



Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

Peoria County Extension Board
Minutes – August 11, 2020

The August 2020 Peoria County Extension Board meeting was called to order by Earl Allen, County Extension Director, at 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at the Peoria County Courthouse, Rm 402 in Peoria. Board members present were County Extension Director Earl Allen (face-to-face), and Peoria County Board members Brian Elsasser (face-to-face), Jimmy Dillon (via Zoom), and Andrew Rand (via Zoom). Others present included Peoria County Administrator Scott Sorrel (via Zoom).

Earl welcomed the participants and thanked everyone for attending.

The August 2019 minutes were reviewed. It was moved by Jimmy Dillon and seconded by Brian Elsasser to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

Earl presented and reviewed the draft **FY22 Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit Extension** budget containing the **FY21 Peoria County Board** levy request. The budget presented by Earl requested an FY21 levy amount of \$112,887 representing an equal amount to that requested last year. After a thorough fiscal discussion by the group emphasizing the strong unit reserve held by U of I Extension, and the difficult fiscal situation being faced by the Peoria County Board (stemming mainly from repercussions of the coronavirus and social unrest), several reduced levels of funding were proposed. Suggested funding levels included 0%, 50%, and 66%. Earl acknowledged that a cut was certainly reasonable but hoped to maintain at least some level of partial funding. He also expressed hoped that a consensus level could be reached.

A motion was made by Andrew Rand and seconded by Jimmy Dillon to defer the decision, and for Earl to meet with County Administrator Scott Sorrel to determine next steps. The motion carried.*

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Earl Allen, University of Illinois Extension County Director, Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit.

***Addendum to the minutes: Earl was informed by Scott Sorrel on September 14, 2020 that through the efforts of Jimmy Dillon and Scott Sorrel to negotiate a compromise, the Peoria County board is looking to fund the U of I Extension levy request at 50% of the FY2020 levels. Earl was supportive of this reduced level.**