**Western Extension Directors Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 19, 2021**

**Welcome and Introductions** – Cody Stone called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)

**Roll Call/Sound Check** – Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom

Present: Cody Stone, Barbara Petty, Kelly Crane, Jeff Goodwin, Pete Pinney, Wendy Powers, Ivory Lyles, Jon Boren, Pete Barcinas, Ed Martin, Mike Gaffney, Lindsey Shirley, Aufai Areta, Anita Azarenko, Vicki McCracken.

Guests: Jim Ogsbury WGA, Anna Thielen WGA

**Western Governors Association** – Jim Ogsbury and Anna Thielen

A presentation on the WGA Leadership Institute, a part of the WGA Foundation (philanthropic arm) announced over the summer (https://westgov.org/news/article/western-governors-launch-the-leadership-institute). An opportunity for a delegate and alternate from each state to attend a forum and the annual meeting of WGA (fully paid). For ages 21-25, from the state. Application window is November 15, 2021 to February 15, 2022, with the meeting in Idaho in July 2022. WGA has applied for USDA grants for additional delegates from tribal communities. Info on institute (<https://westgov.org/images/editor/Foundation_Leadership_Institute_July_2021.pdf>) and video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sWW4Sf6M-8&t=7s>) .

***ACTION ITEM****: Share this opportunity with outstanding Extension-involved candidates (Ages 21-25). One per state and member U.S. territories will be selected to participate.*

***WEDA Business Meeting***

**Approve August 24 Meeting Minutes** –

Motion by Lyles, second by McCracken. Approved unanimously.

***Old Business***

**LGU of the Future White Paper** – Blake

Blake reported that a faculty fellow at CSU is working on the whitepaper. There is additional information needed for the paper so please respond to a quick survey that will be emailed out to WEDA members in the next month or so.

**WEDA Website** – Doreen

* There is a request for some acknowledgements on the WEDA website. Options including possibly hosting and development by the Extension Foundation, or, add USDA/NIFA with possibly grant-funded acknowledgment (the Extension Foundation’s grant).
* *Motion.* Powers motioned, Stone seconded, to acknowledge hosting and development by Extension Foundation be placed in the bottom footer on the WEDA website with a hotlink to the Extension Foundation. Passed unanimously.
* We discussed listing USDA personnel on the WEDA Directory Page – National Liaison.
* *Motion.* Motion that Dr. Castille name and contact information be included on the National Liaison, next to Suzanne Stluka’s information – Barcinas, seconded by Areta, passed unanimously.

***New Business:***

**ECOP Committee Updates**

* **Executive Committee –** Wendy
  + First Friday meetings will be held noon (Pacific time) on priorities for the appropriations ask and others.
  + Extension Foundation requested a DEI statement for ECOP. Under development.
  + Working on a MOU between Extension Foundation, ECOP, and National 4-H Council.
  + WEDA nominated Powers, and she was selected, to serve on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Blue-Ribbon Panel to explore how enhanced coordination, collaboration, and integration between Land-Grant Universities and Colleges, looking at increase the impact of research, education and extension.
* **Programs –** Ivory
  + This year, Lyles is passing along Programs chairmanship to focus on Oregon. There are 7 Program Action Teams (PATs)
  + Our WPOLC DEI committee is connecting with the DEI PAT to share resources and increase collaborations.
  + Climate PAT submitting $60M grant on climate smart ag.
  + Workforce Development PAT is building ways for new funding on workforce development responding to a request from NIFA.
  + National Health task force transitioning to a new Health PAT.
  + 4-H Youth Development PAT – Continuing to communicate the difference between the ECOP 4-H Leadership Team and the ECOP 4-H PAT.
  + Broadband PAT is focused on building infrastructure as well as access/literacy.
  + All of the PAT’s are working on strengthening new private/public partnerships and funding
  + For each PAT, check the ECOP Advocacy website (<https://advocacy.extension.org>). To join a PAT, Ivory suggested contacting each PAT Extension lead or the Extension Foundation (email [Meganhirschman@extension.org](mailto:Meganhirschman@extension.org))
* **Professional Development –** Barbara
  + There will be four Learning for Leaders sessions held this year.
  + Working on new awards announcements after first of year.
  + Re-developing new Directors’ orientation.
* **Budget and Legislation (BLC) –** Jon
  + Jon attended a fly-in to Kansas City for section leaders three weeks ago, to discuss the FY23 federal ask, evolving from the unified ask.
  + The APLU Lobbying Contract RFA is out.
  + Discussion on Extension 2022 and 2024 Appropriations ask with the 9 priority lines and justification. After a healthy discussion, there was interest in looking at a bold ask (25-50%), and additional lines. Consensus on focus ing on capacity funding over AFRI, despite the need for growth there (and indirect supports). Perhaps even see connections to other agencies (in areas health, climate, workforce, economic development). Based on impact stories.
  + There was interest in developing evidence and talking points for states to use when going after other funding.

***Action item*** *– It is time for an inspirational ask!*

* **4-H Leadership –** Jon
  + 4-H Equity Committee, under the leadership of Dorothy Freeman, is recruiting nominations co-chairs for the four Implementation Teams:
    - 1. Organizational Assessment + Data Governance & Measurement
    - Youth Development Professionals
    - Partnerships + Programmatic Funding + Programs
    - Governance and Accountability + Infrastructure Funding.

Each team will need co-chairs (one Extension Director and one 4-H Program Leader) for a commitment of 6-7 months.

***Action Item****: Volunteers nominations to Doreen by Friday, October 29,2021.*

**Support Letter for Ag Research, Innovation, and Facilities –** Barbara

* Signed on in the name of WEDA, based on vote of the Executive Committee, due to the urgent time frame.
* The letter is in support of the increase for Smith-Lever funding and the Ag Infrastructure.

**Nominations Committee –** Kelly

* Cody Stone to serve new 3-year term on BLC
  + *Motion.* By Crane, seconded by Boren. Unanimously passed.
* Need nominee for WRDC Board, need to fill vacancy left by Azarenko.
  + Discussion, do we need 3 WEDA members on the WRDC board? According to Don Albrecht, WRDC Executive Director, it is in the bylaws.
  + *Motion* for Lindsey Shirley to serve. Lyles motioned; McCracken seconded.

**EDA Report** –Doreen

* Doreen shared that she is working with Bret to create a WEDA and WAAESD Communications Steering Committee, looking at impact reports and promotion of our educational activities from the western lens. Pete and Peter are interested in serving on the Steering Committee. We need one to two Communications representatives with the Extension lens. OSU would like additional information.

***Action Item***: *Please nominate communicators or directors to participate.*

* Are we interested in a survey process on funding sources for Extension in the states? Consensus is of strong interest. Ideas were shared of what to include in the survey. Caution was given to only ask for statistics that states/territories can easily provide.

**Upcoming WEDA Meetings –** Barbara

* Barbara proposed meeting a regularly scheduled time each month. She proposed the 2nd Monday of month. After discussion, the 2nd Tuesday of each month won, at 3pm Pacific. Barbara’s assistant will send out the zoom link through the Idaho system.
* Reminder, Joint WAAESD, WEDA, WPOLC Spring Meeting, Reno, in person, March 21-24, 2021

**4:56 p.m. Adjourned**

Next Meeting – Tuesday, November 9th, 2021, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.