

**Minutes**  
**Agricultural Committee**  
**University of Tennessee Extension Carter County**  
**November 10, 2020 4:00 p.m.**  
**Zoom Virtual Meeting**

**Present:** Mark Tester, Travis Hill, Aaron Jack, Tracey Buckles, Patty Woodby, Vickie Clark, Emily Barton, Lacie Young, Cathy Bunton, Melissa Shelton

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

Travis Hill motioned to adopt the November 10, 2020 Agenda Mark Tester motioned to approve, seconded by Aaron Jack.

The minutes for August 4, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Tracy Buckles motioned to approve, seconded by Aaron Jack. The minutes were approved by all.

**Old Business:**

COVID 19 updates:

Vickie Clark stated the University of Tennessee Extension office is open every day with limited staff. Temperatures are taken before entry into the office and masks are required. The first of the year the Extension office may move to 50 percent staff in the office.

Building Maintenance:

Travis Hill asked if there are building maintenance issues and if the gutters were cleaned. Vickie Clark stated the gutters were cleaned and look good. Vickie also stated the window panes are ready to install and trash removal is needed.

**New Business:**

Christmas Tree Lighting:

Emily Barton stated the press release went out this afternoon through WJHL. The tree lighting ceremony will be virtual. We will have entertainment—singer or singers of one person or a family. The history of the Tree will be presented by a 4-H member. The tree lighting will take place on November 21 at 5:30 p.m. and will be presented through Facebook live. There will be pre-recordings up on different downtown websites. The lights are multi-colored and are placed around the tree. Kiwanis club worked with the boys and girls club in conjunction with Emily they helped measure the height of the tree which is believed to be approximately 88 feet tall. Aaron Jack asked if the lights will be taken off of the tree each year? Emily stated they will try to leave them on the tree.

Ag Committee Term Renewals:

Vickie Clark stated a term is 2 years and is limited to 3 full terms. We don't have anyone rotating off this year if Aaron Jack agrees to renew her 2<sup>nd</sup> term which will begin January 1, 2021. Bobby Blevins has agreed to renew his third term and Travis Hill has agreed to renew his 2<sup>nd</sup> term. The Agriculture Committee members that want to renew their terms will need to resubmit their application and submit them to the nominating committee. Vickie Clark will assist with resubmission of their applications.

## **Program Updates:**

### Agriculture Updates:

- Carter County Master Beef at the Drive-in Movie Theater
- Beef Quality Assurance Trainings
- Pesticide Initial Certifications
- Homeowner and Community Questions

### FCS Update:

- Still getting calls about canning – especially apples and apple butter
- Preparing to teach on-line finance class for new homeowners group at Habitat for Humanity
- Working with Elizabethton family on new Habitat build at 602 Blevins Avenue. Excavation under way, plans to hold community interest meeting in early January to get church sponsorship and volunteers.
- Preparing Eastern Region FCE planner and Leadership Day meeting
- Working with Eastern Region IT on new county website
- Reviewing resumes for Eastern Region FCS program leader
- Civil Rights training updated
- Holiday Hold 'em Challenge – a multicounty social media challenge with healthy tips and recipes to help people get through the Holidays without gaining weight.

### 4-H Updates:

- Building a Partnership with Hampton FFA to compete and be an active component of the agriculture curriculum
- Built a 4-H Canvas page for 4th-8th grade 4-H for virtual programming.
- Built a Carter County 4-H Website for Virtual Programs and Contests
- Carter County 4-H Speech Contest for 4th-8th graders- Virtual Entries due January 29th
- Carter County 4-H Poster Contest for 4th-12th graders- Virtual Entries due January 28th
- Currently Collecting Items for Santa for Seniors- 220 gift items collected and counting
- Donated 75 Braided Dog Toys and 20 Cat Hammocks to the Carter County Animal Shelter
- Donated 300 greeting cards to the VA and other senior organizations.
- Scheduled in-person 4-H clubs with Little Milligan, Central, Unaka Elementary, Keenburg Elementary, Hunter Elementary and HVMS and HVES.
- Hosting the Upper 8 Fall All-Star Conference for 9th-12th graders December 19th at the Ron Ramsey Agriculture Center. High School members will complete service projects and career readiness workshops.
- Planning a Carter County Ag Day for Elementary Students for Fall 2021 TBD
- Building a Personal Finance Curriculum and Electrical Curriculum
- Chick chain had 9 total participants to complete the project. Show and sale was a success.

