

DeWitt-Macon-Piatt County Extension Council
Minutes for February 19, 2024
6:00 pm at Macon, Piatt and DeWitt County Offices

6:02 pm - Call to Order – Cassie Crouch

Welcome and introductions-

Sonya Anthony	Present
Janet Boomer	Present
Brooks Brown	
Grace Clark	
Cassie Crouch	Present
Taylor Crouch	Present
Kathi Drozs	Present
Wayne Dunning	Present
Jerry Edwards	Present
April Gum	
Todd Henricks	
Merry Lanker	Present
Tayisha Nelson	Present
Mike Randall	
Cheryl Sample	Present
Sydnee Shafer	
Kaydance Wooten	

Ben Steele- staff	Present
Doug Gucker- staff	Present
Sarah Vogel- staff	Present
Caitlin Mellendorf- staff	Present
Jamie Boas- staff	
Alexa McCoy- staff	Present
Henry Craft- staff	Present

There were no public comments.

Members were invited to review minutes from November 2023. Wayne moved and Janet second to approve. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Since Jamie was not present, the group will talk about dissolving the bank account of AO Producers at the May meeting.

Personnel update- Dewitt County Office Support Specialist had 19 applicants - excellent numbers

using a variety of posting methods. Macon County 4-H hired two coordinators, Anay Hunt and Sophia Garriott in December. Sophia resigned 2/23 so that position is open and posted again. Two Macon Co SNAP-Ed Community workers are in the final stages of the hiring process and should start soon.

Other Business

The remodel of the Piatt County Office is finished. Some of the comments included it is a great design and use of space. Staff is currently looking to relocate the Dewitt County office.

Nutrition and Wellness educator, Caitlin Mellendorf, gave an update on the Deer Donation program. It has expanded to 16 counties and has delivered more than 11,000 pounds of meat to more than 50 food pantries. More meat may be delivered as processors finish remaining deer for the season. The program delivered in Macon Co, including NE Community Fund, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, and Niantic United Methodist.

Local foods and small farms educator, Doug Gucker, talked about 55 sec or less video clips that are being made and shared. He shared about the pawpaw plant, had a presentation on invasive insects and plant species and talked about the Plant Lab at U of I and how best to share the resource.

Adjournment - Motion Glen

2nd Taylor Crouch

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.

Next Extension Council Meeting: Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6pm (dinner at 5:15pm) at Piatt County office in Monticello

Submitted by Cassie Crouch, President