



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**University of Illinois Extension
Bond, Clinton, Jefferson, Marion, and Washington Counties
Unit 23**

Multi-County Council Minutes
February 23, 2021; 11:30 am
@ Washington County Extension Office

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Sam Phillips at 11:35 a.m.

Roll Call:

Council members present included: Rebecca Niemerg, Galen Mahle, Dee DeMoss, Katie Albert, Elaine McNamara, Marcus Holland, Linda Summers; Natalie Wellen and Sam Phillips via Zoom. Staff in attendance Rhonda Mueller, Chris Lueking, Kara Boozer and Wyatt Miller.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2021:

A motion to approve the prior minutes was made by Marcus Holland, seconded by Elaine McNamara; motion carried.

Council Update:

Chris Lueking presented the update for Jordee. Chris introduced Kara Boozer and Wyatt Miller, Youth Educators. Both provided introductions of their backgrounds and plans of their new positions. Three support staff have also been filled in Bond, Clinton and Washington counties. Positions that currently open include SNAP ED Community Worker in Marion County, Family Consumer Science Coordinator and 4H Program Coordinator for Jefferson, Marion and Clinton counties. Jefferson County Office has moved to their new location. The new office combines the local county office and the regional office.

Chris Lueking also presented the SNAP Ed report for Ashley Hoffman. Construction of the Tiny Pantries are close to completion. 4H & Master Gardeners in Washington County has received a grant for raised beds. The Centralia Mobile Market in February was cancelled due to delivery problems. Washington County will hold a Food Fair on April 1, 2022, at the Washington County Fair Grounds. Galen is working diligently to secure a location for the May 20, 2022, Food Fair in Clinton county. The council discussed the continued need of volunteers to support the Mobile Market program.

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Chris presented regarding diversifying the programs. She attended a regional meeting at Pere Marquette regarding this issue. Programming on eucalyptus was held at Meyer's Greenhouse with 19 participants. Regional Southern Illinois Fruit and Vegetable school was held. This program is held to educate local orchards and had 25 participants. 4H is working with local libraries to bring garden planting programming and virtual programming on Illinois Magnolia trees. Bond county will have a Party Planting program at Evergreen Greenhouse. Mt. Vernon Housing Authority contacted Chris requesting a Community Garden at the Rose Lane complex.

Kara Boozer and Wyatt Miller reported on their training. They are working to plan a 4H Camp the first week of June in Carlyle. One of the goals of this camp is to expand the 4H units. They are also planning a Lifestyle conference for youth.

A Motion was made by Rebecca Niemerg to accept the updates by Chris Lueking with a second by Elaine McNamara.

Financial Update:

The Financial Report was presented to the council members with expenses and income. Rhonda informed the council that the state match and that 95% of allotments have been received. Annual community agreements have been sent. IDOA funding has been received and will be sent to 4H. Sam inquired about property tax payments. Rhonda informed that they are being received and that Marion County property tax payment usually is made in May.

A Motion was made by Galen Mahle to accept the financial report with a second by Linda Summers.

Old Business:

Chris reported that the Master Gardener program had seven registrations. The program requires ten registrants. The registrants included two people from Unit 22 and one from Chicago. This program will not take place due to the number of registrants. Plans are being made for the Master Naturalist program to take place over the summer. This program will be marketed to teachers as continuing education hours.

New Business:

Natalie informed the Council about the upcoming EFSP grant to Jefferson and Marion counties. Funds can be used for emergency food and shelter. This program has been utilized by the Council in the past for Mobile Markets. It was suggested that the grant could be used to rehab the Community Gardens.

Upcoming meeting will be held on April 27, 2022 (Jefferson County Office)

A Motion was made by Linda Summers with a second by Galen Mahle to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.