

STATE EXTENSION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES/NOTES
AUGUST 11, 2020
VIRTUAL MEETING ON ZOOM
HOSTED BY KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION OFFICE

At 8:45 AM (EDT), on August 11, 2020, Nancy Calix, Assistant Extension Administrator for County Operations College of Agriculture, Communities, and the Environment for the Kentucky State University started the meeting by welcoming everyone to meet on Zoom.

President Ann Porter of Mason County welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She said the role of the delegates in Extension is to provide feedback and guidance on Extension programs, policies and procedures; 2) to provide input and help with work plans; and 3) to serve as ambassadors for Cooperative Extension.

President Porter introduced Dr. Cox, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment for the University of Kentucky. Dr. Cox thanked delegates for their service. She said that Extension Offices across the state have stepped up to assist families during COVID-19. She stated that Extension has used social media to further its programs. Extension Offices have put together packages for children and hosted 4-H virtual celebrations. It has conducted webinars on mental health to help families cope with stress and anxiety from COVID-19. Dr. Cox hopes that all these new online services last and will be used after COVID-19. She stated that Extension is strong because of the leadership and support from the local systems.

Dr. Kirk Pomper, Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture, Communities, and the Environment at the Kentucky State University and Director of KSU Land Grant Programs, welcomed and thanked all delegates. He thanked UK Cooperative Extension for its partnership. He stated that KSU Extension Office has also increased its online services, including 4-H programs. He said that they have been growing a lot of food and they have been donating their produce. KSU Extension has also been filming demonstrations about growing/farming and the films are available to the public.

Dr. Courtney Owens, Interim Associate Extension Administrator for Program and Staff Development for the College of Agriculture, Communities, and the Environment Cooperative Extension Program at Kentucky State University served as moderator for *1890 Associate Extension Administrators panel*. The panelists were Vonda Richardson, Director FAMU Cooperative Extension Program in the College of Agriculture and Food Science, Dr. Ami Smith, Associate Vice-President for Public Service and Director of Extension of West Virginia State University, and Dr. M. Ray McKinnie, Dean/1890 Administrator, Virginia State University College of Agriculture. The panelists talked about the importance of Land Grant Universities (Extension Offices). They said that Extension was relevant when it was created and continues to be. The Extension Offices played a major role in helping underserved populations. They said that Universities with Extension helped to close the gap of inequality.

Through a recording video, Dr. Jerusha Lay, Extension Veterinarian and Assistant Professor for the Kentucky State University, spoke about the importance of keeping family pets and livestock animals healthy. She said farmers could optimize their profit by having livestock animals healthy. She also pointed out that there is a great need of education about preventative care for pets and livestock animals.

President Porter introduced Dr. Laura Stephenson, Associate Dean & Director for Extension at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Stephenson thanked delegates for their service and said that she was encouraged to see everyone working as a team. She gave an update about Extension re-structuring. They were originally going to hire 28 Area Directors but have reduced that to 24 due to budget concerns. She said Extension has money in hand to hire 12 Area Directors. 4 of those will be filled with existing District Directors who will transition into an Area Director. There will be open searches for the remaining 8 positions. She would hope that some members of this council will serve on the search committee. There was a question about hiring. Dr. Stephenson said that interviews would start within a month for the eight positions and hope to have them in place by the end of December 2020. Dr. Stephenson mentioned that Extension Offices have helped a lot during this pandemic. She said that Extension Office parking lots have been used for COVID-19 testing.

At 10:35 am, President Porter called the business meeting to order. She asked Secretary Juan Pena to present the minutes. Secretary Pena said the minutes were emailed to all delegates prior to the meeting. President Porter asked for the approval of the minutes for the February 25-26, 2020 meeting. Curtis Rosser of Mason County made a motion to adopt the minutes as written. Riff Turner of McCracken County seconded to accept the minutes as written. The motion was carried.

There was no old business.

President Porter proceeded with new business to discuss the election of officers. She said that the election was supposed to be held during this summer meeting. Due to the current circumstances and not being able to have the meeting in person, she suggested tabling the election until the February meeting and keeping current officers until February 2021. There was no objection to this suggestion. The election will be held at the February 2021 meeting.

President Porter asked delegates to hold February 23-24, 2021 for the next meeting.

President Porter recognized and thanked all outgoing delegates for their service. The outgoing delegates were: John McGlone of Boyd county, Gregg Webb of Lewis County, Pam Pilgrim of Wolfe County, Barbara Gregory of Henry County, Danny Callahan of Estill County, Tim Gossett of Meade County, Ada Mae Handy of Green County, Tim Karn of Ohio County, Debbie Winstead of Webster County, Sarah Evans of Todd County, R. C. "Riff" Turner of McCracken County, Paul Muth of Boyle County, Elaine Russell of Fayette County, Susan Pugh of Breathitt County, Henry Snorton of Christian County, Nancy Dawson of Logan County, and W. T. Dean of Jefferson County.

President Porter announced the winner of the Randall Barnett Award. The Randall Barnett Award was created in 1997 in honor of Dr. Randall Barnett. Dr. Barnett served the Extension Office for 40 years in different capacities and served as an associate dean for the UK Extension. Dr. Barnett devoted his career to creating strong Extension Offices in Kentucky. To continue his vision and legacy, each year the Randall Barnett Award is given to a County that has implemented far-reaching programs to address the needs of the community. The award includes \$500, a framed certificate for the winning Extension office, and an inscription of the county's name that is placed on a permanent plaque in the Office of the Associate Dean for Extension, University of Kentucky.

The Winner of the 2020 Randall Barnett Award was given to Bath County for its successful and impactful program to address obesity in Bath County by promoting healthy eating. Bath County Cooperative Extension, in partnership with many groups in the county, started a vigorous program that included education, physical activities, and promoting healthy eating. The program has reached out to hundreds of adults and children. Bath County Extension reported that many children become interested in cooking and frequent local farmer markets for fresh produce.

Dr. Randall Barnett was present on the virtual meeting. He congratulated Bath County for winning the award. Dr. Randall said that Extension is important and plays an important role in improving the quality of life of our counties. He thanked delegates for their service and encouraged delegates to remain proactive in Extension in order to remain relevant and strong.

President Porter asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Judy Daniel of Johnson County made a motion to adjourn. It was second by Marcia Duncan of Shelby County.

President Porter ended the business meeting at 10:51 am (EDT)

Notes and the minutes of the business meeting are provided by State Extension Secretary Juan Pena of Shelby County.