



**University of Illinois Extension – Bureau, La Salle, Marshall, and Putnam
Multi County Unit Council Meeting Minutes, March 26, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
Illinois Valley Community College, CTC 124**

The March 26, 2024 meeting of the Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam Extension Unit Council was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairperson Monico Nunez. Monico Nunez welcomed everyone. Roll Call was taken.

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Monico Nunez, Francis Morse, Douglas Stockley, Steve Tuftie, Chris Dvorak, Willard Mott, Arratta Znaniecki, Kathryn Erjavsek, and Mary Ann Waits.

Staff Present: County Director Erin Orwig, Ag in the Classroom EPC Katharine Girone

Minutes for December 5, 2023:

- Francis Morse moved to accept the December 5 minutes as written. Steve Tuftie 2nd. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Francis Morse presented the In and Out Account Reports and Banner Reports. The In and Out Account Reports were approved as presented. Motion to approve by Chris Dvorak and second by Arratta Znaniecki. Motion carried.

Organizational Reports

1. **Program Reports:** Quarterly newsletter link was emailed. (reported by Erin Orwig)
 - 4-H & Youth Development, 4-H Youth Development Program Coordinators.
 - 4-H & Youth Development Educator, Beth Dellatori.
 - Ag in the Classroom, Katharine Girone.
 - Katharine was present at the meeting, so she provided a background on the program along with her plans for the future. She is just getting into embryology season and will be coordinating with other counties for a summer program for teachers. The teachers participating will be receiving professional development credits.
 - Nutrition & Wellness Program Educator, Susan Glassman.
 - Illinois Nutrition Education/SNAP-Ed Program, Sherry Todas and Jani Kidd.
 - Commercial Agriculture, Daryle Wragge and Emily Hansen.
 - Daryle is stepping away from work, so he was recognized for his years with Extension. Erin presented him with a plaque and announced a small reception was planned for April 3 at noon at the Henry office.
2. **Outreach Efforts:** (reported by Erin Orwig). Erin Orwig reviewed outreach programming for the Unit. This also demonstrated our civil rights compliance for reaching out to target audiences.
 - Erin has an organizational goal to increase translated materials for the unit, including social

media posts and flyers. She is looking for someone local to translate materials. It was suggested to reach out to the Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts at IVCC for a possible contact.

Old Business:

- Nominating Committees
 - New council members must be in place by January 1, 2025 (changed from last year)
 - Erin would like to retain a goal of having nominations by the June meeting because it takes a long time to find new members
 - Robert McBride, Marshall County, reached out to Erin about becoming involved with Extension. He is interested in becoming a Council member
 - He works at Illini State Bank in Henry and Oglesby

New Business:

- Sarah Ursini turned in her resignation on March 26. Her last as Office Support Associate in Ottawa will be April 9.
- Interviews were held March 22 in Ottawa for the SNAP-Ed COW position.
- Extension has requested an additional \$5 million in funding from the state budget to support an Ag Educator in each unit. There is no timeline for when this may be passed, but it is possible in the next year or two.
 - For units with an Ag Educator like ours, we may be able to offset Emily's salary with this funding and use the savings to hire an EPC to further support the programs.
- County budgets were reviewed and accepted.

Other Items/Announcements:

- Erin will work to get Shooting Sports representatives to speak at the June meeting.

The next meeting date:

- June 4, 2024 at 5:30 PM. Location; IVCC room CTC 124.

Francis Morse moved to adjourn the meeting and Steve Tuftie 2nd. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Erjavsek