

**AMC Extension Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 29, 2009**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel, St. Paul, MN**  
**7:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Marcia Ward, Victoria Reinhardt, John Baerg, Sharon Bring, Nancy Schouweiler, Bob Carlson, Patricia Beckel, Dave Benson, Ewald Peterson, Charlie Woehler, Dick Larson, Dick Mattson, and Jon Evert.

**UNIVERSITY GUESTS:** Extension Staff: David Werner, Michael Schmitt, Nathan Crane, Sarah Chur, Holli Arp and Bob Byrnes

**COMMISSIONER GUESTS:** Polk County Commissioners Montegue and Dietrick

- Meeting called to order by Commissioner Marcia Ward – AMC Extension Committee Chair

- Meeting Minutes: Available at the AMC website:

[http://www.mncounties.org/Affiliated\\_Organizations/extension/extension.htm](http://www.mncounties.org/Affiliated_Organizations/extension/extension.htm)

Commissioner Dick Mattson moved to accept the Feb. 09 minutes, Commissioner Larson seconded motion. Motion carried.

- MOA – Memorandum of Agreement:

Final discussion and vote on the 2010 Memorandum of Agreement started with Commissioner Reinhardt explaining the MOA background information that was sent to all commissioners by email in March 09.

The changes in the MOA included a zero percent increase in the rate and a change in the 6 month to 3 month stipulation for changing positions.

Commissioner Reinhardt moved acceptance of the MOA recommendation of zero percent increase and change in 6 month to 3 month stipulation for changing positions. Commissioner Schouweiler seconded the motion. After discussion/ motion carried.

- University of MN Extension Response to Floods: Bob Byrnes, University of MN Extension Regional Director and Disaster Response Coordinator outlined the work completed in Moorhead and NW MN area of the state this spring. Commissioner Evert also outlined the implications for Clay County government. This flood was a foot higher than the 100 yr. flood with 500 homes in the county damaged in some way. Bob distributed the Extension flood educational flyers distributed throughout the Red River valley and information about toll free flood resource numbers staffed by Extension.

The group also discussed the educational opportunities and responsibilities around H1N1 flu virus including impact on livestock and possible affect on educational programming.

- Election of Officers – At the February 09 AMC Extension Committee meeting there was a call for nominations for chair and co-chair of the committee. Commissioner Marcia Ward

was nominated to serve in the chair position for the next year and Commissioner Reinhardt was nominated to serve as vice chair.

Commissioner Ward asked for additional nominations from the floor. None heard  
Commissioner Mattson moved nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for chair and vice chair. Commissioner Benson seconded motion. Motion passed.

- AMC 4-H Community Youth Leadership Awards will be given at the evening banquet. Committee members were asked to greet the 4-Hers and join the group for photos at 5:30. The award recipients include:
  - i. River City 4-H Club – Winona County
  - ii. Toqua Troopers 4-H Club – Big Stone County
  - iii. Operation Military Kids – Statewide Program
  
- Additional discussion items:
  - Cost of zero percent increase in the MOA does have ramifications for the University of Minnesota Extension. One being that they will need to find \$199,000 additional dollars to fund the increase in fringe benefits for the staff funded by MOA's. Bev Durgan understands the stresses on counties and she is willing to make this concession in these difficult times. Out of the 87 counties in Minnesota, 86 of these counties have signed an MOA for 2009. The only county without an MOA is Cook County and they have an Extension office with local support staff but no University staff requiring an MOA.
  - Commissioner Ward asked the three regional directors present (Chur, Crane, Arp) to outline what was in the booth and what will be on display during the Legislative Conference? They discussed the computer program that outlined Extension programs new and old and the questions commissioners could answer to be eligible for University of Minnesota sweatshirts.
  
- Meeting adjourned at 8:15 A.M. = Next meeting at MN State Fair in September 2009