

Monday, May 4th , 2026 1:00 PM
Ag Extension Office, 2nd Floor
1281 Murfreesboro Pike

Members Present- Mr. Jeffrey Ezell, Ms. Barbara Devaney, Jim Barnes and Ms. Joan Clayton-Davis

Guests Present- Biars Davis

Members Absent- Gigi Drumright

Open-call to order- Ms. Devaney called the meeting to order as there was a quorum. Ms. Clayton-Davis made a motion and Mr. Ezell seconded.

Reading and approval of previous minutes- Barbara Devaney

Motion to read the minutes- Mr. Barnes seconds.

Joan Clayton-Davis right motions to approve minutes, Jeffrey Ezell seconds

Quorum voted to approve minutes.

Officer Report- Metro checked with the Extension to make sure the agenda is accessible to all. Jim Barnes highlights the FSA office for which county to give funding to for the ice storms in February. Davidson County was eventually declared as a county of need. Jim asks if anyone knows of anybody that is applicable then feel free to reach out to him. The deadline is May 20th.

Staff Update- Alexis Trice our FCS program assistant presented at the Nourish Recovery grant in Knoxville and was one of 7 counties. Shana Los our Agriculture Resources agent was accepted to be in the Tennessee Extension Leadership Academy for this year. She is the first of our office to do it. They have meetings quarterly this year in Gatlinburg, Knoxville, Nashville and Memphis. Amy Dunlap our Horticulture agent is finishing her master's degree in information sciences. Ebone' Colclough our TNCEP agent was nominated for the UTIA achievement award. This summer we will have an MTSU intern named Lorena that will focus in FCS and is helping out at 4-H camp. The TSU 4-H agent interviews was a success and met with five out of the thirteen candidates. Chris Hicks the central region director thought our 2nd place candidate who was out of college can be an agent in training. The TSU position was offered and is now in the process of paperwork. The hope is she starts in mid-May. The 2nd place candidate is temporary but it will give leeway for other opportunities. We will follow up to make the Metro/TSU position official and sign off on it. TSU has shared an interest in Davidson County and surrounding counties. There could be a request for the program assistant position be TSU funded and potentially another FCS agent.

Metro Update- We are still waiting to see the logistics of the Ag Board members tenure and Metro law be compliant with the state law. It will go before council until it goes into law and put into effect next year.

Budget Update- Andy expects to get the budget plan soon from the Metro government. Andy and Amy have met about the budget plan. Andy will let the board know about any updates.

New Business- Andy talks about a future Ag Board field trip at Aventura Community School.

Extension Program Updates-

Charslyn Guilyot

- She has been continuing at Meharry and planning on a pie contest and it will be a blind taste test.

Alexis Trice

- The Nourish Recovery conference was last week in Knoxville and it highlighted the work that is done in the state. She will be working with Chippington Towers and doing "Dining with Diabetes". The next Ag field trip will be May 27th from 10:15am-11:15am at the Senior Renaissance Center 4805 Park Ave, Nashville, TN.

Amy Dunlap

- She just finished up the Master Gardener program this spring. It is the 40th anniversary this year and doing a celebration in October. The annual state conference is in May and she will be teaching during it. She has also done a four-week indoor house plant course and that will wrap up this week. She had 100 students from Aventura Community School come out to demo gardens for a scavenger hunt.

Shana Los

- She is busy with embryology at Aventura Community School, Crieve Hall, Hickman Elementary School and at DuPont School. Got accepted in to TELA and she will start on a big project that will help Extension. Her posted got selected to be in Denver. She is attending the TAAA&S state meeting in June in Pickwick. She will offer a free zoom on small ruminants' class this month. She is looking to a community service project in June for companion animals club or horse club. She will be away for state horse shows in June. She also has a free zoom course coming up on small ruminants and is planning on the Backyard Poultry course. Bi-Monthly she plans on having an open table at The CO-OP on Dickerson Pike to learn more about extension and what all Davidson County Extension offers.

Andy Lantz

- The Jr. 4-H Camp has 100 kids going which is 25 more than last year. There is also another Davidson County Extension Day camp at the TSU Farm at the Ag Pavilion June 15th-18th and 9 kids are signed up so far with a max of 15. It will be from 9am-3pm. The in-school clubs are finishing up in May. There will be a wildlife competition next week and we will have a lot of youth's involved in the other Extension summer camps.

Adjourn-

- The next meeting will be August 3rd 2026 at 1pm at The Davidson County Extension Office. Barbara Devaney calls for a motion to close the meeting. Joan Clayton-Davis made the motion to dismiss- Jim Barnes seconds- Meeting dismissed.