

**Nebraska Extension in Seward County - Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 5:30 PM**  
**Seward County Extension Office in Seward, NE**

1. Meeting was called to order by Krystal at 5:31 PM with the following present: Ann Dobesh, Emily Manning, Jennifer Eickhoff, Krystal Naber, Christine Haney-Douglas, Clark Jackson, Jenn Nantkes, Peggy Oborny, and Carrie Gottschalk
  1. Members present met guidelines for quorum
  2. Open Meetings Act guidelines were posted
  3. Date and location of meeting was announced
2.
  1. There were no amendments or additions to the agenda.
  2. Jennifer moved to approve the agenda, Peggy seconded, motion carried.
3.
  1. Christine moved to approve the previous meeting minutes, Jenn seconded, motion carried.
4.
  1. Financial reports were presented and discussed. Christine moved to approve financial reports, Peggy seconded, motion carried.
5.
  1. Christine attended the NASEB Legislative Day with Ann, Emily, and Cindy. Christine gave a report on the time they were able to spend with Senator Jana Hughes. The Senator discussed her concerns about vaping and how especially young kids are being exposed and targeted. She also shared a Seward County concern where a new daycare in Staplehurst is waiting on DHHS approval in order to begin business and how to prevent the state from being a road block.
  2. Emily shared the upcoming schedule of Regional Educator visits, with the first being at our next meeting in April. We discussed the areas of that educator's programming, who in our community could benefit from attending to be in on those discussions, and who from the board would make those contacts. Emily will send out a shared doc for us to note contacts to be most efficient moving forward.
6.
  1. After discussion, the following committee appointments were agreed upon: Nomination - Jennifer and Peggy, Program Advisory – Christine and Krystal, and Budget – Clark and Jenn.
  2. At our next meeting, we will take a group picture for the website.
7.
  1. No Commissioner report
  2. Jenn reported from the board on the programming decisions being made in schools for next year and the professional development events to discuss with staff. She discussed the increasing trend of students moving between schools, as well as a notable increase in the need for services for our younger students. It has also been more of a challenge to receive reports and health information from doctors that the schools use to provide those services. It was tough having so many snow days and kids not being in school consistently at the beginning of the year, but it was nice this past week to have nicer weather for kids to get some time outside.
  3. Carrie reported on the NASEB Legislative Day, the availability of online Extension Board training, and filled us in on some updates from the University. She is serving on an advisory committee meeting frequently to brainstorm on how to close budget gaps for Extension programming. As others at the University begin assessing needs from across the state, and connecting them with resources, we discussed how we can do the same.

4. Ann reported for 4-H Council that at their last meeting they elected officers, and were excited to see a very willing group to jump in and serve this year. Their annual Phone-a-thon fundraiser has begun with a mailing, and will follow with the Jr. Leaders making phone calls soon.
5. Ann provided a written report discussing upcoming Connecting the Dots events, and the Discover Careers program and Mock Interviews that recently took place. The Jr. Leaders have several new members through a revival of the 13<sup>th</sup> birthday cards being sent out and are planning a 4-H Carnival. A Volunteer Update was held with Dr. Lindsay Hastings speaking, and after applying and being accepted Ann will be presenting a session on Financial Literacy at the Ignite Youth Conference in Washington D.C. in March. Ann shared Cindy's report on the Embryology program underway in schools, numbers in the Horsemanship Study Group, and upcoming market beef weigh in and clover college preparations. Staff said Brittney is very busy with 24 sessions of Healthy Habits classes going on now in schools. Emily discussed her recent programming including the Communities for Kids partnership, professional development being offered to daycare providers, her podcast, CHIME projects, and her role in a new research project beginning soon in Omaha.
8. Jenn moved to adjourn at 6:40 PM, Jennifer seconded. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 5:30 PM.