

Unit 12 – Livingston-McLean-Woodford Unit Council Meeting
September 11, 2018 Council Minutes
Livingston Office, 1412 S. Locust Street, Pontiac, IL

Sherry Schlatter called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

No public comment requests were submitted.

Introductions: All Extension Council members and staff introduced themselves and stated what county they reside in. Ryan Hobson, Regional Director of Region 2 attended.

Approval of New Council Members

- **New Youth Representative** – One year term
 - Christivie Nzengo (M)
 - Jaycie Schertz (W) – Returning
 - Ellaina Stadel (L) – Returning
- **New Council Member**
 - RaeJean Kuntz (L)
- Dustin Smith motioned to approve the new members. Sarah Craft seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.
- Two other individuals have been recruited for council, but have not yet responded. Their names will be brought to council in November as recommendations and approved by vote.

Administrative Update:

- **New Executive Committee Appointments:**
 - Nominations were discussed and decided upon by members:
 - President – Sarah Craft, McLean
 - Vice President – Dustin Smith, Livingston
 - Secretary – Blaine Troyer, Woodford
 - Tom Creswell motioned to approve the nominations for Executive Committee. Ed McKibbin seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.
- **County Extension Board Representatives:**
 - Nominations were discussed and decided upon by members:
 - Sarah Craft, McLean
 - Dustin Smith, Livingston
 - Blaine Troyer, Woodford
 - Christivie Nzengo, McLean
 - A motion was made by Ed McKibbin to appoint the board representatives. Sarah Craft seconded the motion. All in favor; Motion approved.

Approval of May 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes – The minutes were approved as submitted on a motion by RaeJean Kuntz and seconded by Blaine Troyer. Motion carries.

Fiscal Reports

- FY18 Income and Expense Report was passed around for Council Members to review.
 - The final unit income for FY18 was \$1,458,000 and our expenses are \$1,228,000.
 - A check was received for state matching funds during the last month of the fiscal year for \$441,000.
- FY19 Income and Expense Report was passed around for Council Members to review.
 - For the first reconciled month in FY19, our income was \$201,000 and our expenses were \$110,000.

<i>Council Members</i>	
<i>Hillary Aggertt (W)</i>	A
<i>Shirley Blackburn (W)</i>	A
<i>Sarah Craft (M)</i>	P
<i>Tom Creswell (M)</i>	P
<i>RaeJean Kuntz (L)</i>	P
<i>Ed McKibbin (M)</i>	P
<i>Christivie Nzengo (M)</i>	A
<i>Jaycie Schertz (W)</i>	A
<i>Emily Schirer (W)</i>	A
<i>Sherry Schlatter (L)</i>	P
<i>Dustin Smith (L)</i>	P
<i>Ellaina Sadel (L)</i>	A
<i>Blaine Troyer (W)</i>	P
<i>VACANT (M)</i>	
<i>VACANT (L)</i>	
<i>Executive Committee</i>	
<i>Sarah Craft (M)</i>	
<i>Dustin Smith (L)</i>	
<i>Blaine Troyer (W)</i>	
<i>County Board Delegates</i>	
<i>Sarah Craft (M)</i>	
<i>Dustin Smith (L)</i>	
<i>Blaine Troyer (W)</i>	
<i>Christivie Nzengo (M)</i>	
<i>Extension Staff</i>	
<i>Kelly Allsup</i>	P
<i>Alcha Corban</i>	A
<i>Bill Davison</i>	P
<i>Erin Estes</i>	P
<i>Brittnay Haag</i>	P
<i>Ryan Hobson</i>	P
<i>Bobbie Lewis-Sibley</i>	P
<i>Jenna Smith</i>	P
<i>Camaya Wallace Bechard</i>	P

- Levy requests have been sent to all three county boards. All requests have been received. The boards will review the them and let us know about attending the County Board Meetings.
 - For the last two years, no requests to meet came in from the county boards. The state representatives are very supportive of Extension.

Business Items

Staffing Update

- Eric Fortune, Woodford 4-H EPC, took a job out of state. That position was offered to a candidate and she will be starting at the Woodford Office on September 17.
- Leah Street resigned as the McLean 4-H Educator, due to family responsibilities. This position should be posted soon. Interview dates and a search committee have already been set. This position will likely not be filled until January.
- Callie Cummings took a job in the St. Louis area, as she was our 4-H EPC in McLean. This posting closed last week and interviews should be scheduled soon.
- Jessica Swearingen, a 4-H EPC in McLean, resigned during her probationary review. This posting should be open for applicants to apply soon.
- Samantha Klumb has been working as the Woodford Office Support Assistant in Eureka for a few months, and is learning quickly.
- McLean has been approved to hire an additional SNAP-Ed Community Worker. This position is currently open to apply until Thursday, September 13. This office will be located at the Unity Community Center.

Civil Rights Compliance

- The audit in Unit 12 last year went very well. Our staff does a wonderful job promoting our programs to diverse audiences.
 - For example, the Livingston County Master Gardener Training was cancelled due to low attendance. This gave them an opportunity to offer this program online and for all three counties. They have registrants from different age ranges, working individuals and people who need financial assistance. There are currently nine signed up for the online course and they are excited to see some diversity emerge in this group.

Program Advisory Committees

- **TOPIC:**
Instead of breaking into groups for a discussion topic, Educators were asked to give a program update. They discussed their successes last year and their ideas for programming in the upcoming year, which started on September 1.
 - 4-H/Youth Development: Sarah Craft, Christivie Nzengo, Ed McKibbin, Jaycie Schertz, Emily Schirer, Dustin Smith, Ellaina Stadel
 - Agriculture & Natural Resources: Shirley Blackburn, Tom Creswell, RaeJean Kuntz
 - Family & Consumer Sciences: Hillary Aggertt, Sherri Schlatter, Blaine Troyer
- Ryan Hobson gave an Extension update:
 - Although we only got 50% match, it was more than we received in the past two years. Legislatures understand the issue with matching funds and are hopeful this will not happen in the future.
 - The Dean has had an Interim Extension Director appointed, but a national search for a permanent replacement will begin soon.
 - Governor Rauner had a press conference recently discussing the \$16 million in state funding. Some of it will go to the Department of Agriculture, some to the County Fair Associations, and \$5 million of these funds will be untargeted dollars directly for Extension use.
 - During a recent County Director meeting, Ryan had asked the directors what those funds should be used for on a state, regional and local level. Those suggestions have been sent to campus along with input from other regions.
 - Due to the economy, Extension has had trouble throughout the state keeping staff. Some have left for better opportunities, but many have left for higher salaries. This is not specific to Unit 12, but has been seen all over

the state. Ryan currently has four Academic Professional openings in his region; so much of his time recently has been consumed with employment searches.

- Ryan wanted to let Council know what a great staff Unit 12 currently has. This unit has the luxury of having seven educators, which is rare in the state. Not only are our unit Educators great, but our Program Coordinators and Office Support staff are vital to our programming and our community involvement. Ryan also thanked Bobbie who he said is a “great County Director.”
- Ryan was able to attend seven county fairs this year.
- Lastly, he thanked the Extension Council members, some of whom he noticed volunteered in multiple program areas. “Extension couldn’t do what we do without each and every one of you!”

Meeting Schedule

- FY19 Meeting Dates:
 - November 13, 2018 – Woodford County at Heartline Heart House
 - March 12, 2019 – McLean County Extension Office
 - May 14, 2019 – McLean County at Unity Community Center

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. on a motion by Dustin Smith. Motion was seconded by Sarah Craft and all agreed.

Respectfully submitted, Erin Estes – Recorder