



CSU Extension Boulder County
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2023

Meeting held at 4:00 PM in Natural Resource Building with the Board of County Commissioners.

Board Members:

Present: Rob Alexander, Joshua Coffie, Mary Mulry, and Kate Newberg. Absent: Hallie Adams, Nick Cappello, and Jay Ruggeri

Other Attendees:

Extension staff members in attendance were Kristen Anderson, Emma Dhimitri, Dena H, Faith Kroschel, Brenda Kwang, Laura Larson, Amy Lippold, and Jeannie Torres. Absent: Lisa Wallace

Board of County Commissioners present were Ashley Sholzmann and Claire Levy.

2021 Annual Report and 2022 Accomplishments for CSU Extension:

Laura presented the Annual Report for 2021 and a copy of the report was provided via email.

The staff gave updates on each of their programs for 2022 and answered questions that the commissioners had regarding their programs.

Advisory Board:

Introductions of each Extension Advisory Board member were made. Discussions were held on what communities they are connected to, why they support Extension, why Extension is vital to the county and what Extension contributes.

Board of County Commissioners:

Discussions were held on items such as their input to where they think Extension can add value, priorities to further engage with Extension Advisory Board and Extension.

- Thank you for your presentations. Really impressed with how you are working to incorporate different community members. Keep thinking of ways to engage more community members.
- Hear it in your passion. If we can get the word out to more people, they will fall in love with the land, taking care of it and the stewardship involved.
- Lots of questions about the next generation of farmers, what are we doing to get the next generation ready. In your 4-H presentation and serving youth up to age 18, do you do anything such as business planning and case studying with them? Would you want to farm here in Boulder County? How can we keep those kids farming here?
 - There is an educational event called Our Land to Your Hands, a partnership with the school district and Boulder Valley/Longmont Conservation Districts. For 4th graders, teaching about the land and environment. We partner with them to provide an educational

experience. With 4-H we build that sense of community, kids see kids going through the program, coming back and volunteering for our same program. We take kids to CSU campus for State events for 4-H, they are making that connection with the university, seeing a bit more of those different types of careers.

- Community programming in social determinants of health, do you work with Department Public Health, that is a big focus of them.
 - We focus more on nutrition education, what you do once you get the food. Forming partnership through the Farmers Market and through their existing programs to help people understand what to do with local produce and how to incorporate more fruits and vegetables into their diet in a way that is familiar and comfortable and sustain for our county as well.
- You mentioned mental health as well, what aspect of that, that is another area where I can see overlap.
 - Currently working with a group called Explorando Senderos, talking about the successes of that program, supporting them, and expanding it. They are adding a gardening component this summer that we are helping with. Continuing the program to get more people outside and the mental health benefits that we know comes from being outdoors and forming community together. Supporting that existing program and looking at how we can get something similar going with other organizations like Casa de Esperanza and Kestrel, using that as a framework.
- Come from a meeting with a group that really wants Boulder County to reconsider our approach to pest management, especially the use of herbicides on our land. What do you look at when you are providing advice on the safety of different herbicides?
 - We do take the science-based approach and we give people options. Have that approach rather than saying all herbicides are bad and don't use them. At the same time, here are the organic alternatives, here are integrated herbicide management approaches. Pros and cons to different approaches, and your accepting detrimental with any approach that you take. There are different costs associated with doing it different ways with different intensities. We have all kinds of fact sheets and resources that we provide through Horticulture.
- Small Acreage Management, the resources you provide for people are wonderful. Great to know that you have that program.

On behalf of the Extension Advisory Board and staff, we express our thanks to the County Commissioners for their support and genuine interest with Extension. Do keep us in mind with all these issues, we are here to support you. We can always go to CSU faculty with questions, so you will always have science-based information that you are using for your issues.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM

Minutes prepared by Dena H