



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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

Multi-County Council Minutes
December 1, 2021; 11:30 am
@ Bond County Extension Office

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Sam Phillips at 11:35 a.m.

Roll Call:

Council members present included: Rebecca Niemerg, Galen Mahle, Dee DeMoss, Katie Albert, Stephen Newton, Elaine McNamara, Marcus Holland, Jordee Koehler, along with Natalie Wellen and Sam Phillips via Zoom. Educators in attendance Rhonda Chris Lueking and Ashley Hoffman

Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 29, 2021

A motion to approve the prior minutes was made by Galen Mahle, seconded by Dee DeMoss; motion carried.

Council Orientation:

Jordee, informed the council that 2 new educators Kara Boozer and Wyatt Miller. Wyatt will begin his position January 16, 2021, covering Bond, Clinton and Washington counties for 4-H. Carol will cover Marion and Jefferson counties for 4-H. Both will do Youth Development across all 5 counties. In January and February hiring will begin for 4-H coordinators for Jefferson, Clinton and Marion counties. Kara will soon be on maternity leave, as Educators should be present for the hiring of Coordinators hiring for those positions will take place once Kara returns. Coordinators may be hired by March. Bond, Clinton and Washington Support Staff postings have closed. Interviews will be scheduled before Christmas. Another position to be filled is the SNAP ED Community Worker. More information will be shared in the near future. A Consumer Economics Education position is available and may be filled by the Spring. Jefferson County Office is moving to their new location. The new office combines the local county office and the regional office.

Ashley Hoffman, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Educator gave a report on the SNAP Ed program. Team has been working diligently working with the twenty-one classes. Twenty-three adult programs are currently operating, included in that number are nine food pantries. Snap Ed services was also provided at gardening events in Salem, Mt. Vernon and Pocahontas. Forty-five Mobile Markets have been held with an increase in

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

University of Illinois* U.S. Department of Agriculture* Local Extension Councils Cooperating
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

participation and need over the last 4 months. Little Free Food Pantries is a new partnership with United Way of South Central Illinois through a grant with No Kid Hungry. These pantries are currently being constructed and will be stocked by 4-H. Another project is upcoming with SSM to provide community raised gardens at the Mt. Vernon and Centralia campuses. A food fair will be taking place on Clinton County.

Sam signed off via zoom and Dee facilitated the remainder of the meeting.

Discussion continued on locations to hold Clinton County food fair. Chris Lueking, the Ag & Natural Resource Educator gave a presentation on the items that the Ag & Natural Resource Team address community outreach with community partners. Master gardener education has begun. Jordee, gave a presentation on fresh produce to help with food access. Jordee also continued discussion on revamping the master gardener program. The council had much discussion with suggestions including change of class time, tuition reimbursement or waivers potting parties to entice people to the program and grants that could possibly help the program.

Jordee informed that there are no other updates on 4-H. Council discussed additional activities partnering with other community members.

Financial Update:

The October 2021 Financial Report was presented to the council members with expenses and income. Jordee informed the council that salaries will increase, and travel expenses will continue. Funds was received from Bond County. State match that was received is for a prior fiscal year. Review by Jordee on partnerships and agreements. Support from SSM and United Way is not reflected in the financials. Questions was presented by council on possible match monies from SSM and United Way support. Jordee will review and report back.

A Motion was made by Katy Albert to accept the finical report with a second by Stephen Newton.

Old Business:

Jordee continues to struggle with obtaining additional Clinton County council members. Suggestions was made by the council on possible community members.

A Motion was made by Rebecca Niemerg to accept the old business with a second by Galen Mahle.

New Business:

Jordee informed council about speaking engagements to inform the public of their programing. Council gave recommendations on possible meetings to attend.

Upcoming meeting will be held on February 23, 2022 (Washington County Office)

A Motion was made by Elaine McNamara with a second by Katy Albert to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.