



## Extension Council Update July 8, 2021

---

### Officers Elected at June Board Meeting

The Iowa Extension Council Association board of directors elected new officers at the June 12 board meeting. President Paul Gieselman represents Region 27 and is from Morning Sun in Louisa County. President-Elect is Connie Casson from Neola in West Pottawattamie County, Region 21. Secretary is Mary Greiman from Garner in Hancock County, Region 3. Michael Ryan was elected Treasurer from Davenport in Scott County, Region 20. Thank you to our outgoing President Jamie David (Lenox, Taylor County, Region 23) and Treasurer Lori Donahoe (Coralville, Johnson County, Region 19). We appreciate your willingness to serve the association and contribute extra effort as an officer.

---

### Fall Board Meeting and Strategic Planning Scheduled

The IECA board of directors will meet on November 20 in Ames to begin a strategic planning session and conduct the association's quarterly board meeting. The strategic planning session will be led by consultant Nancy Franz and will provide an action plan for the association to follow in the next three years. If you have ideas for how the association can better serve your council that we should consider in our strategic planning or if your county has concerns you would like us to address at the regular board meeting, please contact your [region's IECA board member](#).

---

### Legal Services Hours Reset

A benefit of IECA membership is access to Whitfield & Eddy, the law firm on retainer by the association to assist councils with legal issues. Each county extension district is eligible to receive one complimentary hour of legal service from Whitfield & Eddy every six months (January-June and July-December) – the association pays the bill. If the billable hours exceeds one hour, the county will receive an invoice directly from Whitfield & Eddy for additional hours. The six month period reset July 1<sup>st</sup> with the new fiscal year. If your county requires legal assistance, please contact Executive Director [Jennifer Vit](#) to be connected to Whitfield & Eddy.

## **IECA Mourns Board Member Bertha Lammers**

[Bertha Lammers](#) of Maurice, Iowa, passed away on June 17, 2021. Bertha was a retired postmaster who enjoyed volunteering for 4-H and the Sioux County Fair among other organizations. She served on the Sioux County Extension Council and was the IECA board representative for Region 1 in the far northwest corner of Iowa. The IECA extends our sympathies to Bertha's husband, Harlan, and her family.

---

## **Extension Program Spotlight**

### ***Farm Couple Getaways***

The program was developed in response to high levels of personal or financial farm stress Iowans have experienced this year and is open to any farm couple. The two-day getaway programs are offered by the extension dairy team with the goal of assisting farm couples in areas to understand their spouse's communication style, likes/dislikes about farming, signs of farm or family stress, personality style, planning for the future, and more. Evaluation responses indicate a significant 40-50% increase in understanding by program participants. Two Farm Couple Getaways were held in Dubuque and Milford this year with 15 farm couples attending.

If interested in offering this program in your county or region, contact Jenn Bentley at [jbentley@iastate.edu](mailto:jbentley@iastate.edu); Fred Hall at [fredhall@iastate.edu](mailto:fredhall@iastate.edu); or Larry Tranel at [tranel@iastate.edu](mailto:tranel@iastate.edu).

---

## **Save the Date**

- ***Extension Council Conference*** – Saturday, March 5, 2022 (target audience is council members, but staff also encouraged to attend)
- ***Extension Annual Conference*** – Tuesday, March 8, 2022 (all staff and council members may attend)

---

*Copyright © 2021 IECA, All rights reserved.*

[unsubscribe from this list](#)   [update subscription preferences](#)