**MSU Extension and AgBioResearch State Council 3/1/16 Notes**

**Emerging Diseases – Dr. Dan Grooms**

* Emerging diseases - when do they go from emerging to endemic; if emerging they will fund it to get rid of it, but once endemic
* Example of diseases: BVD virus - cattle in the US, and new strain in Brazil, Italy, and in SE Asia - BVD type 3.
* Bovine TB - built around trying to get it out of cattle population, and now showing up in deer population
* DCPAH built over 10 years ago - built in response to Bovine TB - $ went in to the eradication program.
  + Reputation in diagnosing the BPV outbreak
  + The way we serve the animal industry
  + Key part of federal networks
* Antimicrobial resistance
  + Immerging problem, with crops and human health, livestock
  + Public health threat
  + Combating resistance - diagram showing the work MSU is doing and who is doing it
* MSU leaders in researching the BLV
  + Areas MSU is involved with (last slide)
  + MSU/ABR/CVM/Animal Science all working together
* Antibiotics for human use will be banned in livestock species for performance enhancing livestock (Europe did this 20 years ago) banning antibiotics for performance.

**Flint – Jeff Dwyer and Deanna East**

* MSU Extension is already there helping the community
* Lead in the water in Flint - population of 16,000 kids that were already compromised - didn't have nutrition, financial stability, etc.. This is about participating in a longer term solution.
* Response to Flint is really what a land grant university is all about that allows us to respond to crisis. It's MSU that can bring weapons to bear on a situation. - from Ag, to nutrition, to child development
* Extension, College of Human Medicine, College of Education (early childhood and literary issues) School of Social work, criminal justice, etc - already there.
* CVM in Flint for 40 years. Old Flint journal building is now populated by MSU.
* Mott foundation $$$ will be hiring 6-7 public health researchers/scientists. 4 will live in the community - Brown, John Hopkins, UofM and Ontario - they have brought $14 million of NIH funding to Flint to study issues that the community cares about.
* How you recognize that there’s a problem to begin with?
* American Journal of Public Health (research public)
* Able to use Rick Sadler's mapping tools to look at their food and nutrition and helping with food distribution centers.
* Office in downtown Flint - we've been there 100 years. There is trust and built from Extension's role in their in the community.
* Extension tweaked their message.
* Health and nutrition, Snap-Ed - Fight Lead with Nutrition, recipe booklet.
* Partner w/Hurley's children center, and cooking demonstration at the Flint farmer's market, have resources there.
* Nutrition education
* MSUE Working with the food bank - activating inactive sites. Going to churches and community centers providing the same presentations but with a lead focus
* New cookbook coming out, available in Spanish and Arabic
* Website - <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/lead>
* Long term, good nutrition is needed - whether lead exposed or not.
* Children and Youth - early childhood team: Fight lead effects with learning and play
  + Results of lead exposure is cognitive development in children
  + Reading, social skill building activities, hands on activities to help mitigate effects of lead on cognitive development
  + Grant for staff in Flint
* Water quality team:
  + Water filters and lead
  + Testing for lead
  + Gardening and lead
  + Edible Flint - a support for local growers - and how watering with lead
  + How water affects your garden (benefits of having fresh good outweighs the negative effects of lead)
  + Information about pets and lead and testing your animals for lead or signs of exposure.
  + Garden soils
* Health effects of long term stress
* Institutional trust matters - no one trusts the government, but they do trust MSUE
* [Empower Flint](http://empowerflint.org/) - it's an app - can donate, can volunteer, find information and news, distribution sites, where to go for help.
* Snap-Ed approval for a hotline for food safety, food preparation, and food preservation. Will be manned by food safety expert.
* Partnership - Michigan Milk Producers milk donation.
* Great story about the potential that MSU E is playing and can play in communities.
* MSU volunteer students going in every weekend (including our athletes - for the last 3 weekends) to help people recycle, promote recycling, etc.
* 15 people in Genesee county and now we're pulling more MSU Extension staff members in

