**Fall Extension Conference Notes 09-24-15**

**Ray Hammerschmidt - MSU Extension Update**

* District 14 Created - Lisa Anderson is our District Coordinator
* Julie Pioch - District 13 accepted full time DC
* District 11 - Richard Wooten DC and Scott became Associate
* Ronald Bates - AABI
* Patrick Cudney fully established in campus office
* North Central Region - Dennison Cultural Survey. Last year's fall conference we had a presentation about this and as a result of this task forces and initiatives
	+ Accountability
	+ Strategic connects
	+ Issues ID
	+ Reporting and Planning - making strategic plans for the future
* Institute Directors asked to do strategic planning
	+ Beginning with the work teams
	+ In program direction and also staffing
	+ AABI went back to their focus more around commodities - better connections with those groups, faculty specialists re-engaged.
	+ Each work team has put together a plan
	+ Institute Directors and District Coordinators synthesizing future plans together
	+ Background: we had some budget issues, we were able to reduce the deficit.
	+ Hiring Pause - filling critical positions, encouraging cross-institute planning for positions, building campus expertise
* Issue ID - Survey called "Sharpen our Focus" online focus
	+ Already 367 people have already taken the survey
	+ We want to find out
		- What are the needs across the state
		- What are the needs at the local and state level
		- Where can we partner
		- How can we maximize resources
* December 31 - Ray's last day as the director, Jeff Dwyer transitioning in through October and will be full time Jan 1
* Thank you to the Council for your support

**Doug Buhler - AgBioResearch**

* Thank you to the Council for your support and your input
* Jeff Dwyer's background in health and community health - great asset
* Grants up 30%, $100 million to $130 million, excited because scientists working hard
* MSU was given more money from the USDA in grants than any other county in the country.
* Research and development opportunity: AAU - 120 institutions nation wide - MSU is scored high because of its high level of research and scholarship - Global Impact Initiative - enhance the fundamental research on campus. How ABR can best position ourselves to bring research to the college. Mission oriented, problem solving entity, so we have to align our research and work with that mission. Hiring people who use scientific methods and cutting edge research methods and technology. Food safety/security, genomics and genetics and reproductive sciences,
* Trying to enhance our linkage to the core research of the university but also staying aligned with our mission.
* Challenges: continuing to maintain this success at funding. Many grant programs that people compete for now fund less than 10% of those that apply - so competition is high. Trying to take the burden of the business transaction by having people on staff to write grants.
* Because of better budgets, they are trying to use extra money to bolster technology devices, seed money, etc. for these people trying to do research.
* Having George joining ABR has been great timing
* We've received proposals for the Michigan Ag Animal Alliance for its second year. Bringing Ag and Agriculture together, commodity groups, MDARD all set priorities, faculty can apply for a small sum of money going toward addressing the relevant problems.
* Michigan Tree Fruit Commission - $700,000 dollars and half a million matched by the state, for research and funding in this area.
* New industry:
	+ Hops industry - working our way up - Hops and Barley Conference - very successful and they're planning the next one. Building research capacity there. Hops group is now GREEEN partner. Downy mildew.
	+ Industrial Hemp and Medical Marijuana - law passed allowing research. Waiting for USDA to develop guidelines for research.
* Facilities:
	+ Almost closed down Clarksville, reinvesting now and making great progress there.
	+ Saginaw Valley - real success story
		- So much demand for research, we're looking for additional land.
	+ South West - Benton Harbor - looking into doing things differently
	+ Project GREEEN - redesign of annual report - working to refine and better understand communicatios methods, and delivering things in a more condensed way. 50 page book to simple tri-fold really highlighting some big issues. Happy for feedback. Reduces cost.
	+ Working and great success with Senator Stabenow's office. Senator Peters high interest in Agriculture as well. We have a weekly call with Senator Stabenow's staff - general updates, but also as a platform to have our scientists talk about their research in key areas. This has built a strong connection. Another outcome is that some of the other representatives are starting to take more notice. Rep Moolenar's office, Doug Buhler will be testifying in front of the Ag Committee.

**Member Updates:**

**Londa Pickles - District 12**

* Breakfast on the Farm was held August 29, 2015 at the Bruce and Jennifer Lewis Dairy Farm – nearly 3,000 in attendance
* Soy Bean Field Day was held in Blissfield last week – 120 registered
* District wide working on the Issues Identification Process
	+ Have three meetings tentatively scheduled throughout the Distric.
	+ Have identified the “moderator” for each meeting
		- November 5 – Moderated by Doug Lewis
		- November 10 – Moderated by Erica Karfonta
		- November 12 – Moderated by J-Jay Pechta
* Still looking for a Commercial Vegetable Educator
* May have a Field Crops Position for the District posted soon
* Filled a 4-H Program Coordinator (half time) vacancy in Livingston – new person will start October 6th
* Process of filling a full time staff position in Lenawee
* Next week is Hilldale County Fair – last in the state
* Swine issue at the Jackson Fair this year, MSUE team network worked well. Have heard a lot of positive feeback about our response.
* 4-H enrollments for the new program year are beginning.

