

## Wayne County Ag Success Team Minutes

May 17, 2011

**In attendance:** Ann Obrecht, Duane Wood, Brian Gwin, Maryanna Biggio, Deana Hudgins, Karl Kanehl, Jessica Eikleberry, Wesley Green, Fred Myers, Dianne Shoemaker

Media: Bobby Warren (The Daily Record)

**Treasurer's Report (Chris Finney-not in attendance)** balance total \$4,197.16

**AEPP:** Letter was approved and signed by the Ag Success Team members present.

### **WEDC Report (Brian Gwin)**

AgBioScience Cluster Project mapping system is operational and can be found on the Local Foods website. It is designed to connect new and existing businesses to get them the supplies, services, etc. that they need to succeed.

John Fitzpatrick is examining how WEDC is working with the food processing sector to determine if we are using unique Wayne County assets to attract food processors.

One client may be interested in Viking Hall on the Apple Creek campus.

### **Round Table**

Ann – With the possible changes in the extension operating model there is concern about counties getting what they pay for rather than funding activities in other counties. Under the new system there will be a focus on specialists and each county will select which services they want to utilize.

Mohican Basin Land Owners will be meeting at Northwestern High School on May 19 at 7:00. They are currently focusing on the four western townships in Wayne County. They have established a cost to join the organization.

Dwayne – SWCD has put together water protection information for landowners that may be interested in oil and gas drilling. All documents can be found on the SWCD website.

Leah – July 16 is the Amish Farm Family Field Day, the event will be held in Tuscarawas County this year. Contact the Small Farm Institute for more information.

Dianne – Extension operating model is still a work in progress. Counties with good funding of extension could remain largely unchanged. Offices with field specialists will be located throughout the state and be available as needed to counties rather than a full time presence in every county.

There will be a workshop in June for attorneys regarding oil and gas leases.

Karl – A light industrial district to promote business in the Village of West Salem should be ready in a few months.

Jessica – Local Roots received a \$1500 grant for a vacuum sealer. The kitchen is ready for inspection. April and May sales were good and they had their highest sale day ever in May.

Wesley – All ATI programs and courses have been submitted to Columbus for review for the switch from quarters to semesters. There will be a new Sustainable Ag program starting in fall.

Bobby – He is working on a Farm Focus section in the Daily Record for June.

Meeting Adjourned. Will send out next meeting request.