- In-Person 4-H clubs are meeting 2 day a week. Hoping for more when school resumes in person.

TNCEP Updates:

### **Community Outreach Efforts**

- Shop Smart TN Recipe promotions and videos wrapped up. Two month long demo series that showcase 8 videos and recipes in total reaching over 1500 people through Facebook
- Maternal Health Forum was a success. Reached over 50 participants and partners. TNCEP page contained information and a demo video about UT Extension and the TNCEP Program, the types of programs offered by TNCEP and our goals, promotion of the Eating Smart Throughout the Lifecycle curriculum with a promotional demo video
- TNCEP Newsletters for August, September and October and November have reached over 100 people in total that are partners and participants
- **Series/Classes**
- Eating Smart Moving More, 2 participants graduated from live series, 6 currently enrolled in eXtension online. Go at their own pace
- Eat Well Feel Well, a curriculum for seniors in final development from TNCEP to be offered
- Youth clubs have begun both virtually and in person. In contact with 22 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers throughout the county district. I have personally met with 2 in person classes for their first lesson, 6 more are scheduled for the future before the Holiday break in December, 1 has enrolled virtually. Most teachers are requesting in person if possible.
- Youth online platform has been transitioned to Canvas and fully uploaded. Both 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade platforms have 4 core physical activity and nutrition lessons, 5 supplemental videos for further core information, 4 additional topic videos, 8 family newsletters and 8 interactive at home activities that can be uploaded and viewed online.
- Additionally, 4<sup>th</sup> grade content contains all 4-H pledges, service learning projects, and contests for virtual upload
- Eat Smart Save More Partnered with Vickie and her online financial class to deliver a healthy eating and grocery budgeting class to 7 participants through Core Services TN
- Basic Nutrition Lesson for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders developed and taught to a class of 9 youth and 2 adults
- Healthy eating and grocery budgeting class developed and delivered to a live zoom class in partnership with Red Legacy Recovery to 2 adults participants
- **Additional**
- Represented the Eastern Region for online programming effort successes during the Covid pandemic. Program success presented to over 70 team members through zoom

for my online program MyPlate for MyFamily, a 5-class series that was successful through zoom, youtube and facebook in which 6 adults and 2 youths participated and graduated

- Have been requested to work with UT Extension Evaluation Assistant to help create an evaluation and record keeping program for TNCEP team
- **Future Plans**
- Most adult partnership locations are still closed to group classes or are in the process of soft opening. Been in contact with Senior Center who is in soft opening phase currently, looking towards after new year to hopefully return to classes.
- The Courtyard Senior Housing is open to returning to classes. Will be going over on Wednesday 11/11, to measure, sketch and look towards planning an in-person series
- Youth clubs to continue in the Carter County School District whether they are delivered in person, virtually through zoom live, or in a pre-recorded fashion through Canvas
- New free online demo series titled “Helpful Holiday Hints” which will run on Facebook, weekly from now until the New Year. Each demo will showcase kitchen skills and tips to make holiday cooking easier. Each lesson will also have a corresponding handout and recipe for participants to print and create a Helpful Holiday Hint Kitchen Toolkit Binder for themselves or to gift. Series topics will include reading recipes and common cooking terms, food safety specifically with Turkey and holiday meats, knife skills, measuring equivalents, recipe substitutions and much more!

Adjourn:

Motion made by Tracy Buckles to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mark Tester. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.