**Western Extension Directors Association**

**Meeting Agenda**

**February 14, 2023**

3:00 p.m. **Welcome and Introductions** – Ivory Lyles

3:05 p.m. **Roll Call/Sound Check** – Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom

Ivory Lyles, Lindsey Shirley, Aufai Areta, Barbara Petty, Kristopher Elliott, Vicki McCracken, Kelly Crane, Deanne Meyer, Jacob Dedecker, Jodie Anderson, Cody Stone, Pete Pinney, and Jeff Goodwin

**3:10 p.m. Recognize and thank – Pete Pinney and Jeff Goodwin –** resolutions presented by Lindsey Shirley for Pete Pinney and Jeff Goodwin. Plaques were mailed to them prior to the meeting.

***WEDA Business Meeting***

**3:25 p.m. Approve January WEDA Meeting Minutes** – Pete moved to approve the minutes from January 10th meeting. Approved as submitted.

***Old Business:***

**3:30 p.m. WCMER Discussion and Vote –** Ivory

Vicki provided an update from WSU as it currently houses and provides leadership support through Brad Gaolach for the Western Center to a National Metropolitan Extension and Research Center.

There was discussion on national vs Western Region hosting, clear differentiation yet connection with NUEL, and the need for a business plan to understand the potential budget implications and feasibility.

The membership voted to support the exploration of expanding the scope of the WCMER.  In the motion, they asked that Brad to develop a plan further explaining what a National Metropolitan Center would look like, connections with NUEL, purpose, goals, and a budget identifying the costs and the plans to cover the costs (short and long term).  The WEDA members were clear that they were not in support of increased assessments.  The vote was unanimous.

ACTION: Doreen will follow up with Brad with the membership request. A presentation will be scheduled later this spring.

**3:45 p.m. WEDA Fiscal Think Tank Report –** Pete Pinney, Deanne Meyer, Ed Martin

The sub-committee provided notes (attached to meeting calendar event) based on their discussion, including recommendation on the amount (number of months) of reserves needed, and how to use the current excess with a focus mainly on professional development. The discussion at the WEDA meeting supported 6 months of reserve and supported the general recommendation and some specific examples of use of excess funds for professional development. More discussion on this topic will occur at the March meeting in Denver.

ACTION: Further discussion at March face-to-face meeting.

***New Business:***

**3:50 p.m. WRDC –** Ivory

WEDA discussed the transition of leadership at the current home, and the opportunity that this naturally provides for an RFA for other institutions that might want to consider housing the WRDC. More conversations to follow.

**3:55 p.m.Nominating Committee –** Barbara, Cody, and Kelly

WEDA Chair-elect & Secretary – Kelly Crane

Western IPM Center – Kristopher Elliott

**4:00 p.m.** **ECOP Committee Updates:**

* Extension Foundation – Vicki McCracken

Vicki provided an update, including planned leadership changed for the Extension Foundation and transition plan. Chris Geith (Nygren), CEO, announced her intent to retire in late fall (to go into ministry), and the Foundation Board appointed Beverly Coberly as Interim CEO for 6 – 9 months (Beverly had been serving as COO). Ashley Griffin is backfilling as COO in the transition. The Foundation has its highest membership in history in 2022, with a great start to 2023. The Foundation and Board has been looking at internal staffing structure and finances, as we look to refilling the CEO position this year. These changes should not impact the functioning of the Extension Foundation from an external perspective.

* Question**:** Extension Foundation cyber security needs – Deanne Meyer raised a question and Vicki has followed up with the appropriate entity and will report back to the group.
* ECOP 4-H – Cody provided a brief update, mentioning strategic planning around equity, protection for 4-H name/emblem, and that more information was coming.
* BLC Meeting – Cody, Vicki and others provided brief update on BLC meeting that occurred earlier in the day, with a focus the upcoming Farm Bill and 2 Marker Bills that have implications for Extension and several other items like FRTEP, PATs, and Snap-Ed for future planning.

**4:15 p.m.** ED Report – Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom

ED’s Plan of Work

Doreen shared a 1 pager (duplexed) that bulleted her Accomplishments, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals for 2023, and highlighted some of these for the group. The group appreciated the summary of activities and accomplishments and ended the conversation discussion “The White Paper”. We decided that we do want to do something with it (even though new members might not have been aware of what it was, and why we thought it was important). We agreed to continue conversation on it in March.

ACTION: Further discussion in March

Preparation for Spring Joint Program Meeting – Doreen shared the draft agenda in the calendar invite.

**4:35 p.m.** Executive Session

**Next meeting: Face-to-face, Spring Joint Meeting, March 27-30, 2023, Denver, CO**