

**LINN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2019  
@LINN COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE**

Vice Chairperson David McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Council members present were Dan Abel, Leland Freie, Dennis Jordan, David McDonald, Patty Webster. Absent were Al Beach and Claire Smith. Guest were County Director RaeAnn Gordon, Regional Director Jim Harken, Human Sciences Specialist Danielle Day, Human Sciences Specialist Phyllis Zalenski.

David called for public comment. Danielle Day, Human Sciences Specialist, Family Life Specialist gave council a description of her job duties, she has taken over Kristi Coopers position. Phyllis Zalenski, Human Sciences Specialist, Family Finance gave description of her job duties.

RaeAnn reviewed the Council packet.

David called for approval of the August Minutes. Dan moved with Dennis seconding a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 12, 2019. The motion passed.

Jim's REED report updated the Council regarding Structures for Success. John Lawrence will be having 5 online discussions. Dennis question the number of councils really needed. David discussed which counties to combine and how we can manage it to our advantage and recognize the disadvantages. Deadline is October 21, 2019.

RaeAnn in her Director's report noted that the yearly county audit is done and reviewed by Eide Bailey auditor. RaeAnn will attend the One Iowa - Workplace Culture Conference to provide a keynote with ISU Diversity and Inclusion staff regarding practices in developing a safe work place. National 4-H week is October 6-12 and the theme is "Inspire Kids to Do." Thank a Farmer Campaign is being kicked off soon – seeking donations to support local farmers during harvest. A \$500 grant was received from ICASH to support. Dennis suggested a more regional approach next year. RaeAnn also discussed developing partnerships within the community, specifically with YPN regarding the delivery of Juntos programming.

Mike detailed the Treasurer's reports, inclusive of August. David requested a motion to approve the report. Mike moved, with Dennis seconding a motion to approve the August Balance sheets. August revenue and expenses, bank reconciliation report and payment of checks #24689-24713.

David called for a motion for approval of new 4-H volunteers. Mike so moved with Patty seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Ag Advisory Meeting was held on August 23, 2019, top concerns were, Ag cover crops, women in ag and water quality.

Discussion regarding the "Thank a Farmer – Fill Their Bucket Campaign. Five-gallon buckets filled with donate items to give away to Linn County farmers. We have received a \$500 grant to get started. Volunteer involvement will be needed to distribute the buckets. Dennis suggested a state wide or at least a regional campaign in the future. Distribution is a random gifting through Co-ops.

RaeAnn was contacted by Premier Investments regarding the purchasing of the electronic sign on C street. The cost to purchase the sign would be \$37,000.00, the council voted unanimously not to purchase the sign.

The Personnel Committee Chair has reached out to a community member to provide Active Shooter Training for staff.

The Facilities Committee request more storage shelves to be purchase for downstairs store room. Also, the landlord replaced the air conditioner unit that cools the large conference room.

Leland moved the meeting adjourn. Patty seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_, Stand in Secretary  
Pat Harstad