

## EXTENSION BOARD MEETING – October 5, 2023

Present: Todd Zimmerman filling in for Dana Baltensperger, Tim Nichols, Deborah Solie, Ryan Bohling, Leigh Wakulinski

Staff: Ritika Lamichhane and Sheena Davidson

President Obermeyer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. followed by roll call.

Tim Nichols moved to approve the meeting minutes as read. Ryan Bohling seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

No discussion on financial report. Signed by President Obermeyer.

Ag Extension (Ritika's Updates):

- Community visits: Daryl showed Ritika around – NRCS/FSA office, crop insurance company, will attend Harvest bucket delivery with Liz/crop insurance
- Visited Daryl's farm when he was drilling wheat
- Met with Stephen Kennedy and visited about perennial wheat/local farmer
- Went to Nick Snodgrass's farm and watched him fly the drone; observer must be present to look out for potential at all times for chemicals (10 gallons and gets about 5 acres/fill)
- Husker Harvest Days – attended ag booth and met a lot of digital ag people in university
  - o She plans to do more digital ag experiments
  - o Solie commented Nebraska Extension conducted a digital ag survey; asked if those results are available
- Ritika contacted local FFA teachers around digital ag and possible drone workshop to help pass the test to fly
  - o Must be 16+ to fly a drone
  - o May be additional step from insurance (Leigh commented)
  - o Guy in Dunbar selling drones, if you do an extra step with him, you can be under his insurance (Leigh commented)
  - o Doug Charleson Digital Ag staff member at UNL will partner with Ritika
- EAB (emerald ash borer) workshop that was supposed to be on September 18 was canceled due to low registrations; Extension received a lot of calls asking EAB questions so they are going to host one on November 28 (in the 4-H building); will make registration required so people don't "just show up" minimum of 8 to 10 attendees
- Pesticide training – Ritika going to participate in "training for the trainers" in late Oct or Nov and will host a joint training because there are a lot of new educators
  - o Asked for suggestions from growers
- Met superintendent of Auburn Public Schools, learned about e-sports new team, toured around

4-H Program (Sheena Updates):

- Getting ready for achievement night, handed out invitations to Board members to attend on November 5
- Doing programming – after school and started lesson planning
- Talking with high ability teacher through APS to do lessons with them, Johnson not as open to 4-H programming
- Attended Grand Island environmental education training on trees and water lessons
- Started working on 2024 calendar and fair planning
- Shooting sports this weekend

#### Nemaha County Fair

- Discussed decoupling fair/4-H
- State does not recommend decoupling
- Question was posed: could competition start on Saturday rather than Sunday to help end programming earlier? Daryl said it seems to conflict with 4-H values to require participants to choose between church and showing horses
- Better solution than releasing animals after dark
  - o Chaos because everyone's rushing around
  - o Fair board schedules releasing animals
  - o 4-H has tried to do a 2 p.m. release but Fair board doesn't approve
- No school for APS on Thursday, but there was cross country and football the next morning
- Example fair to look at: Johnson County, which was Friday, Saturday, Sunday
- Could carnival start on Sunday since it arrives on Sunday?

Possibly bring concerns as Extension Board to Fair Board future meeting. The Fair Board's next meeting is October 19.

Add to agenda for next month – fair concerns

- Leigh asked about premium sale and if there had been an evening of how the funds were given

Deborah Solie agreed to serve another 3 years on the Nemaha County Extension Board.

Daryl was recognized by NRD as soil steward of the year for Nebraska (in newspaper)

Obermeyer moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. The next meeting is Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 6 p.m. in the Nemaha County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Solie