

Agenda
Eau Claire County
Extension Education Committee
December 20, 2023, at 4:00PM
227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Room 103/104

Those wishing to make public comments can submit their name and address no later than 30 minutes prior to the meeting to Kristi Peterson kristin.peterson@eauclairecounty.gov or attend the meeting in person. Comments are limited to three minutes; you will be called on during the public comment section of the meeting.

A majority of the county board may be in attendance at this meeting, however, only members of the committee may take action on an agenda item.

Join from the meeting link

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=m6d68383c56ae96eb3c66e056344c9a1a>

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 2538 994 3866

Meeting password: Pdf383JSMCM

Join by phone 1-415-655-0001 US Toll

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice.
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment [Form Builder List View | Eau Claire County \(eau-claire.wi.us\)](#)
4. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes – Discussion/Action
 - a. October 18, 2023, and November 15, 2023
5. Educator Introduction – Margo Dieck, Health and Well-being
6. Fair – Discussion/Action
 - a. Financial Update
 - b. MOU
 - c. Application form
7. Educator Presentation – Jerry Clark and Lyssa Seefeldt, Agriculture Educators

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters, remote access, or other auxiliary aids. Contact the clerk of the committee or Administration for assistance (715-839-5106). For additional information on ADA requests, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-6945, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, TTY: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

8. Q3 Financials – Kristi Peterson
9. Monthly Highlights – October and November
10. Kristen Bruder – AED Updates
 - a. 136 Contract signed update
11. Scheduling of Future Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, January 17, 2024
12. Future Agenda Items
13. Announcements
14. Adjourn

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Minutes
Eau Claire County
Extension Education Committee
October 18, 2023, at 4:00PM
227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Room 103/104

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice at 4:00pm
2. Roll Call
Members Present: Jodi Lepsch, Amanda Babb, Missy Christopherson, Kyle Johnson, Heather Deluka
Others present: Kristi Peterson, Addison Vang, Lyssa Seefeldt, Meg Mueller, Traci Martinson, and Sandy Tarter (virtually).
3. Public Comment - none
4. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes – Discussion/Action
 - a. September 20, 2023 – Supervisor Babb Moves to approve, all in favor.
5. Educator presentation – Rachel Hart-Brinson, 4-H Educator
 - a. Program highlights were presented.
6. Monthly Highlights – shared via email through Employee Connections and available on website.
7. Fair Committee
 - a. MOU – discussion/action
 - i. A motion was made by Supervisor Lepsch to table the agenda item until 11/15/2023, all in favor.
 - b. Fair Application – discussion/action
 - i. No action was taken. The form will be reviewed and brought to the next meeting.
 - c. Financial Report – discussion
 - i. Meg was hired as the fair coordinator for a one-year term. An assistant fair coordinator position is being discussed. She provided an update on finances and shared that audits are being done with the transition of leadership.
8. Kristen Bruder – AED Report
 - a. Health and Well-Being educator interviews 10/23
9. Scheduling of Future Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 4:00pm
10. Future Agenda Items

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- a. Fair Application – discussion/action
- b. MOU – invite Chauncey
- c. Financial report

11. Announcements - none

12. Adjourn at 5:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Peterson
Extension Education Committee Clerk

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Minutes
Eau Claire County
Extension Education Committee
November 15, 2023, at 4:00PM
227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Room 103/104

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice at 4:00pm
2. Roll Call - Members Present: Deluka and Christopherson
Members Absent: Johnson, Lepsch, and Babb

Quorum not present. Postponed to December 20, 2023, meeting.

Announcements: Sharon will be rotating attorneys so we will have Sarah and Chauncey will be available for any questions. Airport is having a public hearing for the master plan tomorrow at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 4:02pm.

3. Public Comment [Form Builder List View | Eau Claire County \(eau-claire.wi.us\)](#)
4. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes – Discussion/Action
 - a. October 18, 2023
5. Fair Committee
 - a. MOU – discussion/action
 - b. Fair Application – discussion/action
 - c. Financial Report – discussion
6. Educator presentation – Margaret Murphy, Horticulture Educator
7. Monthly Highlights – August and September
8. Kristen Bruder – AED Report
9. Scheduling of Future Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, December 20, 2023
10. Future Agenda Items
11. Announcements

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12. Adjourned at 4:07pm

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") BETWEEN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY THROUGH ITS EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE, THE FAIR COMMITTEE, AND THE FRIENDS OF THE FAIR FOR OPERATION AND MONETARY SUPPORT OF THE EAU CLAIRE COUNTY FAIR

I. PARTIES

This Agreement is between Eau Claire County, Wisconsin, a quasi-municipal corporation, ("County"), through the Eau Claire County Extension Education Committee (hereinafter "Extension Education Committee") and its sub-committee, the Eau Claire County Fair Committee (hereinafter "Fair Committee") located at 721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703 with the Eau Claire County Friends of the Fair (hereinafter "FOF"), located at PO Box 434, Augusta, WI 54722.

