendance. Winners of the 2004 Excellence awards were announced as follows:

- **Crop Production** - Brian Creager of Lyon County.
- **Landscape Horticulture** - Bob Neier of Sedgwick County
- **Livestock Production** - Richard Fechter of Elk County. The second place Livestock Production entrant was Sandra Wick of Smith County.

As per NACAA guidelines, both the winner and runner up entrants were forwarded on to National for consideration. Nothing has been heard back from them at this point. Discussion about how to increase participation centered around posting abstracts on the web page for other members to look at. This would also share programming ideas among agents. The chair will contact the winners to ask if they would be willing to have their applications posted. Currently, agents are hesitant to participate due to 1) time constraints, 2) feeling that they don't stand a chance at winning, 3) and lack of desire to pursue recognition for themselves or their program. The committee will continue to encourage participation. An invitation to pursue other topics of discussion was given. There were no other items of business that the committee wanted to take up.

4-H and Youth: Dave Kehler gave report, minutes by Shannon Blender. The committee met with Greg McClure (acting chair), David Kehler, Shannon Blender, Rickey Roberts and John Shrock present. There was some slow communication, or lack of information on the rule changes concerning PQA, which caused some concern. The meat goat project is growing. Some in-state guidelines or suggestions would be appreciated. Texas has good information on meat goats. A list of certified judges would be helpful. Composite judging teams was discussed. We are generally against composite teams, as they can allow

“stacked” teams. We believe eliminating achievement level requirements (horse judging and quiz bowl) would benefit judging teams. Our first suggestion is to not allow composite teams. If this is not acceptable, we would like to see a balance of both kinds of teams. For example, when 3 teams qualify for national level competition, 1 team could be made up of the top individuals and the other 2 teams would only be for county/district teams. Youth would probably have to declare ahead of time if they want to be on the county team, or be eligible for the composite team.

Professional Excellence: Alan Ladd reported: Present were Bob Frisbie, Keith VanSike, and Alan Ladd. Keith VanSike will be the new chair, since Alan is transferring to Iowa. DSA winners are Rick Miller, Johnson Co., and Whitey Whitehill, Finney Co. AA winners are John Shrock, Dickenson Co, and Matt Pfeifer, Wabunsee Co. They will be recognized at the AMPIC in Florida.

Communications: Ryan Higbie- the committee met with Ryan Higbie, Todd Whitney, Mark Schuler, and Brian Creager present. Brian is a Regional Committee Chair, and Ex officio member of the committee. There were 18 entries for the 2004 Communication Awards. Todd updated the committee on the results of the Agent’s Choice Awards that took place at the Spring Workshop. Discussion was held on how to get agents to apply for the Communication Awards. An incentive might be soliciting outside sponsorship for cash incentives for everyone who submits an application. A survey will be sent to the agents to find out why they aren’t submitting applications.

Scholarship: Carl Garten reported: Mike Vogt, Dean Davis, Carl Garten and Ron Seyfert met. They evaluated the fall Smixer auction, and will consider the possibility of doing another auction in the fall if the Professional Improvement Workshop gets planned. We will be contacting all the members for items for the auction. We discussed what we might do next spring for a gift certificate for the Spring Workshop raffle.

Public Relations

Smixer: Matt Pfeifer reported: Four members met. We discussed fees and sponsors for the Smixer. It looks like the Smixer will not be held again until 2005.

PRIDE (Ask the Administrator and Friends of County Agents Awards) Larry Crouse reported: Members present were Larry Crouse, Ben Allen, Warren Bell, and Rick Snell. For Friend of County Agent, nominations are: Organization- Garden Wise, Individual Outside Extension- Pat Roberts (U.S. Senator), Patty Clark (KS Dept. of Commerce), and Don Sneathen (KDHE). Individual in Extension- Ward Upham.

Career Development

Life Members

Administrative Skill Development: Rick Miller reported: Rick Miller, Jeff Davidson, and Glenn Brunkow were present.

1. Discussed the role agents play in secretary evaluations. We could ask for examples of evaluation forms and contracts that counties use for secretaries. A training will be considered for next spring’s KACAA workshop or at Annual Conference. Sara Fogleman from the SE Area Office could possibly be a presenter.
2. We talked about the value of having a salary schedule for Extension Agents around the state. Jim Lindquist produces a predicted salary chart that may be helpful.
3. We discussed the importance of developing relationships with elected officials. It’s important for agents to actively pursue these relationships through civic groups, chamber, and legislative involvement. There is a session at the NACAA Annual Meeting on working with elected officials.
4. Most agents learn some skills as they go along and ask more experienced agents for help. Identify who those experienced agents are and use them.

