

Kansas Farm Bureau
Women's Leadership Committee Meeting
Comfort Inn & Suites Dining Room & Springer Family Foods / Independence KS
May 4 & 5, 2018

Committee members in attendance: Marieta Hauser, Chair; Pam Meng, District One; Debbie Kueser, District Two; Christy Springer, District Three; Lexy Goyer, District Four; Karra James, District Five; Sharon Hiss, District Seven; Sheryl MacNair, District Eight and Susan May, District Ten.

Saturday Only: Gimmie Jo Jansonius, District Six

KFB Staff in attendance: Holly Higgins and Serita Blankenship

Unable to attend: Carol Deaver, District Nine and Kate Hagans, KFB Staff

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
Call to Order	Marieta called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the dining room at the Independence Comfort Inn & Suites.	
Minutes	Committee members reviewed meeting minutes from February 2018.	<i>Sheryl moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Karra and unanimously approved by the committee.</i>
Communications	To honor the 85th anniversary of the Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Program, the American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee (AFBWLC) challenged each state WLC to donate \$850 to the White-Reinhardt Fund for Education.	Received acknowledgement of our donation to the \$850 for 85 Challenge benefiting the AFBF Foundation for Ag.
REPORTS		
Chair Report - Marieta	Centennial Project (strategic planning) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member input is still needed as KFB's planning efforts continue. Share the survey link through emails, newsletters or on social media. KFB Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic planning • Agriculture education (funding the right things) • Service (ways to help defeat hunger issue) • Opioid epidemic Farm Family Trip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marieta and Pam took part in the recent Farm Family trip to California. 	Results will be presented to the board by December 2019. Congratulations to Fred & Pam Meng, KFB District One Farm Family of the Year!
Resolutions Ex-Officio Report - Susan	Top issues surfaced during the recent Resolutions Committee meeting include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for HCR 5029, a constitutional amendment related to school funding. • Broadband coverage in Kansas. • Dr. Roger Marshall (via conference call) supports changing requirements for receiving food stamps (SNAP). Recipients would either attend required training or work 20 hours a week. • Members may submit suggestions for policy changes via KFB's new issue surfacing form • Transportation issues due to lack of infrastructure funding. 	
Unique District Activities	1 st District – Working on a bus tour in August, visiting farms and speaking with legislators.	

	<p>3rd District – Provided advocacy training for FFA & Collegiate FBs.</p> <p>4th District – Local kindergarteners read <i>An Orange in January</i> about a little boy and how the orange gets to his kitchen. A citrus producer in FL sent students a box of goodies.</p> <p>5th District – Held a Governor’s Candidate Forum with eight candidates. 35 teams participated in AFBFA’s <i>Willie and the Soybean</i> contest.</p> <p>7th District – The county appraiser attended their recent board meeting to explain how property values are determined. Working on upcoming district tours.</p> <p>8th District – Held a Governor’s Candidate Forum with more than 100 in attendance plus eight candidates (or their reps). 34 people attended the recent bus trip to Pawhuska, OK to meet Ree & Ladd Drummond.</p> <p>10th District - Thomas County presented <i>Food Evolution</i> and had a panel of professionals there to answer questions from the audience. Conducted a freezer meal workshop where more than 150 meals were assembled.</p>	
	OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS	
Women’s D.C. Fly-In, LEADS Review, Target: Food Consumer Engagement & Animal Ag Alliance Summit	<p>Women’s D.C. Fly-In (Pam & Susan)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some events were cancelled due to inclement weather, but AFB Women’s Leadership Committee took advantage of the situation and pulled together to present sessions that afternoon. Susan was able to visit with Rodger Marshall, Jerry Moran and Pat Roberts. <p>LEADS (Pam & Marieta)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marieta had the opportunity to chat with FCC staff about connectivity issues. <p>Target: Food Consumer Engagement (Gimmie Jo)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food labels are an issue for consumers Having conversations with consumers is great but we should also acknowledge their concerns. Consumers are more concerned about buying food locally than if it is organic or antibiotic free. <p>Animal Alliance Summit (Gimmie Jo)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have work to do to diminish fear among average consumers as they are uninformed in part due to environmental myths and the impact they may have in Kansas. Education & service build relationships and connect & communicate with consumers (find common ground). Transparency is a must when you are sharing your story! 	<p>The Women’s Fly-In may become an annual event.</p> <p>The FCC chair may travel to rural Kansas to experience their connectivity issues first hand.</p>
Be Ag-Wise Review	More than 110 people attended this popular train-the-trainer workshop series in one of four locations: Colby, Garden City, Bonner Springs and Manhattan.	See the attached report for a breakdown of attendees.
Membership update	<p>Kansas Farm Bureau’s Year of Membership!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KFB membership goal is 108,000 in 2018. Will receive training on how sell a membership during the summer summit. Some counties struggle with who to give their free memberships to. Ideas include local newspaper staff or sheriff. Invite them to attend your annual meeting to discuss rural crime or opioid abuse. 	For more information, view the Membership Minute Newsletter in your packet.
Nat’l FB Safety & Health Conference Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety conferences are planned by the state volunteering to host that year (2018 held in Minnesota, 2019 will be held in North Carolina). 	Farm Bureau Nat’l Safety Conferences are now an option for your annual

