

Minutes
Agricultural Committee
University of Tennessee Extension Carter County
August 4, 2020 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Present: Robert Acuff, Mark Tester, Travis Hill, Vickie Clark, Emily Barton, Lacie Young, Kathleen Wilson, Cathy Bunton, Tracey Buckles, Abby Frye

Travis Hill called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll was called: quorum was present.

Vickie Clark added New Business to the Agenda. The agenda was approved by all with this addition.

The minutes for May 12, 2020 were reviewed. Mark Tester motioned to approve, Seconded by Dr. Acuff. The minutes were approved by all.

Old Business:

COVID 19 updates:

Vickie Clark stated the University of Tennessee Extension has a phased reopening plan. We are currently between phase 0 and phase 1. The office is open every day with limited staff. Temperatures are taken before entry into the office. The office will remain in this phase as long as COVID 19 cases are trending up.

Replacing Broken Windows:

Vickie Clark discussed window panes and company are ready to install and can be scheduled when we return to working in the office. Vickie will schedule this soon.

New Business:

Vickie stated a new electrical outlet needs to be installed in the reception area. Dr. Acuff suggested Ron Kirby to install the outlet. Abby Frye stated she would contact Ron Kirby and get the electric outlet installed. Vickie Clark asked Cathy Bunton if a phone outlet needed to be installed Cathy stated yes. Abby Frye stated she would contact Ron Kirby and get it installed. Emily discussed the window in the upstairs bathroom and water coming down the wall and into the floor. The gutters need to be cleaned out to eliminate this issue. Abby will take care of having someone clean out the gutters. Vickie Clark asked Cathy Bunton if a phone outlet needed to be installed Cathy stated yes.

Program Updates:

- Agriculture Updates:
- 15 Pesticide Certifications/ Points Credits were given by appointment only; continuously doing these by appointment deadline is Sept. 30th
- 25 BQAs were given by appointment only (and virtually)
- 12 Farm Visits were performed (trees, gardens, insect pressure, chemical questions, weed identifications, etc.)

- 20 Producers were assisted with **USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP):** <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>
- 10 Producer were assisted in filling out TAEP reimbursement paperwork
- Over 100 insects and diseases were identified for producers and community members
- Online Agriculture programs being offered through University of Tennessee and other counties; various emails sent.
- Working with a 4 businesses that need Worker Protection Standard Training (WPS)
- Various Calls about “china” seeds It is now even easier for Tennessee residents to report any unsolicited seeds they receive. This online form takes less than a minute to complete: https://stateoftennessee.formstack.com/forms/receipt_of_unsolicited_seeds
- Waiting to hear from Wendy Sneed to know more about USDA Processing
- ***Fun Fact: March-June 429 calls were fielded

FCS Updates:

- Increased interest in canning – responding to calls, pressure canner gauge checks by appointment
- Teaching job readiness training to Skills Up participants from Carter County
- Advisory board for community kitchen at Rivers Way
- Developing on-line finance/budget class for FCS
- Coordinating programs with Carter County Drug Prevention
- Search committee for Eastern Region FCS Program Leader
- Participating in interviews for FCS Assistant Dean
- Back to School guide for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

4-H Updates:

- 2400 4-H From Home Activity Newsletters distributed at Meal Distribution sites and local businesses in Carter County. Topics covered included Cooking Skills, Nutrition, Gardening, Engineering Process, and crafts.
- 155 4-H Service from Home Kits distributed. Students completed 155 service projects at home and items are being distributed to community organizations.
- 7 4-H Portfolios completed and awaiting State Competition.
- 2 State Photography Winners! (Photos Attached) Carabeth Chrisawn, Carter County – Times Forgotten Hayden Culbert, Carter County – Soft and Cozy
- 12 Students attended virtual 4-H conferences over the summer.
- Wildlife Judging Students competed virtually in the Region Contest. Placed 2nd overall and all finished in Top 10.
- Our Seniors earned approximately \$10,000 in scholarships this spring.
- Distributed 1200 Extension Resource Packets at the Harmony Back to School Bash Backpack drive.
- Received White-Reinhardt Grant for Agriculture Literacy Programs. \$1000
- Upcoming:
- Upper 8 4-H Virtual Fair to be hosted in September. Contactless entry submission.