II. TERM OF MOU

Services under this Agreement shall commence upon the approval and signature of all parties for the 2024 Eau Claire County Fair and continue through the 2026 Eau Claire County Fair; provided the parties are not in default. Thereafter, by mutual agreement the parties may extend the term of this MOU for one (1) additional successive five (5) year period commencing upon the expiration of the initial term.

The MOU may be extended only by mutual agreement of the parties. Said (1) additional successive five (5) year period must be approved by the County through its appropriate Committees, Board, and Administrator; as well as FOF.

Parties may by mutual agreement terminate or modify said MOU upon any substantial change to the bylaws or committee structure.

Said MOU may be terminated upon breach of the other party by 30-day written notice.

III. PURPOSE OF MOU

The purpose of this MOU is to agree on responsibilities for all parties regarding the Eau Claire County Fair organization, operation, and payment of all expenses relating to the Fair.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Parties agree:

1. The Fair Committee operates the Eau Claire County Fair and is responsible for all Bylaws, rules, policy, and approval of contracts for the Fair.
2. The Eau Claire County Fair Committee is a working committee comprised of volunteer members providing hands-on assistance in the production of the annual

County Fair. Members are organized as the following to limit conflicts of interest and ensure diversity among membership.

3. Terms: The Extension Committee appointed an entirely new Fair Committee Board for the 2024 Fair. One half of the newly elected board shall serve a one-year term. One half of the newly elected board shall serve a two-year term. Thereinafter, said election, all Fair Committee members shall serve two-year alternating terms. The current Bylaws for the 2024 Eau Claire County Fair describe the makeup of the Fair Committee as the following: Two (2) non-voting members and nine (9) voting members created from the following:
 - a) The 4-H Program Educator as a non-voting member.
 - b) The Fair Coordinator is appointed by the Friends of the Fair, as a non-voting member.
 - c) One (1) member who is either an FFA or agricultural teacher (active or retired); a FFA Alumni; or a member of a livestock group such as Wisconsin Simmental Association, Wisconsin Pork Producers, or Eau Claire County Livestock Project. This person will act as the Livestock Liaison between the Fair Committee and the livestock project.
 - d) Two (2) youth members, of which one must represent the Expo exhibits i.e., photography, arts & crafts, etc. and one must represent livestock exhibits.
 - e) One (1) member of the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors, serving on the Extension Committee, to be appointed by the Extension Committee.
 - f) Two (2) members who are employed by a business or a representative of a youth service agency or organization that provides services to youth such as the Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.
 - g) Two (2) members who are citizens at large and who have an interest in the fair.
 - h) One (1) member who is a member of the Friends of the Fair, other than the Fair Coordinator or One (1) member who is a member of the 4-H Leaders Association.
4. All Fair Committee meetings are open to the public, have time allotted for public input and agenda and minutes are posted at least, but not less than, 24-hours before the public meeting.
4. Per Eau Claire County Code 2.04.450, the Extension Education Committee has oversight of its sub-committees.
5. The Extension Committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the county extension department and its board authorized functions, including the Eau Claire County Junior Fair

Committee.

6. The committee shall exercise those powers and duties authorized under Wis. Stat. § 59.56(3). All agreements under Wis. Stat. § 59.56(3)(c) 2., shall be approved by the county administrator.
7. The Fair Committee is a sub-committee of the Extension Education Committee.
8. The Eau Claire County Fair is thus overseen by Eau Claire County.
9. Friends of the Fair (FOF) is a not for profit 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is to secure the resources needed to provide the financial stability that will assure the future of the Eau Claire County Fair as a family and youth focused community event. FOF receives and disperses funds to operate and support the Fair through donations, fees, and sponsorships.
10. Donations, fees, and sponsorships for the Fair are paid directly to FOF.
11. Premium dollars paid through the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (hereinafter "DATCP") as well as administration of those dollars are the responsibility of the FOF. The FOF shall administer all payments for pre-fair and fair premium events, as dictated by the DATCP, which governs Wisconsin county fairs. The FOF shall be responsible for making the appropriate payments for judges, awards, operating supplies, extra help, and other expenses.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FAIR EXPENSES

