

Unit 27 Extension Board
February 19, 2026
10:00a.m. – 11:00 am

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by County Director Johnson at 10:15am. Verbal introductions were made around the table and name cards were placed before each attendee. **Civil rights information slips and meeting sign-in sheet were circulated around the room.**

Extension Board members present:

Alexander/Pulaski	Johnson	Massac	Union
Curtis Marshall	Evan Coulson John McCuan (County Commissioner)		

Staff present: County Director Jody Johnson, Monica Meyer

Meeting minutes from February, 13, 2025, were reviewed. Motion made by Evan Coulson and seconded by Curtis Marshall to approve prior minutes. Motion carried.

Budget Presentation & Discussion

County Director Johnson presented a financial overview of Unit 27, including:

- Current Trust Account balance (operational/checking funds)
- Revolving Accounts (program-generated revenue such as 4-H and Master Gardener/Naturalist fees)
- Smith-Lever federal funds (base allocation increasing from \$250,000 to \$300,000 for FY27)
- Gift Account (unrestricted funds)
- Foundation Funds (held at the state level but accessible locally)
- Grant funds currently in operation

Director Johnson reported the recent elimination of SNAP-Ed funding, which resulted in the loss of multiple positions and removal of program support for nutrition education and food pantry engagement. The board was informed that additional Smith-Lever funds were secured to help offset some operational shortfalls.

County contributions for FY27 were discussed:

- Johnson County: \$46,000 (requesting additional \$10,000 from general funds)
- Pulaski County: \$75,000
- Alexander County: \$26,000
- Union County: \$40,000 (requesting additional \$10,000)

Director Johnson outlined the proposed FY2027 total county contribution request of \$204,722, reflecting a \$10,000 overall increase from the prior year. These local dollars will be matched by state funds.

Discussion emphasized:

- Maintaining strong relationships with county commissioners
- Avoiding unnecessary tax burden increases
- Exploring additional federal and grant opportunities
- Preparing for potential difficult operational decisions if funding reductions continue

Motion for FY2027 Budget Recommendation

A motion was made by Evan Coulson to approve the recommendation to request \$204,722 in county contributions for FY2027. The motion was seconded by Curtis Marshall.

Motion carried unanimously.

The recommendation will move forward to the Unit Council and subsequently to county commissioners for final consideration.

Motion to adjourn made by Evan Coulson and seconded by Curtis Marshall. No objections, meeting adjourned at 10:55am.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Meyer

Unit 27 - Office Support Specialist

For Unit 27 Extension Board