

CLINTON COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL MEETING

Clinton County Extension Office, DeWitt

Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 – 7:00 pm

Minutes

1. Roll Call = Time: 7:02

Key: P = Present, O = Online/Virtual, A = Absent

Council: Jessie Jacobi: P, Paul Beeck: P, Barb Boeckmann: A, Karen Friis: A, Marlin McCormick: A, Gayle Powell: P, Brian Schmidt: P Dan Smicker: P (5 Council Members Present)

Staff: Sam Genson: P, Jeff Macomber: P, Amanda Rau: P, Cris Vetter: P **Guests:** none

2. Consent Agenda: MOTION by ___Dan___ 2nd by Brian to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Dan 2nd by Brian to Item F amend the agenda to add Item F to change Cris to 20-30 hours per week instead of 40 hrs per wk. Motion by Dan 2nd by Brian. Motion passed.

The following are considered to be routine and will be enacted by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion about these items unless requested by a Council member. The item will then be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed in an appropriate place on the agenda below.

- a. Approval of Agenda
- b. Minutes from last month's regular meeting
- c. Financial Reports:
 - i. Balance Sheet
 - ii. Bank Statement
 - iii. Outstanding Checks
 - iv. Voucher Report
 1. Visa Bill – Detailed Report
 - v. Revenue & Expense Summary
 - vi. Revenue & Expense Detail
- d. Approval of Volunteers

3. Public Comments: *None.*

4. Committee Reports and Action Items:

- a. Facility – Will meet prior to Council in OCTOBER, DECEMBER
Sam reported that the electric rates will increase by 11 % in 2024. In October of 2025 the rates will increase an additional 9 % for a total of 20%.
The facility committee also reported that public spaces of the Extension Office are in need of new carpet. This will be voted on in November. A quote from Jim Hill was also obtained for painting walls in public spaces, no trim. They are also contemplating replacing the counters in the large conference room.
- b. Finance – NOVEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY
- c. Personnel – DECEMBER (not before a Council meeting)
- d. Programming, Public Relations, & Marketing – MARCH

5. Program/Staff Reports:

- a. Regional Director – Jeff Macomber
Jeff asked if anyone participated in the ISU Strategic Idea Workshops. Gayle Powell participated in the zoom workshop on Oct 18th. Jeff reported that staff participated on the workshop on the 29th. He reported that

feedback on draft is open for a bit longer. Fiscal Year 2025 worksheet is about ready: Double checking formulas are working properly.

- b. County Director – Sam Genson
Sam will be on Radio KROS the 1st and 3rd Friday at 9 AM. It can be uploaded to a podcast.
It is good to have everyone back in the office.
- c. CYC – Amanda Rau
Amanda had leadership training on Tuesday evening with 18 of 30 leaders in attendance. There were also a large number of record books that have been turned into the office.

In reviewing Fair comments, there was positive feedback of lots of good communication coming from the office and staff. The process was streamlined, which resulted in better communication interactions with staff. Fair can be challenging and stressful. Amanda asked about the need for leaving the fair early needs to be addressed. There were 2 families at left fair early this year.

- d. ANR Program Coordinator – Cris Vetter:
Cris has kicked off commercial pesticide training with Samantha. Cris is waiting to hear from Virgil for private commercial pesticide training.

6. New Business

- a. Additional names for open Extension Council Position are needed as Dan Burke turned down our request to fill the vacancy. After further discussion, the following names were suggested 1) Shelby Burke 2) Matthew Burke 3) Ann Eisenman. Their term would go until Dec 31, 2024 and then would need to be re-elected. Sam will follow up with contact.
- b. Discussion at the leadership meeting last night included the participation/attendance policy for 4-H members in relation to showing at the county fair. Leaders were concerned that some members may just come to the fair and not attend meetings. Do we have numbers or evidence to indicate that this is already happening? Comments and questions asked include are we having quality 4H meetings? Do members know when the meetings are held? Will we lose kids if we have a rule? How will a rule be policed? Are we involving members in the planning process? Most 4H Clubs have 8 or more meetings per year. May 15th would be the last day to enroll for fair. Many clubs have a fair meeting in June, but no meetings in July or August.

Logistically how could we make this work for everyone? Could each club have a rule stating that members participate in so many meeting or activities. How can we look at this in a constructive approach.

FFA rules are that the student needs to be enrolled in AG for 1 semester and that the student's dues are paid. The amount of effort that the student puts into it is what the student gets out of it.

The Council determined that this topic will remained Tabled at this time.

- c. Approve issuing premium checks to Lindquists (reverse decision from August)
MOTION by___Dan_____ 2nd by__Brian_____
VOTE: Yes_5_ No__
- d. Approve 2024 Fair MOU
MOTION by___Brian_____ 2nd by___Paul_____
VOTE: Yes_5_ No__

e. Approve changes to livestock sections of the 2024 Fair Book
MOTION by ___ Brian _____ 2nd by ___ Gayle _____
VOTE: Yes_5_ No__

f. Approve adjusting Ag and Natural Resources Program Coordinator to 25 hours a week
MOTION by ___ Brian _____ 2nd by ___ Gayle _____
VOTE: Yes_5_ No__

7. Group Reports:

- a. Master Gardener – Gayle Powell reported that the year is coming to a close. A committee is working with the UCC Church in DeWitt to plan their landscaping on the north side of the church as well as helping to label their pollinator garden in the spring. Preparations for the December annual meeting at Buzzy’s are in progress.
- b. 4-H Foundation – Marlin McCormick is the new representative on the 4H Foundation. He will not have voting capabilities.

8. Future Meetings:

- a. **Regular Business Meeting:** Wednesday, November 15th, 2023

9. **Adjourn:** **MOTION** by _Dan___ 2nd by __Paul___