Extension District Elections Update

In 1991, the Kansas Extension District Law was enacted which allowed for counties to group together to form Extension Districts. The River Valley Extension District, comprised of Clay, Cloud, Republic, and Washington Counties, was formed under this law in July of 2005 as the fourth Extension District in Kansas.

Districting allowed for a variety of things, but three things really sets a District apart from the County Extension Council operation. The first difference is the District is its own taxing entity and as such develops a budget, publishes the budget, holds a public budget hearing, and then formally adopts the budget with the tax levy coming through the Counties.

The second difference is there are four representatives from each County serving on the Board, with two positions up for election on odd numbered years.

The third major difference is the Extension District Governing Body candidates must file for election and appear on the ballot of the fall general election with no provision for a primary. Candidates must be 18 years of age, a U.S. Citizen, and reside within the County where they are running for Extension Council. The filing deadline has been changed and is now aligned with all other filing deadlines. Candidates must complete a filing in 2019 at the County Clerk’s Office by Noon on Monday, June 3.

For questions, contact your respective County Clerk or John Forshee, District Director, River Valley Extension District by calling (785) 632-5335.

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