**Extension Update – Jeff Dwyer and Patrick Cudney**

* Jeff is 2 months in and honored to be a new member of the Extension team
* Budget for 81.1 million dollars - most of funding comes from county, state and federal resources - but we want to grow this organization and be in a position to do more for people. What Jeff hopes to bring to the organization is opportunity to work with partners to grow the org.
* Districts
  + Increased support at the district level - created District 14. Created an associate DC in 11, and provided full time support in higher demand districts,
  + and implemented a district coordinator internship program.
* DC position is the eyes and ears across the state, and we need to have a candidate pool and succession pool, and a diverse candidate pool.
* Most comprehensive health delivery system in the state (no hospital system in this state covers the geographic size that we do) - trying to work toward insurance reimbursement
* 5,000 people at the basketball game - reaching the school systems in the state
* Trying to recraft how we describe ourselves and what we do - re-crafting our message.
* Example of folks from Extension jumping in to keep something form happening and educating our kids and the public on aviary influenza - creativity of youth, news coverage, etc.
* Administrative foot print additions
  + Need a relationship with District coordinator, district council meetings, having information that you need, relationship with
  + Working on building our district council
  + Issues ID process - facilitated sessions across the state and online public survey.
    - = a lot of data. We will provide that information to everyone, and in areas we can't cover, we're going to share that information with agencies that can provide those services
    - Everyone invited to participate in the live webinar [INSERT DATE HEER] Katie will send electronically.
* Memorandum of Agreement
* January 1, agreement with Schoolcraft now  (Oscoda remains the only county without Extension presence)
* 9 counties supported by millage for the local funding. We have 7 millage elections
  + Tuscola, March 9
  + Majority in August
  + 2 new millages and 5 renewals - many in UP, Shiawassee, Genesee next year,
  + Seeing up upward trend as counties face financial situations. Lots of times, MSU Extension is put on a millage because we are popular and commissioners think that it will pass, but it isn't always the case. This puts us in a hard place because we can't lobby for it, our staff and people in our organization can't lobby, ask for funding, etc. Any campaigning has to be done outside of our organization.
  + Changes our relationship with the county government, because it makes us have to be political. We have to spend energy trying to get a millage passed instead of on what we're supposed to be doing. But it's a reality. We're going to have to think about how we approach this.
* Strategic Connections and Communications: expect to connect

**AgBioResearch Update – George Smith**

* Ron Hendricks the new Dean of the College of Ag and Natural Resources. Ron PHD here, and is a Spartan. Experience, personality, fundraising,
* Effective July 1
* Balancing investments in new faculty and research and balancing existing needs and infrastructure, and trying to meet changing needs.
* Purchase of additional land for the Saginaw Valley and Research Station
* Investment in innovation and facilities on the sheep research at MSU - partnerships. Partnership between animal and human environmental stress on pregnancy, relevant to human health. Long term nutrition.
* Now 10-15% of kids in animal science grew up with animals or on a farm - advantages of working with sheep first. Student contact hours, hands on, great place to start for students. Best sheep extension specialists - Ehrhardt.
* Call for proposals for non-recurring funds on equipment needs
* Brian graft - assistant to the director for field staff and operations. He will work with the research stations to identify their needs, and also seek donations.
* 100 new research faculty - Global Impact Initiative. Faculty can come together and can write proposals.
  + Using gnome information in plants to result in 6 new faculty in ABR
  + Animal genomics to select for performance traits
  + Response of plants to stress, and breeding plants that are more resistant
  + Anti-microbial resistance.

**Legislative Briefing – Mike Kovacic**

* Governor cut the budget in 2011, and he promised to get back to the level of 2011. His budget includes 4.3% increase - that returns the investment by the state of Michigan higher education funding back to the 2011 level. The half of it goes to universities across the board, the other half based upon a formula (we get 3.9% boost to the general institution, BUT we're not returned to the 2011 level).
* Each university has a line item, and then there’s another line that funds ABR and MSUE, and it's about 60 million dollars. He proposed a 1.4 million dollar increase (which is about 2.3% increase to the base) but he has traditionally recommended the average for our lines. While we're thankful and appreciative, we would rather have the 4.3%. We will dedicate the additional 2% into funding the livestock initiative if we receive the extra funding - this helps the industry that has been asking for this funding.
* Green sheet talking points
* You're there to put a face to the investments that MSU Extension and ABR make in your communities
* Tell your story about why these are important - this is the most important piece. If all they get in one message, it's how these programs have made a difference in your life and community.
* We want them to know that we are appreciative of what they have already done for us - budget wise.

