

**University of Illinois Extension Council Meeting – Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, and Stark Counties  
Tuesday, August 20, 2019, 6:00 p.m. at University of Illinois Extension, 358 Front Street, Galva IL.**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Tyler Barrington, Barb Chiles, Carsen Curry, Carlos Jimenez, Kyle McEwen, Jill Milroy, Bob Mueller, Ryan Murphy, Sugandhi Sivakumar, Dawn Temple, Tim Wells  
Others Present: Jenny Garner, Russell Medley, Jennifer Peterson, Martha Smith, Tayler Wheatley

**Public Comments:** Not Applicable.

**Previous Minutes:**

- The minutes of the last meeting on April 16, 2019 were approved as read on a motion by Tim Wells and a seconded by Carlos Jimenez. Motion carried.

**Fiscal Reports:**

- The Unit 7 Trust and Self Support accounts were reviewed for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.
- With the exception of 4-H premium checks, FY19 funding from the State of Illinois has yet to arrive at the Extension Business Office in Champaign-Urbana.
- Additions and deletions to bank signatories for Henry/Stark, Mercer, and Rock Island in-and-out accounts were discussed. A motion to approve the following additions and deletions was made by Bob Mueller and seconded by Kyle McEwen. Motion carried.
  - Henry/Stark – add Jill Milroy and Bob Mueller
  - Mercer – no changes
  - Rock Island - delete Diane Baker and Loredia Dixon; add Dawn Temple

**New Council Members:**

- New Council members were welcomed to Extension Unit 7 including Tyler Barrington, Carsen Curry, Claire Lilius, Jill Milroy, Bob Mueller, Ryan Murphy, and Dawn Temple.

**Council Report:**

- Tyler Barrington talked about his experience at Ag Careers Camps on June 1 that where youth learned about agriculture career opportunities in crop insurance, veterinary, agriculture education, farm credit, and agronomy.
- Tyler Barrington participating in Honorary Page for a Day with Senator Chuck Weaver and Representation Dan Swanson on April 10 in Springfield at the Capitol. Mr. Barrington along with Jack Jungmann were introduced on the House floor, participated in meetings with Senator Weaver’s constituents, and toured the Senate floor.
- Tim Wells reported Governor J.B. Pritzker sign HB2264 that amends the language from “may” to “shall” for Extension funding into law on Friday, August 16, 2019. Mr. Wells also is working with Steve Wald, Extension Government Affairs, to have Mike Frerichs, Illinois Treasurer, to attend the October meeting of the Extension State Advisory Council (ESAC). Extension Unit 7 Council members are invited to share provide him with information to share at the October ESAC meeting.

- Kyle McEwen said Mercer County Better Together is working on their strategic plan and has been able to contacting state legislators and agencies on Mercer County needs. Russell Medley facilitated establishment of Better Together.
- Kyle McEwen shared his experience at Midwest Community Development Institute the second week of August. Jenny Garner and Russell Medley both provided training at this four-day event. Mr. McEwen encouraged Council members to participate next year.
- Dawn Temple reported she is working with Haley Haverback on upcoming nutrient loss reduction workshops in Reynolds and Whiteside on structural practices in field management.
- As a public body, all Council members are required to complete the Open Meetings Act training and provide certification of completion to the unit office. The training needs to be completed only once. [http://foia.ilattorneygeneral.net/electronic\\_foia\\_training.aspx](http://foia.ilattorneygeneral.net/electronic_foia_training.aspx)
- Unit 7 offices will be closed in during fiscal year 2019-2020 as follows:
  - Aledo Office closed on August 27, 2019 and Viola Office reopens on September 3, 2019
  - November 28-29, 2019 for Thanksgiving Holiday
  - December 13, 2019 for Staff Professional Development
  - December 24, 2019 through January 1, 2020 for Winter Holiday
  - May 15, 2020 for Staff Retreat
  - Additional closures: MLK Holiday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day 2020
- The 2019 University of Illinois Extension Equal Opportunity in Employment Plan was distributed for review.

#### **Staff Reports:**

- Barb Chiles advised council members review the staff handout to learn about recent and upcoming programming the unit.
- Martha Smith reported that Unit 7 is working with Trees Forever on a tree inventory in Aledo on September 21 in response to the oak rot at the country club.
- Russell Medley and Jenny Garner are on the Statewide Disaster Preparedness Team to address Extension response to natural disasters.
- Tayler Wheatley has been working with area agencies on food access.
- Jennifer Peterson reported a successful completion of four county fairs and youth showing at the State Fair.

#### **Announcements:**

- The Mercer County Extension Office is moving from Aledo to Viola the week of August 26. The new location doubles available space with an additional 100 square feet on the first floor and 1,428 square feet of basement storage bringing total square footage to 2,856. A ribbon cutting and open house is scheduled for October 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Senator Chuck Weaver, Representative Dan Swanson, Village Mayor Kirk Doonan, and Extension Region 2 Director Ryan Hobson are providing remarks. The Quad Cities and Viola Chambers of Commerce will conduct the ribbon cutting.
- United States Congresswoman Cheri Bustos visited Extension Unit 7 on August 15 to meet with Extension educators on her Green Industry Initiative Agriculture and CED Educators provided information on and our agricultural and environmental programs as it relates to Ms. Bustos initiative and impacts on agriculture partners, farmers, landowners and businesses.

- Hiring the SNAP-Ed community worker and 4-H program coordinator positions are delayed.

**New Business:**

- New officers for Extension Unit 7 Advisory Council were elected. A motion to approve Tim Wells as financial recorder was made by Jill Milroy and seconded by Tyler Barrington. Motion carried. A motion to approve Carsen Curry as secretary was made by Kyle McEwen and seconded by Tim Wells. Motion carried.
- Council members were elected to sit on the Extension Unit 7 Board for annual budget review. A motion to approve Barb Chiles to represent Mercer County was made by Tyler Barrington and seconded by Tim Wells. Motion carried. A motion to approve Jill Milroy was made by Bob Mueller and seconded by Dawn Temple. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Bob Mueller and seconded by Tim Wells that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jenny Garner