**Bernie Ware – District 3**

* Focus groups going on - Districts shrank in size, Jennifer is now full time director
	+ 3 groups
* Northern Michigan Small Farm Conference - entered into collaboration with Ground Works Center (MI Land Use Institute) end of January - Farm Food and Health Conference along with our Farm School. Farm School will have on permaculture and agriforestry, mushroom and honey production. Saturday 34 different sessions. Hoping to pull in 1200 people.

**Amy Coleman – AgBioResearch**

* Hard winter - lots of trees and wine grapes, needing to replant. There can be a 3 year wait for nurseries, so that hasg been
* Cherry leaf spot heavily
* Research station have a project to examine climate change on the cherry leaf spot and how farmers can manage
* August 2 storm devastated many orchards, some lost up to 900 trees. High desity apple trelises came down
* SWD infestation is huge in the area, many farmers had rejected loads of fruit.
* Research station is hosting an SWD summit,
* High density tart cherry harvester came to the research station, great to see the demo,
* ABR is going to support the summit

**Wayne Hecht – AgBioResearch Saginaw Valley Research & Extension Center**

* See pamphlet
* Education building in the works
* Fully approved - the site is prepared
* Field day in late August 2016

**Jim Will – District 10**

* In \_\_\_ county, ending their MOA with extension office
* Looking at millage proposal to keep office funding
* 4-H is re-enrolling, using the computer
* Snap Program - starting October 1
* Field trials - October 30 - people looking at soy bean, organic and non-GMO trials

**Steve Yanni – Member at large**

* Chippewa County - New Program Assistant for Nutrition - Snap funded position.
* Office at Bay Mills and work well with tribal community
* New Sea Grant Position in Eastern and upper Michigan
* Chattam bringing in research and funding
* Finished construction at new education facility at the farm and offering a course in Ag and food systems for new outreach and extension center
* Ron Bates - hoping to get a livestock person

**Katherine Methner - District 6**

* Working on budgets in the county, Gladwin - Rollie Cramer and Kelly Lucas took on the campaign to get funding for MSU Extension. Gladwin country has kept their Extension office.
* Christmas Tree association held its meeting in Wexford county. People from all over and canada
* Grass fed - beef conference held in Mt. Pleasant
* Economic develop- prosperity regions - governor has created 10 regions, Gratiot, Isabella, Clare, Glawin, Aranac and Bay, Saginaw -

**Nora Balgoyen-Williams - District 7**

* ID process - getting area experts together, community action folks together.
* Prosperity regions
* Food Safety and Food preservation classes for starting up cottage buisness.
* Classes on Social and Emotional Health
* Agriculture
* Integrated pest management meetings - spotted wing \_\_\_
* Water management for growers 2 day conference
* Country Fairs - fake birds to be able to still show their birds

**Darryle Bucahnan – District 11, Oakland Co.**

* Economic development
* 4-H programs
* Going through a lot of change, new assistant DC

**Sue McFadden – District 11, Wayne Co.**

* New space for Wayne county office
* Master gardener class and junior master gardener class

**Doug Lewis – CARET**

* Issues ID - 3 meetings scheduled
* Fair last month
* 4-H foundation

**Joe Bonovetz – District 1**

* Paul Putnam been great working with all of the counties
* Successful fair season
* Great support from UP legislators
* UP state fair - Extension had 6  tables and extension staff present
* Great Lakes fisheries heritage conference
* Connecting entrepreneurial communities
* Dairy team in August visited operations and producers to connect about challenges and issues

**Lynn Mason – District 8**

* Field Day at Clarksville
* Carson City - Michigan Innovations in Agriculture "What's new with poo" - interesting, tours of 4 farms near 3,000 cattle. Manure separation, treatment,
* Eaton County - nutrient management update and plot tour - held at the Plant Path field lab
* September - Ionia - poverty simulation
* Issues ID meetings
* Former commissioner, apple orchard, education (Add to Lynn's profile)

**Doug Bovin – District 2**

* UP state fair - thriving

**Scott Ferry – Member-at-large**

Dairy Industry

* Milk production up 7.2%,
* Great forages, access to clean and fresh water, great community support
* Processing plants way over capacity, infrastructure not prepared for this growth
* Michigan is ranked #3 in production per cow
* Milk price is down 33%, looking at the future of the market,
* Region experiencing issues (state) balancing the milk supply for the nation. Working hard to open up new markets.
* Medical journalists are talking about the good fats that come from milk. McDonald is bringing in real butter to its menu.
* New technology - reverse osmosis system, water conservation.
* Fair life milk - lactose free

**Gary Voogt – Member at large**

* Beef prices have just fallen 30%
* Livestock industry
* Concerned about teachers of agriculture
* 2 positions in animal science being advertised and realize the need in the college
* Positive - Jeff Dwyer - connection with food and human health.
* Lake City experience station -
	+ Grass fed beef conference. 30 states represented and from Canada.
	+ Hoping to have first harvesting facility in Michigan
* Importance of soil and detecting chemicals and pharmaceuticals in the soil
* Tighter connection with human health.
* Lake City in Extension and Research trying to get certified as a global hub of holistic management. (Only 30 in the world.

