

**University of Illinois Extension – Bureau, La Salle, Marshall, and Putnam
Unit Council Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2018, 6:30 p.m.
Meeting held at IVCC, Room C316**

The March 27, 2018 meeting of the Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam Extension Unit Council was called to order by Chris Dvorak.

Attendance:

Council Members –

Monico Nunez, Steve Tuftie, Steve Wilson, Chris Dvorak, Laurie Delgado, Francis Morse, David Torres.

Staff present: County Director, Jill Guynn

Ag Program Coordinator: Daryle Wragge

Minutes for December 12, 2017:

- Francis Morse moved to accept minutes as written, second by Steve Tuftie, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Jill presented the In and Out Account Reports and Banner Reports. Jill explained the Banner reports and the use of Unit carry-over/emergency funds in place of the withheld State Matching Funds. The State Extension is providing temporary support to all Units across the state for core programming. The In and Out Account Reports were approved as presented.
Motion to approve by Steve Tuftie and second by Steve Wilson. Motion carried.

Organizational Reports

Finance:

- There is no change in the State Funding situation. We have not had State of Illinois matching funds since July of 2015. Due to the extended fiscal crisis, the State Extension Office is providing temporary funding to supplement the 27 Units located across the State so emergency funds are not depleted. Local donations must be maintained in order to cover program costs. We are using our carry-over funds to cover the gap from the lack of State Matching Funds. The staff have been operating in a conservative manner. Although open positions have not been filled, no staff have had reduced appointments or no lay-offs. Jill has been able to secure some temporary grant support as well. Marshall County Board cut Extension's funding for the FY18 budget year. Jill requested level funding of \$76,719. A cut of \$10, 019. was made by the board. Money was needed for their pension fund. The funding amount for FY18 is \$66,700. Our goal is to have the funding restored to the \$76,719. level.
- The Bureau County United Way Agency Fund Agreement was discussed. Motion to approve by Francis Morse and second by David Torres. Motion carried.

- The proposed FY19 budget was reviewed and discussed. Jill had met with each county group the previous week to go over individual budgets and answer questions. Those council members attending the county meetings were all in approval with the proposed budget. The upcoming meetings with the Bureau County and LaSalle County Boards were discussed. The funding is from the General Fund. The county budgets list the current funded amount for each county. Chris commended Jill on a job well done with limited funding. Steve Tuftie will contact the Chair of the LaSalle County Finance Committee and Jill will contact the Bureau county Board to schedule the upcoming presentation to the Fees and Salaries Committee. The proposed FY19 budget was approved as presented with a motion by Monico Nunez and second by Francis Morse. Motion carried.

Program:

The program reports that were mailed were highlighted. The Ag in the Classroom Report was provided by Julie Read. The Poverty Simulation will be held in October if there are not enough registered for May. Daryle Wragge, Ag Program Coordinator, reported on ag programs for 2018. He talked about the growth in the IVCC Ag Department in which Extension has been a key partner in developing. He works with producers, agri-businesses and ag serving agencies and the Farm Bureaus in each county. He also updated the council on the new University of Illinois Extension/ACES and IVCC Research and Demonstration Plot led by Russ Higgins, Extension commercial Ag Educator.

Outreach Efforts: (Reported by Jill Guynn)

- The 4-H Latino pilot programs were approved by the State 4-H Office for continuation on a regular basis. The State will pay for a two day per week position to extend 4-H to new audiences in our Unit. Jill has been trying to connect with DePue Schools to get the program set up.
- SNAP-Ed/Illinois Nutrition Education Programs continue to reach at-risk audiences. Staff continue to work with food pantries, WIC groups, and other targeted clientele groups. Two new Community Workers, who provide direct education, started in March. The state pilot community teaching kitchen is in the build-out stage with programming planned for summer.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Chris reviewed the council re-appointments and need for new appointments. New members are needed for each county. Nominating Committees will need to meet in May and have recommendations for the June 5th meeting for new members and approval for re-appointments to a second term. New members will start in September pending campus approvals. Those present and agreeing to continue on for a second term include: Steve Tuftie, Monico Nunez, Francis Morse, David Torres. Contact will be made with Hugo, Teri and Lynne regarding re-appointment.

2. Chris shared information regarding House Bill 5691 and asked for volunteers to work with him to help educate the representative and secure their support for Extension funding. The bill changes the wording from “may” to “shall”. Monico, Dave and Steve offered to assist. Chris will be in contact with those interested.
3. The LaSalle County Friends of Extension and 4-H fundraising group is holding a drive through BBQ on May 11. Tickets must be purchased in advance. The Bureau County Friends of Extension and 4-H are holding a spring fundraiser. Tickets can be purchased through the Extension Support Team members.
4. Council meeting dates were reviewed. The next full council meeting will be held on June 5, at 6:30 p.m. at IVCC.

Francis Morse moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Tuftie seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Delgado