

# **Cochise County Cooperative Extension**

## **Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: February 27, 2025 | Location: Sierra Vista

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Moiria White at 3:08pm

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the December meeting were presented for approval.

- Motion to approve: Alan Seitz
- Seconded: Ron Bemis
- Discussion: None
- Vote: Approved unanimously

### **3. Introductions**

Introductions were made by the faculty, staff, and Advisory Board members. Participants were asked to state:

- Their name
- Their role or affiliation
- Their favorite vegetable

Participants included: Kim McReynolds, Connie Forsyth, Tricia Dunham, Carol Holden, Moiria White, Ron Bemis, Alan Seitz, Rhegan Derfus, Ashley Wright, Amber Morin, Nathan Watkins, Aaron Cardona.

### **4. Meeting Business**

- Sierra Vista will be in Room 503 (Classroom) and 506.
- Horticulture Agent interview finalist did great. If chosen could be here in June.
- 4-H Assistant will be starting in a couple of weeks.
- Waterwise position is awaiting HR approval.
- FCHS Agent – rewriting job description, Rhegan is serving as lead.
- Range position vacant and is grant funded, it will be filled.
- Evelyn retired as of 2/3/2025.
- Ethan Orr is leaving to Cal Poly, Dawn G is serving as interim

### **5. Fiscal Update**

Connie went over the Business Annual State of Unit Presentation and discussed current and upcoming fiscal information.

## **6. Board Updates**

- Moiria discussed her ranch and how well 4-H is doing
- Ron talked about drought and its effects on the area.
- Aaron talked about his new daughter and his farm and how it is working with NRCS.
- Julia discussed well drilled in San Simon and that Haley is doing wonderful with 4-H.
- Amber discussed how federal funding is impacting NRCS and the Wolf CCG meeting.
- Alan talked about the AMA and irrigation.
- Nathan spoke about the Willcox AMA.

## **7. Program Updates**

- Rhegan spoke about NIFA and BHC grant and the leadership academy and the Curious Quails program success.
- Jan talked about the Master Gardener class starting.
- Carol discussed working with non-profits and that SSWA ran out of funding.
- Kim spoke about BLM and monitoring data.
- Rosie talked about Family Resource Centers and wanting to expand to Cochise County.
- Ashley discussed BFRD grants, BQA, YQCA trainings, AI, and avian influenza update.

## **8. Budget Updates**

- Carol updated the group on FY26 and that there will be a 3% cut.
- Carol updated on the meat lab reopening; it is delayed due to not enough staffing.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

Alan moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10pm, Aaron 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.