



Minutes of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Extension Council Association

March 16, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Iowa Extension Council Association met via videoconference on March 16, 2026. Board members present include Sara Kuboushek, Roger Helmrichs, Paige Grandgeorge, Chrissy Westercamp, Ann Leonard, LeAnn Lawler, Mark Davitt, Julie McVay, Kirk Phelps, Bruce Clark, Matt Rohrig, Tom Monroe, Joan Wiskus, Marisue Hartung, Christy Sayler, and Mollie Scott. Also present were Andrea Welchans, Jennifer Vit, and Julie Baumler.

Sara Kuboushek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were no additions to the agenda.

Roger Helmrichs moved to approve the minutes from January 28, 2026. Tom Monroe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by LeAnn Lawler. The balance on hand is \$42,809.95.

The following bills were presented:

Payee	Item/Service	Total Amt
ISU Accounts Receivable	Extension & 4-H Voices at the Capitol printing; Extension Council Conference poster	\$ 1,622.45
Employee & Family Resources	Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	9,128.70
Whitfield & Eddy Law	January 2026	2,525.00
Calm	Calm app	5,018.77
Christy Sayler (Taylor)	Legislative day mileage	171.10
Kampen's Catering	Extension Council Conference catering - Garner	536.07
Terrence J. Hollingsworth (Black Hawk)	Legislative day mileage	162.40
Carrie Bane (East Pottawattamie)	Legislative day mileage	164.58
Lidderdale Country Store	Extension Council Conference catering – Carroll	300.00
Dirty Pig BBQ & Catering	Extension Council Conference catering - Oakland	329.95

Hy Vee	Extension Council Conference catering – Spencer	319.99
Jeff's Market	Extension Council Conference catering – Tipton	481.50
MailChimp (EFT)	February, March	96.30
Total all bills		\$20,856.21

Tom Monroe moved to approve the treasurer's report and the bills. Ann Leonard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IECA Executive Director Jennifer Vit shared that the association will need to file tax form 1099EZ to report income now that we have exceeded the filing threshold of \$50,000 in income. She met with Mark Cronin from UHY Advisors to consult on our next steps. Cronin estimated charges of \$1,200 - \$1,500 to complete the filing, noting that the first year's paperwork will take longer as it establishes our filing status. Mollie Scott moved to file starting with FY25, following the recommendations of UHY Advisors for the filing status [501(c)(6) vs 501(c)(4)]. Tom Monroe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Andrea Welchans, Asst. Vice President for County Services shared a County Services update. County audits are more than two years behind due to the state auditor's office determining they would no longer be able to provide audits for county ag extension. A new student intern has been hired to assist Roxanne Stotler with the audits, which should decrease the backlog of audits. Stotler developed an FY24 and FY25 plan that would reduce the amount of procedures tested – doing both years at the same time. The goal is to increase the speed and be more cost-effective.

Andrea Welchans reported that Vice President Henderson is working on state and federal funding. The federal extension lobbyists are informing us to be aware that the president is likely to recommend cutting extension. We will most likely know our status in July. Extension units will be asked to provide two budget scenarios – one that would accommodate a budget with cuts and another with flat funding. She will be looking at options for revenue generation to help fund positions within the county services unit.

Jennifer Vit provided an update on our legislative process regarding property taxes. Cornerstone continues to be responsive and keeps Jennifer informed about progress on the three existing property tax bills that are in play. Both Sen. Dawson and Rep. Carter Nordman have been supportive of protecting extension from catastrophic cuts. Jennifer will provide some additional data to Cornerstone to share with legislators to indicate the impact of the House bill on county extension. Erin Mullinex is doing modeling on that impact. About 30% of counties would see a decrease under the current bill (pre-amendment). We have been talking about removing the levy rate cap and existing under the 2% growth cap. The next funnel date is the end of this week.

Kay Oskvig from Whitfield & Eddy notified Jennifer that there will be an increase in her associates' hourly rate effective July 1, 2026:

- **Partners (Kay Oskvig):** \$250/hour (no change).
- **Partners (other than Kay):** \$250/hour unless otherwise stated/agreed with the County
- **Associate Attorneys:** \$210/hour (used primarily for research, drafting, and initial calls)
- **Paralegals:** \$175/hour
- **Law Clerks:** \$125/hour

Oskvig will soon be working on guidance for counties if a government agency shows up at the county office. She will also be working with ISU Legal on a joint defense agreement for items that involve both extension councils and Iowa State University.

Board elections will take place in Regions 2, 4, 7, 9, 10 & 28, 21, 22, 24, and 26 this spring. Nomination forms are due on April 1 with voting in early May.

The Extension Council Day on Campus will likely be September 18 with an ISU football game option on September 19, pending final confirmation with Dr. Henderson.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Colbert, Secretary

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