For services rendered under this contract, the Fair Committee shall have authority to approve all contracts over two-thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) associated with the fair prior to presenting the contracts to FOF. Once approved by the Fair Committee, FOF will be given the approved contract for release of payment. The FOF shall pay:

1. Rental of Exposition Center Facilities.
2. Approved operating costs associated with the Fair.
3. Eau Claire County shall annually provide ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000) in funding to the FOF for the Eau Claire County Fair as described in article II. The \$10,000 in funds are provided by Eau Claire County are specifically for the rental of the Exposition Center, tent rental, and sanitation for the Eau Claire County Fair.
4. Eau Claire County is not responsible for any expenses, direct payments, or invoices regarding the Eau Claire County Fair, including items cited in V (3).

VI. CANCELLATION OF FUNDING

For any year in which FOF does not hold the Eau Claire County Fair, rent the expo center, or is in breach of this contract, Eau Claire County is not required to submit funding to FOF.

VII. NOTICES

Notices required or deemed advisable under this Agreement shall be placed in writing and delivered personally or by registered or certified mail upon the "County" to: Eau Claire County Administrator, 721 Oxford Avenue, Suite 3520, Eau Claire, WI 54703 and upon the "FOF" to: Friends of Fair, President, P.O. Box 434, Augusta, WI 54722.

All parties are required to notify each other of any address change.

VIII. MUTUAL INDEMNIFICATION

The parties agree to fully indemnify and hold one another harmless from and against all claims, actions, judgements, costs, and expenses, arising of damages or injuries to third persons of their property, caused by the fault of negligence of the said party, its agents, or employees, in performance of this Agreement. The parties shall give to each other prompt and reasonable notice of any such claims or actions and the other party shall have the right to investigate, compromise and defend the same.

IX. LIABILITY

It is mutually agreed by the "County" and FOF that, as related to this Agreement, any loss or expense or resultant legal liability, involving personal injury or property damage, will be the responsibility of the party whose officer, employee or agent may have caused the loss or expense by his or her respective actions, acts, activities, or omissions which occurred or may occur in connection with this agreement.

X. WAIVER OF BREACHES

No waiver of any breaches of this Agreement shall be held to be a waiver of any other or any subsequent breaches. All remedies afforded in this Agreement shall be considered a cumulative and in addition to any other remedies provided by law.

XI. SEVERABILITY

Should any article or any part of any article of this Agreement be rendered void, invalid or unenforceable by the court of law, for any reason, such a determination shall not render void, invalid or unenforceable any other article or part of any article in this Agreement.

XII. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

The laws of the State of Wisconsin shall govern this Contract and executed amendments thereto. Venue for all legal proceedings arising out of this Contract, or breach thereof, shall be exclusively in Eau Claire County Circuit Court, Eau Claire, WI.

XIII. SECTION HEADINGS

The headings of the several sections and any table of contents appended hereto, shall be solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning, construction, or effect hereof.

XIV. STATUTORY PROTECTIONS

It is agreed by the parties that nothing in this Contract, including but not limited to indemnification and hold harmless clauses, shall in anyway constitute a waiver on the part of the "County" of any immunity, liability limitation or other protection available to the "County" under any applicable statute or other law. To the extent that any provision of this contract is found by any court of competent jurisdiction conflict with any such legal protection, then whichever protections, either statutory or contractual, provide a greater benefit to the "County" shall apply unless the "County" elects otherwise.

XV. PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

Both parties understand that the "County" is bound by the public records law, and as such, all terms of this agreement are subject to and conditioned on the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 19.31 et seq. "FOF" acknowledges that it is obligated to assist the "County" in retaining and producing records that are subject to Wisconsin Public Records law, and that the failure to do so will constitute a material breach of this agreement, and that they "FOF" must defend and hold the "County" harmless from liability under that law. Except as otherwise authorized, those records shall be maintained for a period of seven (7) years after receipt of final payment under this agreement.

XVI. NON-ASSIGNMENT OF AGREEMENT

The parties agree that there shall be no assignment of transfer of this Agreement, nor of any interests, rights or responsibilities herein contained, except as agreed it in writing.

XVII. MODIFICATIONS TO AGREEMENT

There shall be no modifications to this Agreement, except in writing, signed by all parties.