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights included: AgriSafe Update, Grainger Farm Safety Walk/Tour, Safety Photos That Bomb, Risk Assessment and Mitigation on Farms, Ag Health & Safety Alliance Update and an Opioid Impact in Farm Country panel. 	educational opportunity.
AFBF Challenge Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 per cent participation. Committee donations will be designated for the White/Reinhardt Fund for Education. 	Donations will be deducted from your expense vouchers.
Summer Summit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KFB's Resolution Committee will meet August 8 & 9 KFB's Membership & Promotion Committee will meet Thursday afternoon, August 9. KFB's WLC meeting options were discussed. 	Voted to meet Thursday pm (before general session) and Friday morning, adjourn at 4.
Adjourn	The meeting concluded at 9:30 p.m.	
	Saturday, May 5: Toured Springer Family Foods from 8 - 11 a.m.	
Kansas Mesonet	<p>Kansas Mesonet was founded in 1986 to record climate and provide essential weather data. The state's primary user of the data is the agriculture industry. Observed weather is often used for estimating planting dates, determining irrigation, projecting crop yields and more.</p> <p>Volunteers (FFA chapters, etc.) could help with tower maintenance such as mowing and cleaning out spider webs. If you know of an interested group, have them call Chip at 785-532-7019.</p> <p>Joe Newland and Ron Betzen joined the meeting at 11 a.m.</p>	Online data is available to the public. To view the webpage, click here .
WLC Strategic Planning	<p>Committee members brainstormed activities</p> <p>Education subcommittee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buy lunch for local teacher in-service training events. Change the Women's Leadership Luncheon to a desert reception. Present a workshop during the KFB Annual Meeting. KS Leadership training (GAP Planning or mini-strategic planning). <p>Advocacy subcommittee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize an informational meeting for those interested in exploring the possibility of growing industrial hemp. Create a "DIY" program on how to put together a farm to table meal / event. Arrange tours of the Capitol for adults. Create freezer/pressure cooker meal workshops. <p>Service subcommittee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backpack programs. Working with local animal shelter or humane society cleaning up or food drives. Women's shelter or school donations. Donate purses with samples of shampoos/soaps. Opioid crisis and mental health awareness involvement. Yellow ribbon suicide prevention campaign. Work with the local health department to connect families in need to resources such as diapers and formula. Incorporate education with the donation. <p>Results:</p> <p>Education – Present a workshop during the KFB Annual Meeting</p> <p>Advocacy – Organize Capitol tours with a consumer education component</p> <p>Service – Partner with others already doing donations (Extension or local health department).</p>	<p>Education: Pam & Gimmie Jo will provide a workshop proposal by July 1.</p> <p>Advocacy: work with KFB advocacy staff.</p>
Adjourn	The meeting concluded at 1:30 p.m.	

Minutes submitted by Serita Blankenship on May 22, 2018.