

Kansas State Extension Advisory Council  
February 21, 2011

The Kansas State Extension Advisory Council met Monday February 21, 2011 at the Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo), 600 SW Corporate View, Topeka, KS.

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 am by Chairman Brad Fuller. Members and staff introduced themselves.

Members present: Dan Johnson, Mary Bernhardt, Tresa Jones, Janell Harman, Gary Thompson, Jay Weseloh, Bryan Brauer, Brad Fuller, Susan Bloom, Kyle Fulton, Larry Dolci, Bob Standage, Carolyn Harms, Jerry Dreher, Aaron Wolff, Wally Wolfe, Gary Price, Loren Snell and Jerry Hall.

K-State Administrators present: Daryl Buchholz, Gary Pierzynski, Pat Murphy, Jim Lindquist, Chris Onstad, Phil Sloderbeck, Zelia Wiley and Dale Fjell. Steven Graham, Assistant to the Dean/Director, Sue Peterson and Phil Harner, Office of Government Relations for Kansas State University joined the meeting in the afternoon.

Daryl Buchholz gave an overview of the meeting's agenda.

Members read and reviewed the enclosed minutes from the August 20, 2010 Council meeting. It was moved by Gary Price and seconded by Mary Bernhardt to accept the minutes from the August 20, 2010 meeting. The motion passed. Brad Fuller gave the Treasurer's report. It was moved by Mary Bernhardt and seconded by Jay Weseloh to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion passed.

Daryl explained the roles and expectations of the SEAC. Each member comes from a different area of the state with their own experiences. We come to advise KSRE to strengthen the overall mission of KSRE. Officer elections will be held in August. SEAC has a list serve to send messages for SEAC members <kseac@ksre.ksu.edu>. The expense form was explained.

Daryl presented an overview of the Partnership meetings held in January and discussion was held with the topic of strengthening local boards. We broke into small groups to discuss the top 5 topics for strengthening boards. The general consensus of the small groups was that PDC's should be more active, report their meeting outcomes to the governing board and be more diverse in their membership. Other topics were performance reviews of agents and methods to increase public relations.

Following lunch Les Evans, Senior Vice President and COO of Kepco gave an overview of the Cooperative. The Cooperative provides the power supply and transmission to the individual power cooperatives. They also generously provide the meeting room for our meetings at no charge.

Bryan Brauer reported on a mission trip to Haiti – Haitians helping Haitians. Their purpose was to work with farmers with water issues.

Gary Price also reported on a mission trip to Malawi in Africa which is south of Tanzania. People are trying to begin 4-H as an educational tool and used KSRE resources to help develop contacts. There are ongoing extension programs in Africa some of which are to develop affordable water pumps to increase their growing seasons and to teach composting.

The board again met in small groups to discuss the Board Leadership Modules and growing 4-H and Youth Development. For the modules, the board felt the most important modules were for Agent Performance Review and New Board member Orientation. Some strategies to use the modules include

combining new member orientation along with agent performance review, direct PDC's to report on the modules, assign modules to individual board members who then report back to the board. To market the modules, use social networks and technology, create more compelling and descriptive titles for the modules, use the Board Recognition form to determine what the needs are for the modules, when possible use the survey clickers for the boards to go through board assessments, use a different format style for presenting the modules rather than reading the power point slides and use actual board members to present the actual audio where appropriate.

For growing 4-H and Youth Development, there should be a constant reevaluation of programs as program needs change and be flexible in the implementation of those programs, young and energetic 4-H agents might relate better to youth, partner with other youth groups in the community such as Scouting, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc., use non-traditional programming and promote the National 4-H science initiative to kids that the schools don't reach. Suggestions for retention of 4-H youth include assigning mentors to new families to help with the transition to 4-H: adult to adult and kid to kid, individual clubs should provide a new family booklet and giving ownership of 4-H clubs to the kids rather than adults making decisions. The current cuts in school funding gives 4-H and Youth Development the opportunity to reach kids through forensics, arts, etc. and other programs those schools can no longer offer.

Discussion was held on the topic of Extension districting. County boards are familiar with districting but county commissioners and stakeholders are not. More information should be available to those groups when in a districting discussion. When in discussions to form a district, don't say that 4-H doesn't change. The general principles of 4-H doesn't change but the implementation of 4-H programming does. Jim Lindquist does a good job with presenting information to groups interested in forming a district. The formation of a district needs to be for the right reasons for the counties involved.

Sue Peterson, Phil Harner and Steven Graham joined the meeting to prepare for the legislative visits on Tuesday. Parking, construction around the Statehouse and office locations were some of the topics presented. Small group discussions then focused on topics to be presented to the respective legislators with the idea that topics should be kept to "elevator" points.

The summer meeting will be held in the Northeast area August 18 -19 in Seneca.

Carolyn Harms moved and Jerry Hall seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tresa Jones