**Member Reports**

**John Mossner - AgBioResearch, Saginaw Valley Station**

* Replacing Wayne Hecht
* Lives 1 mile from the research farm
* Research up and running in May, everything coming along really well.
* Married with three kids
* Cash crop farm
  + Sugar beets
  + Navy beans
  + Assorted dry beans
  + White winter wheat
  + Soy beans
  + Corn

**Doug Lewis – CARET**

* Issues ID - Milan, great cross section of people giving input into the university
* Going to CARET

**Londa Pickles – MSU Extension District 12**

* Issues ID process and submitted everything

**Scott Ferry – AgBioResearch**

* Need of labor - immigration issues, and how to employ people in agriculture and in industry
* Pure Michigan milk, best quality in the world, and #2 in production quality, and #7 in total pounds produced.
* Supply and demand - having trouble processing the amount of milk that we have. Need more facilities.

**Doug Bovin – MSU Extension District 2**

* Alger and Luce have their millages up in August (expected to do well)
* Dickinson county will have a new millage
* 3 new Amish farms
* New farmers open house coming up
* Interviewing for a field crops position in Delta County
* Chatham research center
* Farmers markets growing

**Char Wenham – CARET**

* Station in area has interim director and will get a new director soon
* Lots of nutrition programming
* Lots of hops and hops growth

**Lynn Mason – MSU Extension District 8**

* Lots of nutrition programming in the school
* Issues ID, - invited a high school student to come
* Great feedback about the foreclosure education
* Pesticide, cooking matters, beef/cow producer update
* Interviewing for 4-h coordinator in Ingham county
* 4-H beef project 101 and bull evaluation open house

**Joe Bonovetz – MSU Extension District 1**

* Relax alternatives to anger - at the local jail
* Working with Iron county and other Extension programs to try and share
* Even if a county does not fund Extension, Extension is still providing programming to the area
* Nutrition in schools
* Nutrition and physical activity
* Gardens in Ontonagon and Gogebic county in the intermediate schools

**Sue McFadden – MSU Extension District 11, Wayne**

* Issues ID focus group for Wayne County
* New Part time master gardener
* Some events coming up in March
  + 4-h livestock leaders meeting
  + Cottage food law
  + Homeowner webinar series
  + ServSafe
  + Master Citizen Planner
* Other information about all the great programs in Wayne County <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/annualreports/2014_MSUE_Wayne_Annual_Report.pdf>

**Katherine Methner – MSU Extension District 6**

* Mock interview day (300 high school students) practicing interviews with CEOs, and HR of different companies - they can see what their opportunities are in our region.
* Natural Shoreline training
* Master gardener training in Cadillac
* Transitioning family to farm
* Vegetable gardening 101 webinar
* Hops summit - growers, brewers, processing
  + Only 2 hops processors in the state of Michigan (traverse city and grand rapids)
  + Hoping to get grant to do the Feasibility study to determine the needs in the region for hops
  + If hops processing built, would it be feasibility
* Harrison - 4 seasons farmers market with retail incubator, community kitchen. 1.3 million dollar project and now under construction. Doing interviews.

**Bernie Ware – MSU Extension District 3**

* Small Farm Conference
  + Beginning to max out the venue
  + Lots of young people
  + Success of small operations
  + Potential for MSU to get more involved
  + Would like to bridge to the larger farmers to get involved because there is much to learn about marketing, business strategy, innovation. Strengthen all farms - small and large.
* Issues ID session
* Armory for sale with gymnasium, kitchen, offices - place for MSU/senior citizen/youth place?

**Gary Voogt – Member at large**

* Rolling out the old state check off.
  + This allows funding to go toward research.
  + Listening sessions
  + Better rates for selling
  + $$$ used for research that will promote the dairy industry and their crops

**Steve Yanni – Member at large**

* Collaboration between Bay Mills, tribal land grant) and MSU.
  + In Washington D.C. this collaboration is a model
  + Job searches:
    - Nutrition educator
    - New sea grant educator
    - New FRTEP (federally recognized tribal educator)
    - 3 new MSU Extension employees housed in the Bay Mills facility
* Offered credit into sustainable agriculture - the first credit bearing course in the area
* Issues ID session - went well and good representation (except for production ag).
* Millage votes - game changer for the organization
* Chatham - great young people
  + Suggesting to have an MSU researcher based in Chatham in the area of northern climate, small-scale Ag. That would enhance and show MSU's commitment. Very welcome by many.

**Jim Will - MSU Extension District 10**

* Thumb Agriculture Day
  + 300 farms
  + 80 vendors
  + Programs
  + Put on my campus specialists and district 10
* Educators few and far between (overworked).
* Pesticide education, weather prediction, etc.
* Millage proposal for Tuscola
* Committee for Friends of Extension for Tuscola
* How Extension markets itself - needing better information out there, not enough people know what Extension does
* Nontraditional ways to get the word out about us