Early Career Development: No report

Teaching, Communication Skills and Technology: Phil Sell reported: Present were Phil Sell, DeWayne Craighead, and David Lott. We began the meeting by defining our dual role of addressing the teaching and educational technology needs of our members and supporting the NACAA program by serving as a liaison with the regional vice-chair and national chair. We then discussed general educational technology issues starting with computer hardware concerns. Since the "level playing field" initiative, there seems to be a widening gap in technology assets in counties. We would also like to get a better indication of what support is available (including web resources, etc.). We also discussed an effort by horticulture agents to share programs (ppt and /or shw) on a secure intranet site. In order to better understand the teaching and educational technology needs of KACAA members, we intend to do a survey through an e-mail questionnaire, then forward this information to administration and state/area IET staff. We encourage the KACAA members attending the AMPIC in Orlando to participate in the Teaching and Educational Technology sessions that will be conducted there.

Professional Improvement Teams

Agronomy: Dean Davis reported, Tom Maxwell took notes: The Professional Agronomy Tours have been and are planned- 2003 No-till wheat plots and no-till farming in the Hays and Russell area, 2004 Pasture Tour at Hubbards, and 2005 ideas at Garden City include, Grass Irrigation, Reduced Water Usage, Cotton Acreage, Forages for Feed Lots, Sharp Brothers at Healy, Dairy Tour & Forages, and the Experimental Field.

Ag Economics and Community Development: Carl Garten reported: Carl Garten, Brian Creager, Richard Fechter, Dave Kehler, Ben Allen, Rick Miller, Matt Pfeifer, Rickey Roberts, John Schrock, and Mike Vogt were present. On the Ag Econ side, Dave Kehler will continue working on agent training from the Ag Econ Department. Dave has heard of a new evaluation to prioritize future training opportunities. The Ag Risk Conference is August 19-20 at the KSU Alumni Center. On the Community Development side, John Leatherman released some material recently. We need to use his office and the "Direct Line." Ben Allen updated us on an Ag Tourism training in Great Bend November 3-4. Enterprise Facilitation for small business development from the bottom up, with a network of people to help ensure small business success, is available from the Kansas Dept. of Commerce and Housing.

Animal Sciences, Dairy & Livestock: Ross Mosteller reported: The spring committee meeting for Animal Science and Industry of the KACCA was held May 6th, 2004 in the Marysville American Legion Building, Marysville, Kansas. Those members in attendance were: Ron Seyfert, Glenn Brunkow, DeWayne Craghead, David Hallauer, Ryan Higbie, and Ross Mosteller. The main topics of discussion included:

- 1) The Youth PQA program for 4-H and how we as agents supported the programming efforts. The discussion turned to the need for a complete "meat animal" quality assurance training that would be geared to different age groups. It was presented to the committee that this was a topic that would be discussed at the 2004 Discovery Days in Manhattan.
- 2) The Animal ID program was discussed. Agents visited about Extension's role in educating producers about the requirements and helping to demonstrate equipment in our counties. It was agreed that this could be a big part of the livestock programming in the coming years.
- 3) Foreign animal disease issues and emergency preparedness plans was discussed. All counties have been encouraged to develop a plan. Extension agents in many counties have helped in drawing up the plan. All agents are encouraged to help in this effort at a county level.
- 4) The last big topic item was to discuss the BSE issue and how it was handled by the media. The group agreed that there needs to be a good way to deal with the media and producers surrounding BSE and other disease issues. Thanks were expressed to the state leaders like Dr. Hollis in getting factual information out to agents and media in a timely manner.

Environmental & Natural Resources: Greg McClure reported: The Natural Resources committee met on May 6 with nine members present- Greg McClure, Warren Bell, Jeff Davidson, Bob Frisbie, Ron Graber, Stacie Edgett Minson, Mark Schuler, Rick Snell, and Todd Whitney. The committee reviewed the PowerPoint presentation that Mike Christian, Ron Graber and Bob Frisbie created at the request of the Natural Resources committee. The presentation is titled "What's in Your Water?" and is designed to be used by agents as a short presentation to service groups. Agents may use the presentation to discuss water pollution potential from various sources and the efforts of K-State personnel to assure a clean water supply. The presentation contains 14 slides and should work as a 15 to 20 minute presentation. The "What's in Your Water?" PowerPoint is available by contacting the nearest water quality specialist. They will burn a copy of the presentation on CD and provide it to agents at no cost. Or, contact Mike Christian for a copy of the presentation. The meeting adjourned when control was lost by the chairman when Mike Christian began showing his collection of off-color slides.

