

Central Missouri Regional Council
January 14, 2008
Boone County Extension Center, Columbia

County Representative Present:

Karen Heitmeyer – Audrain Co.
Cindy Harris – Benton Co.
Sheldon Toepke – Boone Co.
Kristen Finke – Callaway Co.
Tom Burkhart – Chariton Co.
Tim Walker – Howard Co.
Sherry Cox – Moniteau Co.
Dan Britton – Morgan Co.
Dana Binder – Pettis Co.

UMC Staff and Guest Present:

Jackie Hickam – Cooper Co. Guest
Quinn Brinek – Pettis Co. Guest

Virgil Woolridge – Audrain Co. CPD
Connie Mefford – Benton Co. CPD
Darlene Beaman – CM Region
Mark Stillwell – CM Region
Chris Thompson – Cole Co. CPD
Mary Ann Patten – Morgan/Moniteau Co. CPD
Kay Sparks – Pettis Co. CPD

Sheldon Toepke, Regional Council Vice Chair called the Central Missouri Regional Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2008 at the Boone County Extension Center in Columbia, Missouri.

Welcome and Introductions -- Members attending introduced themselves and shared a success story from last year as well as report on county appropriations.

Review and Approval of the September Council Members -- After reviewing the September 2007 minutes, Dan Britton had a correction noted in regards to quorums present at meeting. He thought this had been voted on at the last meeting. Sherry Cox made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections noted. Dana Binder seconded the motion and motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning quorums present at meetings. There is currently a quorum of eight (8) voting counties present to conduct business. Would like to change this to seven (7) counties present.

Dana Binder made a motion, seconded by Dan Britton to accept the bylaw changes presented at the September Regional Council meeting.

Dan Britton made a motion to change the voting quorum from eight voting counties to seven voting counties. Tim Walker seconded the motion and motion carried.

State Council Report -- HC Russell, State Council Representative, reported on recent State Council meetings:

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| October 4th | Barb Casady reported on council member information in the University database. Also discussed was "Compete Missouri." |
| | Upcoming Legislative Day was discussed. |
| November 2nd | Met with University of Missouri Provost regarding hiring/funding guidelines. |
| December 4th | Business Development Director presented information on extensions role in growing economic development. |
| January 11th | Discussion was held concerning other avenues to get message to curators. Goal is to provide information to present to legislators. |

HC reported that this State Council is the most engaged since formed. Also, he reported:

- 1) with everyone's help, importance of program funding
- 2) people make decisions in our own institution - understand importance.

Regional Council Nominating Committee -- Officer elections are in March. Dana Binder will chair the Nominating Committee. Karen Heitmeyer volunteered to help.

Advanced Council Leadership Program -- CLDC is developing a program to retain services of council members who are leaving council. There are training modules available on the State Extension website referencing training manuals.

A Committee has been formed to keep from losing talented council members when their terms expire. County Program Directors will be handing out exit surveys within the next couple of weeks to members who are leaving councils.

Legislative Day - March 5th -- Legislative Day will be Wednesday, March 5th in Jefferson City. This is an event where MU supporters can meet with legislators and discuss the importance of Extension and let Legislators know what's going on in respective communities. Around 240 council members attended last year. They have set a goal of 500 members in attendance this year. Legislators reported that numbers do

make a big difference in listening to issues. Counties are encouraged to invite youth members along.

There will be a CPD training session the same day. All CPD's and specialists are encouraged to attend.

Counties need to make appointments early to visit legislators from your area.

Informational Items

Regional Travel -- Councils are requesting a 6% increase. Regional account ended the year in the black. IRS and University travel rate increased from \$0.485 to \$0.505. Allocations were developed for regional specialists and YPA's. Also, this was designed so support staff could be paid from the Regional travel account instead of from their respective county. The Regional travel account was set up for each county to pay into to allow specialists reimbursement in travel expenses as they travel across the region.

Individuals met to find more efficient ways in traveling across region. Mark reported that he felt very positive about changes made to travel requirements.

Regional Staffing Updates -- Mark reported that they are currently advertising for the Nutrition and Health Education Specialist and Ag Business Specialist positions in Pettis County. When these positions are filled, all of the regional council positions will be filled. Mark reported that they are finalizing the hiring of YPA in Callaway and Howard County. When these two position are filled, all YPA positions will be filled.

Mark discussed "Compete Missouri." If positions become open, can move forward with replacing them.

Calendar Dates to Remember

Legislative Day on March 5th -- Need to work on getting five people from each county to attend.

Council to Campus Day June 27-28 -- This is about 99% completed. Council to Campus day is a great time for council members to network with other counties and see the part the University of Missouri plays in Extension.

Other Items

Specialists in attendance went around the table and presented exciting happenings in their respective areas.

A short video "University of Missouri Extension Live and Learn" was presented to market Extension. This video will be available to be shown at the county level in the next couple of weeks.

Next Regional Council Meeting -- Sherry had recommended moving the next regional council meeting date due to the fact that Legislative Day would be held two days later and this could cause a traveling issue for some. After discussion, it was the decision to change the next Regional Council Meeting date to March 10th with location to be determined later.

Also, if anyone has suggestions for possible programs for next year, please let them know.

With no further business appearing, Sherry Cox made a motion to adjourn. Kristen Finke seconded the motion, and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Heitmeyer
Secretary