

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The Saline County Extension Board met on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 5:00 PM. Present were Michele Renner, Kellen Novak, Austin Nicholson, Gary Baxa, LuAnn Jackson, Theresa Vernon, and Phil Hardenburger. Staff present were Nathan Mueller, Ingrid Lindal, Jason Tuller (via ZOOM), Eric Stehlik, Becky Vales, and Melanie Kunc.

President Kellen Novak called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM. Roll call was taken. Theresa Vernon made a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes from the January 26, 2022, meeting. LuAnn Jackson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Treasurer's Report – Melanie Kunc shared the financial report for February, 2022. The total money spent for February, 2022, was \$14,085.54. Gary Baxa made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Austin Nicholson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Program Area Reports:

Rural Prosperity Nebraska Program – Jason Tuller (via ZOOM) shared information about the work he has been doing with communities in the 10 counties he covers. He is working on a grant for cooperative rural grocery store transitions along with other programs.

Water & Integrated Cropping Systems – Nathan Mueller shared that 24 programs have been held from January to March, 2022. He also said that the number of calls with crop questions were starting to increase. Many of the questions are about wheat and alfalfa. Programs held so far have gone well. Nathan Mueller and Gary Baxa attended the NACEB meeting in Lincoln on February 9, 2022.

Early Childhood – Ingrid Lindal shared that she has been meeting and making connections with people in the counties she covers. She helped Eric Stehlik with the Connect the Dots program and will be helping Darci Pesek with the Babysitting Clinic. Ingrid has reached out to Nemaha County daycare providers to see what their needs are. She will be holding a Block Party in Wilber.

Youth Diversion & Clover Kids – No report from Anita Stougard

4-H Youth Development – Eric Stehlik shared that he and Becky Vales have been working on things for county fair. The fair book is almost ready to go print. A judge for the rabbit show is still needed. Lottery pigs will go out April 10, 2022. There are 42 lottery pigs from Mark Schmidt. There will also be 3 lottery goats and 3 lottery lambs. Weigh day for sheep & goats will be held May 23, 2022. Eric Stehlik is doing a school enrichment program at Crete Intermediate on Fridays, at the after-school program. Embryology has been completed with Crete Intermediate 3rd graders and will be starting with 4 more schools this next month. Eric will be doing a Science of the Senses program with Meridian kindergartens. Pioneer Day for Crete 4th grade students will be May 6th. The 4-H trip to Washington, D.C., will be in June. There are 17 youth from Saline County attending. Planning is being done for the two 4-H camps – Camp Renegade and Camp Venture. Becky has been assisting families with enrollment/membership. An in-person Quality Assurance training will be held May 23. A summer intern, Alexis Gerritse, from UNL, will be working with the extension officer for 12 weeks this summer.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Page Two

Other Reports:

4-H Council – The 4-H Recognition program was held Sunday, March 13, 2022. About 90 people were in attendance. Various awards and recognitions were handed out. Two \$500 scholarships and two \$650 scholarships will be given out.

Ag Society – Theresa Vernon shared that planning for county fair is underway. Galaxy of the Stars will be held on Wednesday and the Figure 8 Race/Demolition Derby on Thursday. The concert on Friday night will feature the country western band, Shenandoah. Saturday night will be the barbecue with the Crete Fire Department and the rodeo. The Junior Horse Show will now be on Thursday and the ATV/tractor driving contest will be on Wednesday. The meeting room has been remodeled and the kitchen floor redone in the 4-H exhibition building.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

The board watched a video on the History of Extension.

The next Saline County Extension Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 5:00 PM. The budget committee will meet prior to the meeting.

There being no further business, Theresa Vernon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. LuAnn Jackson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Michele Renner, Secretary