**Bill Anderson – District 5**

* Center in Freemont - county facilities will be located with Extension
* New hires - 2 in HNI programs and new 4-H program coordinator in Mason County
* Extension using resources  address large and small needs
* Muskegon - cooking matters for teens

**Dionisio Sanchez District 13**

* Julie Pioch has permanently accepted the District Coordinator position for D13
* Issues ID 2 meetings
* Cooking matters - adults and schools

MSU Extension Programming Presentations

**Chronic Disease Management**

* 31% of adults are obese
* 10.4% diabetis
* Increase simultaneously increasing

Our Reach in 2014

* 1,365 adults through core programming - face-to-face education

Our impact

\*increase in healthy foods, activities, decrease in pain

**DPM Core Programs**

* Dining with Diabetes - 4-session cooking course designed for people with diabetes and family members
	+ How to prepare healthy meals with less fat
	+ Tools for managing diabetes
	+ Importance of diet and exercise
	+ Diana Fair - Co-founder of National Dining with Diabetes
* Personal Action Toward Health - 6 week program- setting goals, how to improve communication with health care provided,
* National Diabetes Prevention Program
	+ Year long program
	+ 16 weeks
	+ Based on a national study
	+ Participants
		- Track food and weight
		- Attempt a 5-7% weight loss
		- Be physically active for 150 minutes/week
	+ Adult 24 or greater, and diagnosed pre-diabetic
* Diabetes risk test
* Sessions are only 1 hour long and so they work well at work sites
* Dining w/ Diabetes for the Yemeni community in Cold Water.
* All family members are invited to the programs, and even without coming with the person who is ill -
* 1 out of 4 organizations in Michigan identified by CDC to be able to deliver the program.
* Contact for Wayne: Ashley Pierch

**Urban 4-H**

* Urban programming
* Urban population of Kalamazoo makes up over half of the population of the county.
* MSU Extension has pledged to reach 20% of youth from 5-18
* Urban definition: census bureau - over 50,000 people in an incorporated land. Underserved minority audiences.

Methods of delivery

* In school
* Community clubs
* Project groups
* Outreach & workshops events
* Cultural enrichment

New Partnerships

* Schools
* Community Centers
* State Parks
* Juvenile Justice System
* Volunteer Organizations
* Other Youth-Serving Programs

Short Term Special Interest

* 6 week afterschool nutrition program
* Photography
* Other special interest classes
* Using 4-H curriculum in schools

Program Enrichment

* Using 4-H curriculum they enrich other community programs

Importance of being a constant presence - what they need, and find a way for 4-H to meet their needs, and to stay.

Youth District Court

* Sentenced students, Kalamazoo Empowering Youth Education Services - bringing in 4-H to provide services and programs to these students
* Vocational skills and training

Community Centers

* Using community centers to get community clubs going

Entrepreneurial  courses and groups - important to Kalamazoo

Targeted programming

* Northside neighborhood 80% poverty, east and west side 53-63% poverty, targeting where the need is greatest.

**4-H**

Entrepreneurship, work force preparation, across the state, career, financial literacy

13,000 youth reached

Grant through national 4-H - wrote BUILD YOUR FUTURE career: finding your career to paying for college. Received grant to train Michigan staff and volunteers.

Working on another curriculum - $18,000 grant - Youth Business Guide to success - focusing on animal project aned livestock on the business side. Incorporating the Van Buren Technology center and youth helping to design curriculum.

Communication, record keeping, teamwork, conflict resolution - other life skills

* Works with the Michigan Youth Opportunity Initiative, groups in foster care, so this is new population o fyouth using the financial education program - needs and wants related to budgets, goal setting, interviews, resumes, career identification. They receive $ for attending the classes. Communicating with buyers, record keeping. Connecting business skills to their projects.
* Work with 4-H youth that show at the fair
* Interviews
* Young Entrepreneurs day - portfolio evaluation and feedback
* Interviews for jobs
* Local Ag and Natural resource programs
* Van Buren Youth fair
* Record books into all animals for the fair
* Want kids to think about the skills that they're learning while they're doing the activities. Trying to connect kids with their activities and their skills.

 **Council organizational changes**

Amy Coleman - moved forward to chair

Joe Bonovetz moved to vice chair