- Chick chain sale is scheduled for September 12th, 9:30 a.m. show, 10:00 a.m. sale. Social distancing will be in place.
- Virtual Judging Team Meetings Begin August 10th.
- Building a Carter County 4-H Website for release after Labor Day
- Building a 4-H Virtual Program for In-School Clubs for release after Labor Day.
- Achievement in Service - Emily Barton- Carter County
- 1st Place Melissa Shelton/Emily Barton Carter County Exhibit (8)
- 3rd Place – Melissa Shelton/Emily Barton Carter County
- Educational Piece – Team (3)
- 1st Place – Emily Barton, Carter County
- Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Award (4)
- Excellence in Animal Science Programming Award (2)
- Excellence in Workforce Development Programming Award (3)
- 2nd Place Emily Barton, Carter County
- Excellence in Natural Resources/Environmental Education Award (2)
- Excellence in Healthy Living Programming Award (2)
- Excellence in Camping Award (2)
- Excellence in Ag Literacy Programming Award (3)
- Media Presentation (7)
- 3rd Place Melissa Shelton, Carter County
- Excellence in Workforce Development Programming Award (3)

TNCEP Updates:

Community Outreach Efforts:

- 2400 Newsletters distributed with a cooking and nutrition series for youth focusing on kitchen skills, 5 food groups, cooking with heat, food safety, knife skills, and healthy recipes. Distributed newsletters at all meal sites in June 2020
- Social Media Outreach continues with posts including a MyPlate Challenge Week, Recipes, Food Budgeting and Coronavirus Tips and Guidance, Pandemic EBT Cards, and short demos including sugar, calcium and a TNCEP Recipe book that is being created. Posts have reached over 2,000 views
- Participation ShopSmart TN Pilot continues. 8 recipes demo videos with nutritional information have been created. They will be released on social media over the next two months. They will entail a challenge and 5 \$10.00 gift cards to give away as well as 5 kitchen tool bags to give away for challenge winners and participants
- Example of ShopSmartTN Post:
- Dehydration hurts! Don't wait until you're thirsty! Sip on water all day and aim to drink at least half your body weight in ounces each day. Check out this BIG ORANGE FRUIT INFUSED WATER that will be sure to keep you hydrated and don't forget to take a picture of you creating the recipe to be entered to win one of our 5 \$10.00 gift cards! #UTExtensionFCS #ShopSmartTN
- TNCEP Monthly Newsletter first released last month, about to be released for this month. Newsletter will focus on TNCEP updates, a recipe of the month, food safety tips

(relevant to current events, such as summer, holidays, etc), Physical activity information and challenges, upcoming offerings of classes and more.

- Online Series:
- 12 adults graduated three online series delivered through private facebook groups. These were Eating Smart Moving More, MyPlate for MyFamily, and Eating Smart Throughout the Lifecycle for pregnant moms and new parents.
- Demonstrations:
- Partnered with Carter County Drug Prevention for a Homeschool Expo Sugars Demonstration
- Upcoming:
- Virtual Maternal Health Forum. Professionals and mothers are invited to join a virtual platform of information regarding community resources. TNCEP will have a virtual page with information on who we are, what we do, and nutritional/physical activity education for professionals and mothers.
- Plans for moving forward with virtual online delivery of youth programs to the school system. Nutritional topics for 3rd and 4th graders will include core topics such as physical activity, sugars, fruit and vegetables, and food safety delivered through google classroom or canvas.
- Eat Well, Feel Well a nutrition and fitness program is currently being developed for seniors for online delivery.
- Smart Shopping Unit Pricing lesson in development for an online financial class in partnership with FCS agent Vickie Clark, Jefferson County, and Sevier County.
- Partnering with Carter County Drug Prevention to deliver a basic nutrition lesson to teens who will track their personal nutrition for a week following

Adjourn:

Motion made by Dr. Acuff and Seconded by Tracy Buckles.