



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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

Multi-County Council Minutes
September 29, 2021; 11:30 am
@ Marion County Extension Office

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Sam Phillips at 11:34 a.m.

Roll Call:

Council members present included: Rebecca Niemerg, Galen Mahle, Dee DeMoss, Katie Albert, Stephen Newton, Herb Williams, Sam Phillips, Elaine McNamara, Natalie Wellen along with Linda Summers and Carole Moeller via Zoom.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 10, 2021

A motion to approve was made by Katie Albert, seconded by Stephen Newton; motion carried.

Council Orientation:

Jordee Koehler, County Director for Unit 23 gave an orientation to the group on what it means to be a council representative. The mission of Extension is to extend knowledge and change lives. The Unit is currently staffed with 1 county director, 2 educators (ANR and Snap Education), 5 program coordinators (4-H, Ag & Natural Resource, and Marketing), 4 community workers (Snap Ed), 3 office support and occasional extra help along with 195 active volunteers. The unit has some open positions at the current time. She explained the five grand challenge areas that Extension concentrates on: Food, Health, Community, Environment and Economy. Jordee relies on the council to suggest things for the unit to work on in these areas in the local communities. The Unit provides programming in three areas – Ag & Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Chris Lueking, the Ag & Natural Resource Educator gave a presentation on the items that the Ag & Natural Resource Team address. Jordee Koehler, gave a presentation on the 4-H/Youth program. Ashley Hoffman, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Educator gave a report on the SNAP Ed program.

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

The purpose of the Extension Council is to be actively involved in the operation of University of Illinois Extension.

The Role of the Extension Council is:

- Advisory Body
- Work with Extension Staff
- Secure financial resources
- Recruiting Volunteers
- Serve as liaison between the public and Extension

The size of the council shall be no fewer than 15 members and no more of 20 members. The terms are limited to 2-year terms running September 1 – August 31. There is a max of 2 – 2-year terms but members can take one year off and then can be reappointed. The Council membership needs to be diverse. The Council Leadership positions are: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. All leadership position terms are for one year.

The Council meetings will follow parliamentary procedures and a quorum needs to be met in order to be able to vote or pass motions.

All Council Members need to complete the Open Meetings Act Training which can be completed on-line. Jordee will send out the information on the training.

Council members should be receiving the Monthly and Quarterly updates on what is occurring with Unit 23.

Currently there is a need for more representatives from Clinton County. Council members should submit suggestions to Jordee.

Extension Updates:

Jordee gave her County Director update. The unit will be doing a lot of hiring in the future. The unit is currently advertising for two 4-H youth educators. The positions close on September 30. After these positions have been filled then the unit will replace the open 4-H EPC positions (Clinton and Jefferson). Soon the unit will be advertising for the open office support positions (Bond – 60% position, Clinton – 100% position and a second Office Support in Washington County – 100%). It is hoped that the office support positions will be filled early January. These positions are flexible as the employee will be expected to cover different offices as needed.

Jordee informed the council that the Mt. Vernon Office will be moving locations in December. The Jefferson County Office and the Region 3 Office will be merging. The anticipated move date is December 1.

A motion by Rebecca Niermerg, as seconded by Elaine McNamara to approve Jordee's report. Motion carried.

Financial Update:

The August 2021 Financial Report was presented to the council members. It was noted that the recent Extension Board meetings have been completed and percentages of increase or decrease are: Bond (2.8%); Clinton +1.5%; Jefferson +4%; Marion +4% and Washington +3%. A motion to approve the report was made by Stephen Newton, seconded by Herb Williams. Motion carried.

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Old Business:

There was no old business to be discussed.

New Business:

Bank Signatory Approval - A motion by Katie Albert, with a second by Galen Mahle to have the new bank signatories be Ashley Hoffman, Chris Lueking and Jordee Koehler for the Washington County In/Out Account. Motion carried.

Election of Officers:

Chair – Sam Phillips - a nomination by Herb Williams with a second by Stephen Newton . A Motion by Katie Albert with a second by Stephen Newton to close nominations. A motion by Katie Albert and a second by Stephen Newton to elect Sam Phillips as Chair. Motion carried.

Vice Chair – Dee DeMoss by self-nomination. A motion was made by Elaine McNamara with a second by Galen Mahle to close nominations. A motion was made by Herb Williams with a second by Galen Mahle to elect Dee DeMoss as the Vice Chair. Motion carried.

Secretary – Natalie Wellen by self-nomination. A motion was made by Dee DeMoss with a second by Galen Mahle to close nominations. A motion was made by Galen Mahle with a second by Katie Albert to elect Natalie Wellen as secretary. Motion carried.

Upcoming meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 (Bond County Office), February 23, 2022 (Nashville County Office), and April 27, 2022 (Jefferson County Office), all being held from 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Jordee will send the addresses for all of the offices to the members.

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