

Unit 26 Extension Council Meeting
March 18, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Randolph County Extension Office

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES – Need motion and second.

FINANCIAL REPORT- On the revenue side: Most of the agreements (local revenue) have been collected. Lynn is working on gathering the final payments from HCE and the Perry County Farm Bureau. The main reason for the large revenue gap is the lack of state match for FY19. With 4 months left to go before the end of the fiscal year, we will soon show a deficit due to lack of state match. For this year, we are once more afforded the opportunity to receive \$325,000 in Federal Smith Lever funds that will make up for the state match shortfall. In the coming years, it will be important to encourage County Boards to contribute more towards the maximum allowable levy (.05 mil) of the County's assessed value, and to continue touting Extension's value to the state legislature.

NEW BUSINESS

- Welcome and introductions
- County Director Update
 - HB 2264 – Changes the “Extension Law” wording relating to state match, formally referred to as “County Board Match”, from “may” to “shall”. This bill is currently sitting in appropriations committee and is waiting to be called to the floor. It has 8 co-sponsors. If this bill were to pass, it would put an end to our uncertainty surrounding state match.
 - Unit Budget – There are no significant changes for next year's budget, other than we are “reclaiming” an office in Perry County for a Marketing and Communication position. This will increase our rent, as well as add a salary to the Unit budget. This position will be housed in Perry County – a central location to better serve the unit. This is not a new position to the Unit, but it has been vacant since November, 2017.
 - Staffing – The search for the 4-H Educator position has ended and a candidate has verbally accepted the offer. While not yet official, the individual is set to begin work April 8. The council will have an opportunity to meet the new 4-H Educator during the Williamson County Extension Council meeting in May. Extra help summer staffing has been arranged to help with 4-H shows and agricultural/horticulture duties at Ewing

Demonstration Center and Jackson County Extension High Tunnel and grounds.

- Randolph County 4-H Update – Brandi Swisher
- “This is SNAP Education” – Hannah Sickmeyer, SNAP-Ed Community Worker and Unit 26 MPH Practicum Student
 - Food Pantry Efforts in Southern Illinois – Toni Kay Wright, Unit 26 SNAP Ed Educator

STAFF REPORTS

- Verbal Reports:
 - Unit 26 Educators
- Review Written Reports

FY19 MEETING SCHEDULE

May 20 at 6 p.m. in Williamson County

ADJOURNMENT