

Wayne County Ag Success Team Minutes

March 16, 2001

In attendance: Ann Obrecht, Duane Wood, Brian Gwin, Casey Hoy, Leah Miller, Katie Myers-Griffith, Ron Becker, Diane Schumacher, Chris Finney, Tom Stocksedale, Bob Ellis, Fred Myers, Maryanna Biggio, Lois Grant, Deana Hudgins, Paul Kanehl

Media: Bobby Warren, the Daily Record

Treasurer's Report (Chris Finney) same balance as February, total \$4063.40

WEDC Report (Brian Gwin)

AgBioScience draft for flyer is not completed. Biohio Park leases are being negotiated. Work is being done in Pounden Hall by Quasar and Cedar Lane Farms will start in the next few months. Nortech is working on a business analysis operating model. They are considering a Board/Partner structure.

Ag Bio Cluster is creating a website that will allow people to view plans for facilities and site, JED and community meeting schedules. The JED Board wants progress at the ACDC site this year.

ATI has a workforce training grant available for food processing maintenance employees. Anyone that is interested should contact Melanie Garcia at ATI.

Ag Outlook DC: Susan Hurst of AFB Know Your Farmer Know Your Food initiative has made contact with Local Roots.

Orrville Municipal Power is offering energy efficiency rebates for farms for items such as fans, motors, pumps, and lighting. Limited residential rebates are also available. A complete list can be found on their website.

WEDC annual meeting is March 24, 2011 at the Shisler Center at OARDC. Tickets are still available. Gov. Kasich will be speaking. Attendance is expected at 250-300.

Round Table

Diane S. – Futures have strengthened since January from 14.90 for the year to 17.10 for March-December. This equates to \$110 million for Wayne County. Dairy Twilight Tour reminder for July 19 at John and Lois Douglas farm in Orrville. It is the 50th anniversary of the Dairy Services Unit. The second meeting regarding oil and gas rights will focus on legal aspects of leases and the third meeting will cover the process of leasing. Resources for the meetings can be found on the website.

Tom S. – The Ag Succession Brokerage Program was held March 16 and was well attended. He is working on a model to raise funds for Extension. They are planning the Annual Farm Tour for late spring; the end of April or early May.

Casey H. – The Fund for Economic Future has been focused on networking with entrepreneurs around the region. Shifting away from county by county meetings to focus more on ACDC and the Cuyahoga Valley Countryside Conservancy farms. They will be launching new business planning tools and an online business case template.

Bob E. – As of April 1 the WEDC will have a new government structure. This will include a formal Board of up to 15 members with four permanent positions (Dalton, Orrville, Rittman and Wooster) and committee chairs will also serve on the Board. There will be an Advisory Council of up to 21 people.

Duane W. – The new SWCD website is operational.

Ron B. – Extension hosting pesticide recertification for vegetable growers.

Fred M. – Attended the recent oil and gas meeting and they are working on organizing a group to address lease concerns.

Ann O. – Budget cuts are going to affect the local government and agencies like Extension. Friends of Extension is going to be needed to help with funding reductions.

Bobby W. – Please contact him with any Ag related meeting updates at (330) 234-9098 so that he can attend as a representative for the Daily Record.

Chris F. – The next Ag. Leaders meeting is April 6 at Green Leaf. Speakers will be Joe Gress and Ann Obrecht.

Maryanna B. – The Killbuck Land Trust has received six applications this year, five of the applications have been from Baughman Township.

Katie M-G. – The Farm and School Conference will be March 30. The Ohio Manure Link will be launched soon to link manure producers and consumers. The funding for ODA Specialty Crop Block Grants and Farm School Grants is uncertain at this time.

Paul K. – West Salem is working to establish new businesses in the community. They are creating a new zoning district for a landowner interested in selling his property. They are hoping the zoning district will attract new BioTech and Ag businesses.

Leah Mi. – There will be a Small Farm Solutions meeting March 25 in Kidron. The focus of the event is the Swartzentruber Amish community.

Lois G. – This is Lois' last meeting. She is moving to New Mexico.

Meeting Adjourned. Will send out next meeting request.