

# **Rutherford County Agricultural Committee Minutes**

**October 21, 2014**

**Members Present:** Will Jordan, Anthony Scales, Francille Whitworth, Joe Frank Jernigan

**Staff Present:** Rebekah Norman, Michael Shirley, Melissa Reid, Anthony Tuggle

The meeting was called to order at 5:15pm by Will Jordan

Anthony Scales moved to approve the minutes from August 19, 2014 as submitted and second by Joe Frank Jernigan; the motion passed.

## **New Business**

There are 29 applicants to interview for the FCS position, they will be filtered and interviews will take place on November 7, 2014. The Ag Committee will interview at the next Ag Committee meeting, November 18, 2014.

Went over long and short term goals to fill the full-time administrator support's position with part-time positions, a county savings of 25,473.17 a year (attached). Requested approval for short term goal—To transfer \$19,000 from Line #161 (secretary) to Line #169 (part-time) to fill a part-time receptionist and part-time program assistant December 2014.

Joe Frank Jernigan moved to approve short term goal and second by Francille Whitworth...all approved; the motion passed.

Expiring Appointments (December 31, 2014) for Ag Committee members include: Anthony Scales, Delia Goodman, and Joe Frank Jernigan. All are eligible to reapply.

## **Staff Updates**

Staff updates by Misty Layne Watkins (given by Anthony Tuggle), Rebekah Norman and Michael Shirley are enclosed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectively submitted,

Melissa Reid

## **Change Full Time Admin. Support to Part-time Admin Support Position**

Full Time Admin Support – Total Current Costs		<b>\$64,173.17</b>
25 hour/week Admin Support @ \$10.75 for 52 weeks	\$12,900	
25 hour/week Program Assistant @ \$10.75 for 52 weeks	\$12,900	
25 hour/week Market/Grounds @ \$10.75for 52 weeks	<u>\$12,900</u>	
Total Cost	\$38,700	
County Savings		<b>\$25,473.17</b>

### **December 2014 Plan**

Hire a 25 hour/week Admin Support @ \$10.75 for 7months	\$7,525
Hire a 25 hour/week Program Assistant @ \$10.75 for 7 months	\$7,525
Benefits (SS, Medicare, Disability) for Both Positions	<u>\$3,68.88</u>
	\$18,118.88
Transfer \$19,000 from Line # 161 – Secretary to Line# 169 Part-Time	

## **FCS Update by Misty Layne-Watkins**

- 10 participants completed Living Well with Chronic Condition Workshop at St. Clair Senior Center.
- 16 individuals are currently attending Take Charge of Your Diabetes Workshop at St. Clair's Senior Center
- Appointed to the Rutherford County Wellness Council
- Taught a Budgeting Class to foster care parents at Camelot Cares
- Taught a Stretching your Food Dollars lesson to 15 head start parents
- Attended a CYFAR Check and Connect grant in Minnesota. The grant will work with Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation. We will hire a program assistant to mentor students to prevent from dropping out of school
- 17 people attended the FCS/EFNEP Advisory Meeting. Programs that focus on nutrition and budgeting were seen as a need in the community
- Set up Emergency Preparedness Display at the Rutherford County Wellness Fair. Got really good feedback. 11 out of 66 people had a kit prepared
- Taught a Stocking Your Pantry for Healthy Meals at the Wellness Fair for 5 participants
- Set up Germ City at the Healthy Me, Healthy You Fair at Discovery Center
- Partnering with United Health Care to plan/promote a Diabetes Wellness Fair at the office November 19 for National Diabetes month
- Janie and I will be having a fundraiser to benefit Read to succeed and United Way. October 24 and October 31 at the Farmers' Market.

## **October 21, 2014 Ag Committee Report for Ag.**

Held the following classes:

Pasture/Grazing Workshop-June 30 and July 1—The first night being classroom instruction and the second night on-farm pasture walk.

Unlocking Hay Test Results – After holding first class here in Rutherford County, the concept spread. The class has now been held in Coffee, Jackson, and Putnam counties. Pickett and Dekalb counties are on the list.

A pasture management workshop for Tennessee Alpaca Association.

Advanced Master Beef Producer Training at MTSU for producers and/or Vo-Ag Teachers.

Hay Workshop – spent about 2 weeks on farms weighing and testing hay. Then had a follow up workshop concerning what we had learned.

Fall Pasture Walk at Charlie Denton's farm (in cooperation with NRCS) – had a BIG crowd and used several demonstrations to illustrate important concepts.

Classes were held at the Farmers Market, at their free 9am RCFM Class.

Taught Master Gardener classes in Maury and Wilson Counties

TSU Third Tuesday presentation in September.

Made Two Beef and Forage Center Videos – How to take a hay test and how to interpret a hay test.

Future plans- going to try to offer both Master Beef and Advanced Master Beef simultaneously in 2015.

Heart of Tennessee Goat Show – 62 exhibitors and 275 head ... biggest show to date.

Assisted the United Steelworkers in LaVergne with landscaping project.

## **AG Committee report for 4-H (October 21, 2014)**

- **School Clubs**-The 4-H staff is currently meeting 152 in school clubs in Rutherford County following the Common Core standards and 4-H curriculum
- **On My Own(Financial Education)**- Three of the 4-H agents will be working with Siegel High School and the Chamber of Commerce to teach a one day financial education event for the whole junior class of 400 students. This will prepare students for the workforce. Agents Amy Willis and Walter Dirl are also teaching the financial education at the Juvenile Detention Center, Holloway High School, and Riverdale High School just to name a few
- **Science Enrichment**- Amy Willis will be teaching science classes to Rock Springs Middle School. For example, this month's lesson was how to analyze pond water, more science lessons to come
- Three of our agents will be attending the **National Association of 4-H Agents meeting** in Minneapolis, MN next week. We have 3 national winners that will be presented plaques at the national meeting: Amy Willis and Michael Shirley won a Distinguished Service Award and Walter Dirl won an Achievement in Service Award
- We recently had our **4-H Open House** where parents can register their kids up for 4-H after school groups. We had 518 people attend our registration! Every single youth that night was able to sign up for at least one 4-H after school activity. We still have 40 kids on the waiting list for shooting sports at this time we are hoping to make room for.
- **Homeschool club**- Our 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade 4-H home school club met and we have 23 enrolled at this time. We plan to work on Parliamentary Procedure, Leadership and some Science. We are trying to increase our Senior High participation and am pleased to say we have 9 Senior high members.
- **4-H Dog group**- A 4-H dog obedience training class is just finishing a six week course under the supervision of the Murfreesboro Obedience Training Club and we hope to offer another class in 2015.
- *Sheep team*

Submitted by 4-H Agent, Raquel Victor (10-21-14)