

MINUTES
LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL
Thursday, December 21, 2023

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was started at 1:00 pm using Microsoft Teams.

PRESENT: Emmaly Renshaw-Feed Iowa First
Laura Ondler- Horizons
Jacqueline Montoya-LCPH
Stephanie Schrader-City of Cedar Rapids Community Services Coordinator
Hailee Sandberg- ISU Extension
Brittany Hannah- Via Sofia's
Kelly Ridenour Giurato- Eat Greater Des Moines
Aaron Brewer- Prairie Woods
Kim Guardado- HACAP
Matthew McGrane- NewBo City Market
Drew Erickson- Rodale Institute

ABSENT: Laura Krouse-Abbe Farm
Emily Qual- Cobble Hill

OTHERS None
PRESENT:

STAFF: Mike Tertinger, Senior Planner
Amy Speed, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Sandberg seconded by Hannah to approve the November 30, 2023, minutes. All members present voting yes.

Public Comments:

None

FARE Grant Application Review- Echollective Farm:

Renshaw presented a new application from Echollective Farm (EF) that asked for the on-site cold storage. EF mentioned in their application that they service New Pioneer, Cornell College and a sliding scales CSA in Linn County. The cold storage would help for their winter needs as well. Renshaw asked for discussion and questions at this time. Hannah was concerned that they didn't answer why original project was no longer feasible. Sandberg wanted to know if the entire new grant application was ok to even do. Ridenour Giurato asked what are the potential negative outcomes if we deny? Are there other producers in Linn County that could be doing the same thing? Brewer stated that maybe there are but none of them applied. Renshaw agreed that there are a few but they either didn't apply or already received funding. Guardado made a motion to approve the grant asking for on-sit cold storage for EF. Sandberg seconded and all members present voted yes.

Open Discussion:

None

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Speed, Recording Secretary

Approved,



Emmaly Renshaw, Chair