



Extension Council Update June 3, 2021

Board Election Results

We are pleased to announce the results of the recent IECA Board of Directors Elections. The following council members were elected to a 3-year term on the board.

- Region 5: Emily Schwickerath, Chickasaw County
- Region 6: Al Ralston, Woodbury County
- Region 8: Le Ann Lawler, Webster County
- Region 11: Sarah Pinckney, Jones County
- Region 14: Kim Rinker, Boone County
- Region 18: Joy Prothero, Mahaska County
- Region 19: Brent Ness, Iowa County
- Region 23: Jamie David, Taylor County

Dues for 2021-2022

Invoices for IECA dues for the 2021-2022 year were sent out in April. About half of the counties have paid thus far. Payments are due by August 1, 2021. Please plan to remit your dues in a timely fashion. Let [Julie Baumler](#) know if you need a duplicate invoice.

BCBS Settlement

As many of you know, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association is currently undergoing a class action settlement. If your county extension council has offered your county employees coverage with a group plan within the last 13 years, you likely should have received notice of the settlement. If you've not received notice, reach out to your provider for eligibility clarification and next steps. The deadline to join the settlement is November 5, 2021.

Year-end Funds?

As we near the end of the fiscal year, extension councils should have a good handle on their financial position. If your county is encountering a carryover situation, there are many ways in which an extension district can utilize those funds. The Iowa 4-H program has compiled a list of ideas that includes curriculum, programs, events, and professional development opportunities for councils to consider when handling carryover. Your county or regional director has access to this list in MyExtension and can share it with you. Other Program Areas can also make recommendations if you have a specific program in mind. Additional suggestions include supporting [Water Rocks](#), investing marketing dollars with Extension and Outreach's Advancement unit, and supporting the National Association of County Agricultural Agents National Conference that Iowa will host in 2023.

Move quickly on these decisions; depending on your carryover amount, it may take some time to finalize expenditures prior to June 30.

IECA Board of Directors to Meet

The IECA Board of Directors will meeting via Zoom on Saturday, June 12 from 9 AM – 12 PM. If you, or your council, have any concerns that you would like the board to address, please contact your [region's IECA member](#) or IECA President [Jamie David](#) (641-344-1334). An [agenda](#) will be posted on the IECA website by Saturday, June 5.

Changes in County General Liability Policy

As shared with staff in a May 24th email from Andrea Nelson, Associate Vice President for County Services, the insurance agent (LMC Insurance & Risk Management/Assured Partners) has removed the food borne illness exclusion on the general liability policy. This is the general liability insurance provider for all county extension districts. This will also be reflected when the policy is renewed on July 1. County offices will resume work with no food restrictions. Safe food handling is still a priority for ISU Extension and Outreach.

Please refer to the [Food Safety for County Offices](#) document dated May 4, 2021, from Human Sciences for food handling safety procedures and expectations for extension staff and volunteers.

Third Quarter Two Way Scorecard Report

In June, each county received their report with survey results from the Two-Way Scorecard. Be sure your next council meeting agenda includes a review of your county report. The fourth quarter survey will be administered at the end of the summer rather than end of fiscal year to allow counties time during the busy summer months.

If you or your council has specific feedback about the Two-Way Scorecard Communication

Tool, please reach out to Jennifer Vit, Executive Director, to share your thoughts or concerns.

Board Member Spotlight

Mollie Scott - Sac County - Region 7

Mollie and her husband live in Lake View and have four children and one granddaughter. She works for DHS as a coordinator for prevention of childhood abuse serving six counties.



Mollie grew up in Lake View and was a 4-H member of the Raccoon Warriors for 9 years. She has a combined seven years serving the Sac County Extension Council, is currently the board chair and serves on the program committee. She enjoys serving on the Extension Council, serving her county with boundless opportunities with trainings through the extension.

Mollie just completed the Mindful Teen training and is looking forward to co-hosting the training again in August for the youth in Sac County. She also recently participated in “Leading Communities, A Place-Based Community Leadership Program” through Iowa State Extension.

Her suggestion to other council members is to get involved with Extension because there is a wealth of information to share with others in your community. Also, support your office staff, they are a great asset and they need your support.

In her free time, Mollie enjoys biking and boating in the Lake View area and would love to travel to Niagara Falls someday.

Thanks for your service, Mollie!

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