

Minutes from the Clarendon County Extension Advisory Council Meeting of the Feb. 27, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Russell Duncan, county extension agent.

George Askew gave an overview of the role of the advisory committee, as well as the subcommittee. Gerry Dukes explained the PSA Advocacy Program.

Ms. Mary Graham agreed to serve as Chair.

Quinton Wilson, a Manning High School student and a member of the FFA explained the need to promote education to students using 4-H. His recommendations included providing speakers for the 4-H group and other activities. Ms. Sandy Orr questioned how the programs would be funded. She also asked if the high schools have an environmental component in the curriculums.

Mrs. Brice cited a need for environmental engineers.

It was pointed out that the county and city of Sumter co-finance not just agricultural programs but other community activities.

It was pointed out that there are approximately 50 students in the agricultural programs in the three school districts.

Quinton Wilson suggested that we need more youth activities.

Funding for a 4-H person was then discussed. George indicated that Clemson could plan to fund around \$28,000 to \$32,000 plus fringe benefits if the county of Clarendon could provide the remainder of the total cost of about \$50,000.00. A general discussion followed on the merits of the program.

John Horton mentioned food and nutrition and that teachers need in-service training.

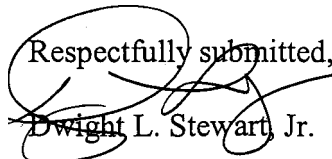
The Junior Master Gardner Program was discussed, as well as the Habitat House and the recycling centers.

It was suggested that fees for the Master Gardner Program be increased. There was also discussion that this program needed more horticulture and less lawn care and disease identification. It was pointed out that the plant sale the group had was successful.

The group then decided that an investment in 4-H or FFA leadership would be an investment in the youth and would be an investment beyond typical sports related activities.

The Clemson Extension web sites were also discussed and it was pointed out that these were good sources of information.

There being no further
was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.

business, the meeting