

Extension Leadership Council

Frederick County

February 7, 2024

The Frederick County Extension Leadership Council (ELC) met on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at Horizon Farm Credit, Winchester, VA. The following were present: Heather McKay, Sharon Mauzy, Rose McDonald, Kunduck Moon, Keighley Gore, Allison White; John Jewell (Board of Supervisor Liaison); VCE Staff: Mark Sutphin, Spring Vasey, Hannah Copp, Joanne Royaltey, Marsha Wright; and 4-H Guest Speakers Kenna Kerns, Ian Bird, Wyatt Parker, and Keller Cooley.

Heather McKay called the meeting to order at 12:24 p.m. She welcomed everyone to the meeting introducing the newest ELC member Allison White representing the Opequon District, and Board of Supervisor Liaison John Jewell. We went around introducing ourselves.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Kunduck Moon made a motion that the November 1, 2023 minutes be approved. Sharon Mauzy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Extension Programming Highlight

Spring Vasey began the 4-H Program Presentations highlighting the program's participation numbers and programs.

Four 4-H guest speakers then spoke giving outstanding presentations on their projects and how their lives were impacted by the 4-H program through members, leaders, clubs, competitions, and projects.

Extension from Your Viewpoint (offered by Staff and ELC members)

- Sharon and Keighley noted the EMG Seed Exchange had been very successful.

What's Happening in Winchester and Frederick County

- ELC member mentioned information on the Frederick County Homesteader Group meeting, and the Cultivate Your Agribusiness meeting is planned for March 21 at Laurel Ridge.
- ELC member spoke of the EMG Symposium on March 2, Laurel Ridge Community College.
- ELC member asked if VCE and Board of Supervisors work with construction companies on planting vegetation including native plants. It was suggested for Mark to connect with Planning staff.
- Joanne stated the new EMG class was starting soon. VCE-Frederick staff will have a table at Frederick County Employees' Wellness Day on February 22.
- ELC member informed us briefly of Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program and about Reading Day on March 18 at Quarles Elementary School.

ELC Positions: Newly Renewed/Appointed Members and Soon to Expire Terms

- Mark welcomed and introduced our two newest members to the ELC: Allison White and John Jewell.

State and Local Budget Updates

- i. 2023 Situation Analysis: final review and submission
 - We are close to finishing this report and are looking for final comments from the ELC before submitting it next week. Once we have the reports from the other PD7 counties, we would share them, too. Brief discussion/clarifications were made on acreage decrease (had to use 5-year old data since new Census not available yet) and who the report will be shared with (State

and local government, County Administration, Board of Supervisors, and it will also be available on VCE's website).

ii. Staffing: Warren County

- Emily Schulz is the new 4-H Agent in Warren County. Her position is still completely funded by Warren County.

2023 Action Items (Committee Updates)

i. Funding Committee:

- a) There is a willingness to continue working with Dr. Gutter on the following state underfunded positions.
 - Page County – Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent (Elizabeth Mullins)
 - Warren County – 4-H Youth Development (Emily Schulz)
 - Shenandoah County – Unit Administrative Assistant (Teresa Richardson)
 - Clarke County - Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent (vacant)

ii. Marketing Committee:

- a) The Joint ELC/Board of Supervisors' meeting is scheduled for April 24 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. (approximate times) prior to the Board of Supervisors' 7:00 p.m. meeting.
- b) Committee wishes to participate at World of Works in September, at the Frederick County Fair, and at Bright Futures this year.

2024 Chair/Vice Chair

Heather spoke that she had served as Chair for three years and would like to give someone else the opportunity to serve. Brandon Monk has been serving as Vice Chair for the same amount of time.

Previously, Brandon Monk indicated he would be willing to serve as Chair or Vice Chair, and Keighley Gore willing to serve as Vice Chair. Nominations were opened to the floor. After some discussion, Rose made the motion to nominate Keighley Gore as Chair and Brandon Monk as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Kunduck Moon, and the motion passed.

The next meeting will be May 1, 6:30 p.m., at the Frederick County Government Building.

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Wright
Virginia Cooperative Extension-Frederick County
Administrative and Fiscal Assistant

2024 Meeting Dates:

- February 7 – 12:00 noon, Farm Credit
- May 1 – 6:30 p.m., Frederick County Government Building
- August 7 – 6:30 p.m., Frederick County Government Building
- November 6 – 12:00 noon, Farm Credit