

Davidson County
UT-TSU Agricultural Extension Board Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2017

The Davidson County UT-TSU Agricultural Extension Board met on May 25, 2017, at 1:00 P.M. at the Nashville Farmers Market Conference Room 2nd floor, 900 Rosa L Parks Blvd, Nashville, TN 37208

Members Present: Mr. Dan Covington, Chair, Mr. Mark Kerske, Vice Chair, Ms. Sherri Smith, Mr. Will Nesby

Members Absent: Mr. Bobby Edwards, Dr. Thelma Sanders-Hunter, Ms. Laura Bigbee-Fott

Dan Covington called the meeting to order. A quorum was present for the transaction of business.

Introduce Visitors/Guests: Mr. Barry introduced Ms. Audrey Fulton and Ms. Marina Fahmy new college interns for Davidson County Extension. Mr. Barry also introduced Ms. Allison Koon as the Administrative Support for Davidson County Extension.

Minutes of the last meeting: Board members were provided a copy of the minutes prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Will Nesby and seconded by Mr. Mark Kerske. The minutes were approved as amended.

Old Business: Mr. Covington called on Mr. Barry to address the budget. He presented the Board with handouts that showed Department's budget priorities. Mr. Barry happily announced that there has been no decrease in funds. He also brought up that his request for the office to be moved down stairs has been placed in Mayor Barry's Capital Improvements Budget and is now going to the council to be approved. Next Mr. Barry shared an update on staff changes. He said that a new FCS Extension Agent, Elizabeth Sanders has been recommended for employment. He stated that interview committee, comprised of Extension Staff and Board members Mr. Covington and Dr. Sanders-Hunter had a unanimous recommendation for her to fill this vacancy. He also stated that Board Approval is needed. Mr. Barry then detailed what the job description for the two summer college interns Audrey Fulton and Marina Fahmy would be. Audrey Fulton will be spending part of her internship at the Governor's Residence. Marina Fahmy will be shadowing Ebone Colclough learning about and assisting with SNAP-ed. Knoxville will fund these positions and both will accrue college credit.

Mr. Barry shared with the Board the quarterly reports for the period January-March 2017. The Board was asked to review these data and if questions, be ready to discuss them at the next meeting.

New Business: Mr. Michael Barry has asked Mr. Mark Kerske and Ms. Sherri Smith to sit in on the interviews for the 4-H Agent Position. He stated that he would like to have this staff member aboard if possible by July 1. Mr. Covington opened the floor for approval of Elizabeth Sanders for FCS Agent. A motion was made by Mr. Mark Kerske to employ Elizabeth Sanders. Mr. Will Nesby seconded this motion. The decision is unanimous. Mr. Dan Covington asked Mr. Barry to conduct the election of a new chair, vice chair, and secretary for next year. Mr. Dan Covington then proposed Allison Koon to serve as the secretary for the Agriculture Extension Board. After discussion, Mark Kerske made a motion to approve Allison Koon as the new Secretary and this motion is seconded by Ms. Sherri Smith. The motion was passed unanimously. After discussion on election of a new chair and vice chair, Mr. Barry stated the floor is open for nominees and Mr. Mark Kerske is nominated for chair. This motion is made by Mr. Will Nesby and is

seconded by Mr. Dan Covington and the motion was passed unanimously. Mr. Will Nesby is nominated by Dan Covington for vice chair. This motion is made by Mark Kerske and is seconded by Sherrie Smith and the motion was pass unanimously.

The dates for future Board meetings were presented: August 17th, 2017 will be the next meeting. Meetings will be held 4 times a year, on the 3rd Thursday of February, May, August, and November.

Close/Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm. A motion was made by Mr. Mark Kerske and seconded by Mr. Dan Covington. The motion was passed unanimously.