

**AMC Extension Committee Meeting  
Monday, December 3, 2007  
Hyatt Hotel – Minneapolis, MN**

7:30 A.M. Commission Marcia Ward, AMC Extension Committee Chair welcomed the group to the meeting.

**AMC 4-H Community Youth Leadership Awards Process:**

Toni Smith will once again coordinate this process. The following commissioners volunteered to judge the 2008 applications.

- Stephanie Miranowski, Wilkin County
- Dick Mattson, Wright County
- Loren Tusa, Jackson County
- Bob Carlson, Pennington County
- Bob Gustafson, Chisago County
- Keith Nelson, St. Louis County
- Sharon Bring, Marshall County

Applications will be sent sometime between March 1 and March 6. Individual ratings are due to Toni Smith by March 12, 2008. The awards will be presented on April 9, 2008 during the AMC Legislative Conference at the St. Paul Crown Plaza Hotel.

**Update on MOA Process:**

Lee Raeth and David Werner gave an update on the current status of MOAs. As of December 1, 2007, Extension has received 24 signed MOAs for 2008. Many counties are electing to sign a 3 year agreement; however, several are signing one year agreements. David expects to see many more signed MOAs before the end of the year.

The following commissioners have volunteered to work with David Werner to discuss the process for gathering information for the MOA discussion.

- Nancy Schouweiler, Dakota County
- Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County
- Loren Tusa, Jackson County
- Richard Larson, Kandiyohi

David Werner will schedule the first meeting or phone conference.

**Update from Bev Durgan, University of Minnesota Extension Dean:**

Dr. Durgan introduced Dr. Mike Schmitt, Senior Associate Dean for Programs and Research to the group.

Dr. Durgan also announced that Toni Smith will assume the role of Director of State Relations for Extension and Assistant Dean Sarah Greening will be assuming the role of Director of Federal Relations for Extension and the Experiment Station.

Extension will also be filling several new faculty and REEs positions with the increase funding received via the Agriculture State Special last legislative session. Extension and CFANS are working together on setting the priorities for the new positions.

**Additional Items:**

The committee passed a motion to ask the AMC Agriculture Committee to review the issue on “the definition” of a farm. The new policy of the classification of “ag land” may become a huge issue for some counties. Richard Larson took the recommendation to the committee.

Victoria Reinhardt is AMC’s representative to the state “Waste Pesticide Task Force”. There continues to be a huge problem with lack of collections sites. Victoria will keep the committee updated.

**Extension and Research programs on climate and weather at the University of Minnesota:**

Dr. Mark Seeley, Professor and Extension Climatologist gave an overview of the Extension and research programs on climate and weather at the University of Minnesota. He cited many examples of Minnesota’s extreme weather, many which are sited in his book. Dr. Seeley also discussed the climate change and the potential effects on Minnesota. Dr. Seeley answered many questions from the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 am.