MINUTES FROM THE AMC Extension Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 10, 2016 - Great River Ballroom 4, InterContinental Hotel, St. Paul MN
Breakfast served for committee members and guests at 7:15 a.m.
Meeting 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM.

7:30 A.M. WELCOME: Commissioner Nancy Schouweiler, AMC Extension Committee Chair called the meeting to order and asked each committee member to introduce themselves and list one change in their county economy they have witnessed over the last year.

7:45 – 8:15 A.M. Guest Program Presentation with Q &A

Minnesota Farms on the Farm Financial Roller Coaster- Dale Nordquist, Associate Director, Center for Farm Financial Management, University of Minnesota

Minnesota farms enjoyed one of their most profitable periods in history in recent years. Now commodity prices have turned lower and the picture has changed. Dr. Nordquist explained the financial trends for Minnesota farms, their current financial situation, their competitive position to sustain their businesses during this period of low commodity prices and Extension’s role in farm financial management education.

8:15 A.M. University of Minnesota Extension Update: Brent Hales, University of Minnesota Extension Senior Associate Dean and Bob Byrnes, Extension Director of Field Operations updated the group on the MOA’s across the state and Extension statewide programming highlights.

8:25 AMC Community Leadership Award Recipients: Commissioner Schouweiler thanked Commissioners Sharon Bring, Marv Zylstra, Teresa Walter and MACA Rep., Bruce Messelt for judging the applications. The winners were Indian Lake Progressives 4-H Club from Nobles County with their project Brewster City Park Project” and Two River 4-H Club from Kittson County for their project; “Fill A Bag, Touch A Heart Program”.

8:30 A.M. Election of 2016 Chair and Vice Chair; The group expressed strong support for all of the time and effort that Commissioner Schouweiler has expended on behalf of University of Minnesota Extension and AMC. She will be retiring at the end of the year and she will be missed in her leadership role. Commissioner Schouweiler thanked the group for their support.

She stated that two commissioners had shown interest in serving in a leadership role. Commissioner Walter for chair and Commissioner Zylstra for vice chair. The group voted and both were elected for the next year.

8:40 A.M. Adjourn – Next meeting held during the MN State Fair with U. of MN Extension Deans Advisory Committee.