

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER  
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

Extension Council Meeting  
Wednesday, April 22, 2020  
Via Zoom, Meeting 6:30 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions-Chairperson Don Kowalski
2. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes- Dec, 2019 and agenda-Chairperson Don Kowalski, both the agenda and the minutes were approved.
3. Open Meetings Act Suspended; updates on Extension policies regarding programs and gatherings; 4-H planning. Margaret and other Extension staff relayed information on the current situation in Extension. Shared what is known about programming going forward. Some basic information about 4-H plans for summer shows was shared.
4. Council Members Check In: Council member were asked to share any updates for the good of the group. Several shared what they have been doing. They were also asked to share and comment on any relevant online programming they have participated in and several shared information and feedback.
5. Update on budget: current year (local and state): The usual budget reports for the current year were emailed to council members so they can see where our spending is, etc. It was shared that all of the 2019 funds have been received and ½ of the 2020 funds have now been received. Locally, there is a concern about the Winnebago County Board funding. Per Harry Clore, who is basically the Ext CFO, our Unit is in good shape financially.
6. Review of budget-FY 21 draft: a draft of the FY 21 Budget was shared with the council members.
7. Program Reports from Educators and feedback from Council members: after hearing what educators have been working on in the month since we have been out of the office, several council members did have comments and suggestions. One suggestion was to make sure the programs are advertised on Facebook, most preferred as a list of a number of programs. Another idea offered was to approach the TV stations in Rockford to see if they would offer information about programs. There was a suggestion about using the questions that have come in to the county horticulture helplines and using that information to do some press releases or Facebook posts. Another council member brought up the concern that many people do not have access to decent broadband and don't have the capacity to get good information. So there were concerns about the emphasis on online programs and promotion as a stand alone manner.
8. Meeting adjourned as all topics on the agenda had been covered.