

**Kansas Farm Bureau  
Kansas Women's Leadership Committee Meeting  
Capitol Plaza Hotel – Amber Room / Topeka KS  
February 8, 2018**

**Committee members in attendance:** Marieta Hauser, Chair; Debbie Kueser, District Two; Christy Springer, District Three; Karra James, District Five; Gimmie Jo Jansonius, District Six; Sheryl MacNair, District Eight; Carol Deaver, District Nine and Susan May, District Ten.

**KFB Staff in attendance:** Holly Higgins and Serita Blankenship.

**Unable to attend:** Pam Meng, District One; Lexy Goyer, District Four; Sharon Hiss, District Seven and Kate Hagans, KFB Staff.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
<b>Call to Order</b>	Marieta called the Women's Leadership Committee meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.	
<b>Invocation</b>	Debbie gave the invocation.	
<b>Minutes</b>	Committee members reviewed meeting minutes from December 2017.	<i>Debbie moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Sheryl and unanimously approved by the committee.</i>
<b>Communications</b>	Received a thank you card from Holly Higgins for the plant this committee sent following the passing of her father-in-law.	
<b>REPORTS</b>		
<b>Chair Report – Marieta</b>	<p>To coincide with KFB's centennial celebration, KFB has launched a two-year planning effort that will culminate in the fall of 2019 with a strategic plan designed to position KFB to be responsive to the needs of its members and relevant in their lives. Marieta serves as a Board Liaison to the KBF strategic planning committee and asked for our assistance to share the <a href="#">survey link</a> through emails, providing it in your newsletters or sharing it via Facebook.</p> <p>Leading up to the 85th anniversary of the Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Program, the American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee (AFBWLC) is challenging each state Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee to donate \$850 to the White-Reinhardt Fund for Education.</p> <p>County Leader Week will be held March 12-16. Each day will provide the opportunity to connect with Farm Bureau leaders and industry experts from across the country.</p> <p>AFBF will be collecting information on National Agriculture Day/Week activities and Ronald McDonald House donations to analyze the effectiveness of their efforts.</p> <p>Elected to two-year terms on the AFB Women's Leadership Committee were Cindy Ramsey, Indiana; Jennifer Cross, Maryland; and Lou Nave, Tennessee. Lillian Ostendorf of Montana was re-elected to a two-year term on the committee.</p> <p>AFBF delegates approved an <b>increase in national dues</b> – for the first time since 2003 -- from \$4 to \$5 annually, starting in 2019. KFB will pass that increase on to the counties.</p>	<p>Encourage your board and members to take this <a href="#">brief survey</a> designed to allow every KFB member the opportunity to provide ideas and input, helping shape the future of their organization.</p> <p>KFB WLC would like to use Benefit Silent Auction funds for this donation. A partial history of KFB WLC State Committee members is attached.</p> <p>Promote County Leader Week in your district. For more information, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Reporting tools will be released and forwarded soon.</p>

