

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AN INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MAY 12, 2014, WITH COMMISSIONERS DAVID H. UIBLE, ROBERT L. PROUD, AND EDWIN H. HUMPHREY IN ATTENDANCE.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE STEPHEN H. RABOLT, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, AND DEBORAH BRITTON FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLERMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES AT THE INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION ARE LISTED ON THE ATTACHED ATTENDANCE SHEET.

LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT THE MAY 12, 2014 INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION WAS VIDEOTAPED AND IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME. IN ADDITION, THE INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING THROUGH THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEBSITE AT <http://www.clermontcountyohio.gov/videos-worksession.aspx>.

Let the record show Informal Session started shortly after 10:30 A.M.

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WERE PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. Issue - The Ohio State University (OSU) Extension Office Update, Margaret Jenkins, Director, GiGi Neal, Agricultural and Natural Resources Educator and Kelly Royalty, 4-H Educator...050603-015**

Discussion - Margaret Jenkins provided discussion, a power point presentation and several handouts about The Ohio State University Extension and the 100 year celebration of the Smith-Lever act;

The focus of the extension is to impact these four main areas:

- Advancing Employment & Income Opportunities
- Enhancing Agriculture & the Environment
- Preparing Youth for Success
- Strengthening Families & Communities

Ms. Jenkins encouraged the Commissioners and citizens to review the 2013 County Highlights (see handout attached) for details on how the extension office served the community in 2013.

Ms. Jenkins introduced The OSU Extension staff, and described that OSU is a land grant university and has established three discovery themes and all extension programs must fall within these three themes. The OSU extension will be working on this throughout the county as a focus in the future as well. The three themes are as follows:

- Health and Wellness
- Energy and Environment
- Food Production and Security

Ms. Jenkins stated The OSU Extension is working with the Chamber of Commerce on Agenda for the Future and Work Readiness Initiative.

Commissioner support through budget items – see tape for current items

Kelly Royalty, 4-H Youth Development Educator provided an overview and described the changes that they are making to the 4H and youth development program and the fair this year. The extension office would like to let the Commissioners know they are expanding items through grants such as (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) STEM programming, the CarTeens program - a 4-H traffic safety program for teenagers learning to drive, Aquaculture Training, and the LOOK to Clermont Program - a leadership program

offered to high school junior and seniors.

GiGi Neal, Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator provided an update to the Agriculture and Natural Resources program. She described that the focus has been on conservation innovation and on the 4R nutrients program, as well as working with Soil & Water to move away from chemical treatment of crops to avoid water contamination of water sheds in addition to improving soil health.

Ms. Neal described how the extension office is working to organize a pesticide disposal day for our regional area and she will update the Commissioners if that materializes.

Ms. Neal also noted that Annie's Project workshops are another program the extension has seen take off in recent years. Annie's Project is a six-part course designed to strengthen and educate new farm operators on the following five risk management strategies: human, health, legal, financial and marketing. The agricultural community is changing over the last 15 years, the most recent survey showed 30% of farm owners/operators across the country are women, either by choice, inheritance or necessity.

Ms. Jenkins, Director and Family & Consumer Science stated the focus of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Grant is now called the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant. This grant will bring in approximately \$115K. Nutrition education was recognized as the greatest need in Ohio. Eleven percent of the population in our county is eligible for food assistance. Ms. Jenkins stated that half of those 20K citizens are youth, so the main focus will be in the schools. Clermont County has 17 schools that meet the criteria by offering at least a 50% reduced or free lunch to receive nutrition education assistance through this grant. 7% of the population in Clermont County are seniors and receive food assistance and they will continue those educational programs as well.

Included in these educational programs is the Dining with Diabetes program. There are three series a year where individuals will be able to receive instruction on how to prepare and grow foods in a healthier way.

Ms. Jenkins stated they were asked by the General Health District last year to consider taking on a new grant which became available, the Safe Communities Grant. Ms. Jenkins stated the extension office is now working on the application for FY2015. Ms. Jenkins noted she believes this grant harmonizes well with the CarTeens program and the Family Guide for Safety in accordance with OSU's initiatives for Health and Wellness.

Commissioner Uible pointed out that 4H is the only place where things like bookkeeping, sewing, animal care, are being offered, these items were once taught in home economics classes in high school. He also stated that he feels the program has had a significant impact on his family personally.

Conclusion/Follow-Up Action Needed –

Adjournment

Informal Regular Session was adjourned.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO**

DAVID H. UIBLE, PRESIDENT

ROBERT L. PROUD, VICE PRESIDENT

EDWIN H. HUMPHREY, MEMBER

STEPHEN H. RABOLT, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

07/09/14
DATE APPROVED