Horticulture and Forestry: Larry Crouse reported: We are working on moving the State Horticulture Judging Contest to the KSU campus for 2005, probably in August. We discussed First Detector Training and need to remember to focus on education. We are not a regulatory agency.

There was no old business.

President Ploger opened the floor for new business.

David Hallauer asked about award money for Search For Excellence winners. Someone remembered it was a national sponsor in the past, who probably dropped their sponsorship.

Carl Garten explained the 4-H dairy judging team selection changes. Discussion followed with some liking the changes and others seeing problems with the changes.

Rick Snell brought up the cost of the hats KACAA has for sale. Discussion followed. Warren Bell moved and DeWayne Craghead seconded the motion to charge \$10 for the hats. Motion carried. Brian Creager moved and Matt Pfeifer seconded the motion to check with local companies before buying more hats. Motion carried. Stacie Edgett-Minson moved and Jeff Davidson seconded the motion to explore purchasing some visors. Motion carried.

Mark Ploger shared a letter from the Kansas Farm Management Fieldman's Association asking for a \$250 donation to help them host the national meeting in Kansas. Rick Snell moved and Bob Frisbie seconded the motion to donate \$250 to them. The motion carried.

Mark Ploger reported that KACAA has been asked to nominate 3 representatives to the Annual Conference Planning Committee. He suggested our 3 officers do this, President for 1 year, Secretary/Treasurer for 2 years, and V.P. for one year. Jeff Davidson moved and Ben Allen seconded the motion to approve this suggestion. Motion carried.

Chuck Otte said he would like to find Kansas produced food items for the hospitality room at AMPIC in Florida.

Dave Kehler noted that the Fall Professional Development Conference in Great Bend on October 19 & 20 will conflict with his animal grazing seminar.

Bob Frisbie brought forth a concern about the dues increase. It is affecting our membership numbers. He suggested we tack on an extra \$10 to the registration for our Spring Workshop and Annual Conference, and have that apply to our dues. Discussion followed. Bob Frisbie moved and Carl Garten seconded the motion to look into adding fees to our registrations. More discussion followed. Someone suggested checking into payroll deduction as a way to pay dues. Chuck Otte said Jim Lindquist said we could

charge larger registration fees and use those to keep dues lowered. Ben Allen moved we raise Spring Workshop registration from \$30 to \$50. Bill Wood seconded the motion and discussion was held. Carl Garten moved to amend the motion by striking the words, "\$30 to \$50," and replacing with "adding \$20" to the Spring Workshop Registration, and the \$20 going back to the Association. Dave Kehler moved to table this motion and refer it all to the Executive Committee. Keith VanSkike seconded the table motion and it passed. The Executive Committee will discuss this dues issue.

Bob Frisbie moved that KACAA dues be lowered back to \$85 for an agent member, and adjustments made to the new and specialists memberships. Ron Seyfert seconded the motion and it carried.

Brian Creager asked for \$30 to use as an honoraria for the Communication Award judges. Stacie Edgett-Minson moved and Glenn Brunkow seconded the motion to approve the \$30 honoraria. The motion carried.

Mark Ploger announced that the SW Agents will host the 2005 Spring Workshop in Garden City. He also thanked Mike Vogt and his team for hosting the 2004 Workshop. Mike thanked several neighboring agents for their help.

Alan Ladd was recognized for his service to our KACAA and we all wish him the best in Iowa.

The Election of Officers was held. Bill Wood will move to President, Richard Fechter to Secretary/Treasurer, Keith VanSkike to Vice President. Andrea Burns will take Mark Plogers place as the SW Area Director. Larry Crouse nominated Bob Neir as the At-Large Director. DeWayne Craghead moved and Ron Seyfert seconded the motion to elect Bob Neir as the At-Large Director. The motion carried. Chuck Otte moved and Dean Davis seconded the motion to approve and elect the slate of officers/directors. The motion carried.

The drawing was held for the Scholarship gift certificate. Gary Cramer was the winner.

Rick Miller moved we adjourn, and it was seconded by a chorus of voices. Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Secretary Bill Wood