	<p>The American Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership Committee will host a Women’s Fly-In on Wed., March 21, in Washington, D.C. The fly-in is open to all Farm Bureau women.</p> <p>Women’s Communication Boot Camp will be held July 22-25, in Washington, D.C. Registration opens March 1; with an April 30 deadline. Those chosen to attend will be announced by May 18.</p> <p>The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture presented its 11th “Book of the Year” award to Tracy Nelson Maurer for “John Deere, That’s Who!”</p>	<p>Susan, Pam &amp; Crystal Carothers (past YF&amp;R) plan to participate in this event.</p> <p>Applications must be endorsed by KFB. For more information, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>For more information about the book of the year, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Resolutions Ex-Officio Report - Susan</b>	<p>Listening posts are underway across the state. Current issues include: school finance, tax reform and farm policy. The 2018 KFB Leaders Engaged and Acting in D.C. (LEADS) event will take place at the same time as the FB Women Fly-In.</p>	
<b>District Activities</b>		<p>Committee members discussed recent activities in their districts.</p>
<b>OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS</b>		
<b>2017 KFB Annual Meeting Review - Benefit Silent Auction - Women’s Networking Luncheon</b>	<p>Benefit Silent Auction - Having the auction contained in one room worked well. In the future, we may have a designated “drop off” area outside of the room to minimize the disruption of trying to setup when items are still arriving.</p> <p>Attendance was down for the Women’s Networking Luncheon.</p> <p>WLC members would like to present a workshop during the 2019 Annual Meeting. A possible topic could be mental health issues in rural areas and would be led by a professional in that field.</p> <p>Gimmie Jo sees a need to encourage women new to the area or new to agriculture in general and suggested creating a video like the one aired during the YF&amp;R conference.</p>	<p>Due to 100-year celebration activities, committee members decided to not host a networking luncheon in 2019.</p> <p>Pam and Gimmie Jo previously volunteered to submit a workshop proposal; the deadline is July 1.</p>
<b>2018 KFB Annual Meeting Preview</b>	<p>KFBs 100-year anniversary will be the focus of the 2018 Annual Meeting. The KFB on line store will have merchandise with the 100-year logo. Holly is coordinating efforts to make commemorative Henry rifles available that members can personalize.</p> <p>Promotional pull-up banners will also be created that can be easily transported between county annual meetings.</p>	
<b>2017 AFBF Annual Meeting Review</b>	<p>Marieta, Debbie, Sheryl, and Pam attended. Marieta moderated a panel discussion. As usual there were many great workshops, making it hard to choose which ones to attend.</p> <p>County Awards of Excellence displays at the trade show were very interesting. Those in attendance said it was a privilege to see a sitting president speak and commented that President Trump seems to understand how important trade and immigrant labor are to agriculture.</p>	
<b>2018 Be Ag-Wise Professional Development Workshops</b>	<p>Full SteAm Ahead! Incorporating Agriculture into Your STEM Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Manhattan – Feb 22, Gimmie Jo, Christy &amp; Karra are assisting</li> <li>○ Colby – Feb 27, Gimmie Jo &amp; Susan are assisting</li> <li>○ Garden City – March 6, Gimmie Jo &amp; Carol are assisting</li> <li>○ Bonner Springs – March 13, Pam, Christy &amp; Debbie are assisting</li> </ul> <p>We have a nice mix of Farm Bureau folks, Extension staff and teachers registering.</p>	<p>The 2018 Be Ag-Wise master schedule is attached for your information. For more information about this professional development workshop series, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

<p><b>WLC's Role in Membership Promotion</b></p>	<p>Membership is a huge issue; what are our members doing to promote membership?</p> <p>Every county has access to the membership handbook that includes several ideas and suggestions of ways to promote KFB to potential members.</p> <p>Promote the organization you love and ask what others in your district are doing to encourage new memberships. Consider an email to new and renewing members thanking them for their decision to belong. Remember, a little acknowledgement goes a long way.</p> <p>AFBF WLC members are challenging others to "Just Sign One" as we all know at least one person who would benefit from having a FB membership.</p> <p>Kara would like information on how to get started organizing district events to engage members. A list of ideas will be created and shared during the next committee meeting.</p>	<p>Highlight a "Member of the Month" on social media. Have them explain why they are members and which of the member benefits they use the most.</p> <p>Network with M&amp;P or YF&amp;R committee members in your district to come up with membership ideas and projects.</p> <p>Tape your own video of why FB matters to you then submit the clips to KFB to be compiled.</p> <p>KFB must approve all use of the KFB corporate logo. Send requests (including a description of the event) to Meagan Cramer <a href="mailto:cramerm@kfb.org">cramerm@kfb.org</a> and copy Holly Higgins.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>May 4 &amp; 5 – The Spring WLC Meeting will be held in Neodesha at the Springer's hog farm. Reservations for Friday night will be made at the Independence Comfort Suites. We'll plan to begin the meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday (following dinner), then tour the hog operation and hold a planning meeting on Saturday. We can also discuss annual meeting workshop plans with Carol's daughter via conference call or Facebook.</p> <p>Aug 10 &amp; 11 - Joint Committee Summer Conference, Manhattan</p>	<p>Serita will provide subcommittee information and ideas from our last planning session to everyone prior to the meeting. Subcommittees should connect prior to the meeting so we can use the meeting time wisely.</p>
<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p>The meeting concluded at 5 p.m.</p>	

Minutes submitted by Serita Blankenship on February 13, 2018