

**Hettinger Research Extension Center
Advisory Board Meeting- February 7, 2018**

Board members present: Kat Weinert, Curt Stanly, Duaine Marxen, Cody Jorgenson, Wade Henderson, Jeremy Huether, Matt Neiderman, and Tom DeSutter (who joined via IVN Videoconferencing). Guest present: Chris Boreboom, Tim Faller, Lyle Warner and Ken Grafton (who joined via IVN Videoconferencing). Staff present: Christopher Schauer, John Rickertsen, Caleb Dalley, Benjamin Geaumont, Janna Kincheloe and Cassie Dick.

Kat W called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Kat W asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Jeremy H moved to accept the minutes and Cody J seconded. Motion passes, no opposing.

Kat W then asked for a motion to accept the agenda, Chris S asked to move Janna K to the beginning as she has a grant deadline. Wade H moved to accept the adjusted agenda, Matt N seconded. Motion passes, no opposing.

Legislative Update & Director Report

Ken Grafton- Budget cuts. Hiring freeze lifted. Ag Experiment departments lost thirty-one FTE positions. Morale is good even in difficult situations. SBARE will meet to discuss final prioritization.

Chris Boreboom- Budget cuts and permanent position closures. Most of extension budget funds people/salary. Cuts were across the board: County Agents, Area Specialists, Administration and Support Staff. Working on filling critical positions. SBARE formed a committee to review the Extension Program. Extension will need a lot of support, probably a tough year coming up again.

Chris Schauer- Director's Report. Handout. Infrastructure and strategic plan.

Scientist Reports

Janna Kincheloe- handout. Impact report: Nitrate QuikTest Certification Program, traveled to train county agents for the nitrate quiktest (nitrates present or not) and steps to take if present. Working on grants for calf to finish project and a beginning beef producers program.

Ben Geaumont- handout. Effects of drought. Pollinators- bee and butterfly surveys. Prescribed burn projects.

John Rickertsen- handout. Effects of drought- toughest on cool season crops. Many projects continuing into next year. Work on hiring a technician.

Caleb Dalley- handout. Effects of drought- too dry to get good stand for trials and pre-emergent.

Chris Schauer- handout. Did lots of outreach this year. Good years for national exposé for the Hettinger REC (sheep shearing & wool classing school). Sheep related programs are growing.

Open Discussion

Tim Faller- station budget cuts sometimes mean not always doing projects you want to do, but the projects that are available and needed. Will need support for agriculture work, need more producers coming forward, like the folks on our board to testify, not just administration.

Chris Boreboom- What do producers need in drought years. Need to be more proactive, not reactive in Extension.

Kat W- how to get CRP grass made available sooner. More apparent and available programs.

Wade H- need more information on cover crops. Becoming more important in our area with grazing and drought conditions. Can a farmer/rancher "lower our footprint", lower costs, and help improve farming techniques through cover crops and grazing?

Election of Board members and Officers

Kat W and Tom D have served a full term limit and have completed their time on the HREC Advisory Board. Ashley S, Cody J, Dave O and Wade H have completed their first term as of this meeting; they are eligible for re-election to one more term on the board. Matt N motioned to nominate Ashley S, Cody J, Dave O and Wade H to serve another term. Curt S seconded. Members present agreed to serve another term on the HREC Advisory Board. Motion passes, no opposing.

Kat W and Chris S asked for ideas for nominations to replace Kat W and Tom D. Names brought by the board: Torre Hovick, NDSU on campus Assistant Professor, Range Science - School of Natural Resource Sciences and Jacki Christman a local farmer/rancher. After discussion, Wade H motioned to ask Torre Hovick and Jacki Christman if they would like to join the HREC Advisory Board. Jeremy H seconded. No opposing, motion passes. Chris S will contact Torre H and Jacki C.

Kat W asked for a nomination to replace herself as Chair. After discussion, Matt N motioned to nominate Wade H as Chair and Cody J as Vice-Chair (to replace Wade H as vice chair). Wade H and Cody J both agreed to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. Curt S second. Motion passes, no opposing.

Summer meeting: held in conjunction with the Hettinger Crops Tour in July.

Staff dismissed for executive session.