



Extension

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

Multi-County Council Minutes

February 10, 2020; 6:30 pm; Kaskaskia College Agriculture Building, Room AEC103

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair, Bill Waggoner, at 6:32 p.m.

Roll Call:

Roll call was taken by Vice-Chair Waggoner. Council members present as indicated by an "X", members absent as indicated by no mark:

Bond Co.

Michelle Haller (Sec) Mike Claypool

Lilly (Liz) Trapp

Steve Newton

Katie Cayo

Clinton Co

Kelly Elias

Glen Hemker

Shelby Claypool (Youth Rep)

Jefferson Co.

Vanessa Newell

Cyndy Mitchell

Donte Moore

Marion Co.

Regina Donoho

Helen Leonhardt

Jason Timm

Bill Waggoner (Vice)

Washington Co.

Wayne Polczynski

Brent Schorfheide (Chair)

Carole Moeller

County Director

Jordee Justice

Welcome and Introductions of Guests:

Welcome by Jordee Justice, County Director, and an introduction of members and Rhonda Mueller (Unit 23, Office Support Assistant), with no guests present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 4, 2019:

A motion was made by Helen Leonhardt to approve the minutes as written. Glen Hemker seconded. Motion carried.

Extension Updates:

- Clinton County Office Support
 - Jordee informed that the Office Support Associate position in Clinton County was filled in January by Nora Buckingham who is also a Master Naturalist.
- Family and Consumer Science Educator
 - There will be a position opening, hopefully to be posted next month. There are currently only three Financial Wellness educators in Illinois with the furthest educator south being located in Champaign. This will be a good program and education opportunity for our southern counties.
- 4-H Educator
 - This position has not been filled and we will be needing two 4-H Educator positions filled this spring with the hopes of finding a teacher who is ready for a change or a new student beginning their career, as this position requires a Master's degree. There is the possibility of exploring this position as an internship opportunity for 2021.
 - It was stated by Vice-Chair Waggoner that the best time to post this position would be mid-February to early March as this is the opportune time to catch those looking, aiding in giving current teachers time to get their current classrooms in order and catching those students as they are going to be more actively looking at this timeframe.
- MiPI Disaster Preparedness Program

These minutes are respectfully written and submitted by Michelle L. Haller, Secretary

- There are currently 9 youth enrolled (1 from Jefferson County, 3 from Clinton County, 4 from Marion County, 1 from Bond County) with coordinators from Bond and Jefferson Counties leading. There is a high level of engagement and the youth are enjoying it. There have been various entities involved in the teachings such as the Jefferson County EMA, the Street Department, and more.
- Agreements
 - Jordee has been busy putting together an agreement which can be presented to local businesses and entities and will aid in reducing the amount of “knocking on doors” for donations for funds and prizes for the 4-H shows. There will also be a 65% (current rate) state match to these funds for those whom donate. They are not trying to take prizes away, just attempting to provide a better use of donations.
 - There will be different levels of recognition for these donors and will allow them to donate funds that can be used towards more programming and aid in growing those programs. This will also allow to be a better steward of our tax dollars.
 - These donations will stay within our unit and not be used across the state. They cannot specify donations shall be used towards a specific item, but those donations can be generalized towards 4-H programming. If they say they would like it to stay in a certain county, than it stays within the specified county. The account is housed at U of I, but the Unit will still have control over how the funds are used.
 - If someone donates an item, per Rhonda Mueller, they can be given a gift in kind receipt and a tax receipt may be given. It is not clear if the state will match those types of funds, but it is suspected they will not.
 - This is still a work in progress, especially with wording, and it was recommended to Jordee to e-mail updates Council Members for review as work progresses so advice can be given on how it will be responded to by their respective counties and/or any possible edits.
- 5 Goals for growing our Unit Extension
 - Increase Awareness of Extension throughout the communities
 - Re-establish the Extension Image and reputation as a resource
 - Especially with the millennial population as it seems to have become a forgotten resource
 - Demonstrate Extension Relevance
 - Grow Social Media Reach and Influence
 - Increase the Capstone programs, such as Master Gardeners and Master Naturalist
 - It was suggested to restructure the trainings into two or three hour trainings throughout the year versus a 9-4 format in a couple of months to aid in gaining more interest from others.
 - This is suspected to be a benefit for those teaching the webinars as their time can be used more efficiently towards programming and saving funds, as well as a benefit to those taking the webinar as they will be able to better attend the webinars as it will not completely fill a whole day in their schedule.
 - Move it to an evening or a weekend versus during the day to make it more viable to those who are working.
 - Considering a different cost, or way to provide a lower cost as many may not be able to afford the current cost.
 - Maybe offer the book as an e-book with still being able to purchase a hard copy?
 - Create more awareness to the MiPI program
 - Stabilize youth growth
 - Utilize the mobile markets
- Pesticide training was held at Clinton County and Jefferson County
- Back 2 School Bash
 - August 6, 2020
 - 24,000# of food donated to be passed out, hoping to have a health fair with it
 - Great for those going back to school, but also for those who are low income to be able to have access to those necessities.
- There will be a Civil Rights review in May. This is done every three years.

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- Food Challenge
 - Unit Wide and will be held at Kaskaskia College, June 1st – 4th from 9:00a – 12:00p
 - Those involved learn to how to use and prepare items in their pantry by using recipes given.
 - There will be two divisions, Senior and Junior, and open to ages 10 and older

Financial Update:

- The January FY20 financial report was presented.
 - There was a question on the negatives in the postage expense. It was stated they were credits from over – expensing postage to State 4-H and they credited the funds back which were dispersed evenly to each county.
 - Waggoner asked Rhonda if it would be possible to project financials for May 2021 to be presented at our next meeting so it can be seen where changes to the budget need to be made once the Smith-Lever is no longer being used. Rhonda stated she would put something together as it is a viable option to looking how to best move forward.
- After review, a motion was made by Lily Trapp to accept the January FY20 statement, Glen Hemker seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None to Report.

New Business:

None to Report

Upcoming Meetings:

May 11 at 6:30p to be held in the Agriculture Building at Kaskaskia College.

Announcements:

Crystal Ulmer (Bond County Community Worker/SNAP-Ed) and husband Brian welcomed a baby boy on February 5.

Adjournment:

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Kelly Elias. Seconded by Glen Hemker. Motion carried.