

## MINUTES

### University of Illinois Extension Council Meeting – Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, and Stark Counties Tuesday, April 25, 2023, via Zoom.

#### **Roll Call:**

Present: Catherine Bass, John Bowser, Barb Chiles, Logan Goerks, Megan Gray, Spencer Griffin, Emily Herricks, Janet Hill, Tara Mayhew, Jill Milroy, Bob Mueller, Nicholas Shillington

Others Present: Jenny Garner, Jessica Grissom, Russell Medley, Rachel Curry

**Public Comments:** Not Applicable.

#### **Previous Minutes:**

- The minutes of the last meeting on October 18, 2022, were approved as read on a motion by Barb Chiles and seconded by John Bowser. Motion Carried.

#### **Fiscal Report:**

- The Unit 7 Trust and Self-Supporting accounts ending March 31, 2022, were provided for review. Allowable expenses are currently coming out of the unit's Smith Lever federal allocation.
- Balances of the Henry/Stark, Mercer, and Rock Island in-and-out accounts (checking) were provided to the Council.

#### **Council Report:**

- Bob Mueller reported that the Century 4-H Club was very helpful in stuffing Easter eggs for the Toulon Lions.
- John Bowser reported mission partners are engaged in implementing food boxes in Kewanee for anyone in need. The local garden at the hospital is used to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to patients.

#### **Staff Programming Information:**

- Bob Mueller invited the Council to review staff reports that covers the broad spectrum of working being done by Extension unit staff.
- Rachel Curry reported on results of the Soil Health workshop for farmers that was held a Raelyn's in Geneseo. It was a sold-out event with participants actively engaging with University speakers.
- Russell Medley discussed the (Community Organizations Active in Disasters) COAD has been especially busy with the recent wind storms / tornadoes and the current flooding situation along the Mississippi River and contributing bodies of water.

#### **Concurrence of In-and-Out Accounts**

Concurrence of the audit committee's review and acceptance of the Henry/Stark, Mercer, and Rock Island in-and-out accounts was approved on a consent motion made by John Bowers and seconded by Barb Chiles. Motion carried.

#### **Extension Board Appointments**

The appointment to the Extension Unit 7 Board of Spencer Griffin representing Mercer County and Janet Hill representing Rock Island County was made by Jill Milroy and seconded by John Bowser.

### **Recruitment of New Council Members**

Adults council members are needed for the upcoming 2023-2024 Advisory Council year from Henry, Mercer, and Stark counties. Youth members are needed from Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island counties. The current Council was encouraged to recruit new members and provide information to Jenny Garner.

### **Council Meeting Schedule 2023-2024**

Discussion was held to make an adjustment to the Council meeting schedule that involves having the August 22 meeting in-person at Woodhull Town Hall with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The Council will be reviewing the community needs assessment conducted in 2022. The remaining meetings – October 17, February 20, and April 16 – would be held via Zoom with a 15-minute educational session.

### **Outgoing Council Members**

Jenny Garner thanked John Bowser, Megan Gray, Emily Herricks, and Nicholas Shillington for their service.

### **Announcements:**

- Kristen VanDeVelde was recently hired as a new Henry/Stark youth development program coordinator; she will be located at the Galva office. The unit will be replacing the open office support assistant position she vacated at the Milan office.
- The State 4-H Office has provided funding for a metro youth development educator. Funds will be split 50 / 50 between the unit's two development educators – Jennifer Peterson and the incoming position.
- Staffing for the summer includes two SNAP-Ed extra help positions to support cooking school efforts and a Community and Economic Development (CED) extra help position to work on CED and marketing projects.
- A graduate student from the Department of Urban Planning will be working with Russell Medley in the fall 2023 / spring 2024 to complete housing studies for Henry, Mercer, and Stark counties.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by John Bowser and seconded by Barb Chiles that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Milroy