Agriculture

For updated Valley E-Newsletters click [here](#)

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Planning for development of factsheets/articles, longer publications, and videos on nutrition, genetics, & reproduction topics. The goal of this effort is to increase farmers, nutritionists, veterinarian, and other agribusiness professionals' understanding of management of these topics to help improve farm sustainability and economic viability.

Dairy e-newsletter for farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, other agribusiness professionals, and other interested individuals to inform participants of new dairy management articles/factsheets, connect with dairy educators, and learn about upcoming programming to help them learn about new research and management techniques to improve their overall farm sustainability.

Discussion & planning on VITAL dairy women programming for spring event(s) for west central Wisconsin.

Conversations with dairy farmers to discuss current / ongoing research opportunities for collaboration with Extension educators, state specialists, & campus specialists.

Planning for the 2024 Western WI Ag Lender Conference for agriculture bankers / lenders, ag service professionals, and finance-oriented farmers in collaboration with a committee of ag lenders and ag service professionals. The goal of this conference is to increase lender knowledge of current agricultural markets, better understand "behind the scenes" of how ag businesses function and keep up to date with technology adaptation (how & why the cost of investment in technology is important).

Met with county sustainability coordinator to discuss upcoming Agriculture & Natural Resources Input session for Eau Claire County's Climate Action & Resilience Plan.

Met with Land Conservation to share upcoming programs & outreach materials.

Met with an attorney partner. Planning for a November professional development event for western agriculture educators to foster better collaborations with legal counselors (& other ag professionals) to help farm families start and complete farm succession plans.

Meeting with Eau Claire Emergency Management Program Assistant to discuss additions and suggestions for changes for Emergency Operations Plan for the section on agriculture & animal agriculture. This effort supports the county emergency management team being able to contact appropriate agriculture contacts in the event of an agriculture emergency in the county.

Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



A field event for farmers and agriculture professionals where participants learned manure management application and manure spill response techniques to maximize nutrient efficiency, protect ground and surface water, and increase farm profitability. The goal of the program is to increase knowledge about manure application, placement, and timing while preventing manure and soil runoff.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

Extension Eau Claire County

October 2023 Report

A land evaluation clinic for students where participants learned land management principles, soil properties, and land use, to increase effective land management practices and maximize soil and agricultural land production into the future. The goal of the program is to increase knowledge and understanding of the importance of land and soil management and the impact agriculture and commercial development has on the land.

Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



Meetings with state and local partners to design a winter educational program for Hmong and underserved farmers in the Chippewa Valley on agricultural practices to support farm operations and profitability. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers and increase access to resources for direct farmers to support the food systems in the Chippewa Valley.

Educational program development on food truck/transient businesses so entrepreneurs can learn about the food business and basic food safety practices. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers for food entrepreneurs to sell prepared foods in the Chippewa Valley.

Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth.

Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth.

Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner
FoodWise Educator



Jael M. Wolf
Bilingual FoodWise Educator



A 4-lesson series for 4K preschoolers at Western Dairyland Truax Head Start to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.

A 3-lesson series for 4K preschoolers at Western Dairyland Eau Claire Head Start to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.

A Great Apple Crunch event for Augusta Elementary 1st grade where Great Apple Crunch materials were provided. The goal of this effort is to raise awareness about the benefits of supporting local agriculture and to encourage healthy eating habits among students.

A 4-lesson series for 4K preschoolers at Menomonie Head Start to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.

A 4-lesson series for 4K preschoolers at Altoona Head Start to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.

Participation in the Eau Claire Health Alliance monthly meeting including active support for the local chronic disease prevention action team. The goal of this effort is to help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to improve the health of residents.

A Great Apple Crunch event for Lakeshore and Longfellow Elementaries, including the Dual Immersion Spanish classrooms, where apple tasting was provided with supporting Great Apple Crunch materials. The goal of this effort is to raise awareness about the benefits of supporting local agriculture and to encourage healthy eating habits among students.

Health and Well-Being Educator

We hired this position, and this person will start with Extension November 29, 2023.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



Implemented an educational garden for the public in collaboration with facilities at the Dunn County Government Building. The goal of the effort is to incorporate native plants into the garden for both beautification and an opportunity to demonstrate plantings that, once established, support pollinators by increasing habitat, are lower in water needs and reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides helping to keep our waterways clean and reduce chemical input to our environment.

Continuing with a series of horticulture-based activities for people living with dementia and their care partners, offered in partnership with the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County Dementia Care Specialist. The goal of this effort is to offer hands-on, nature-inspired experiences that provide opportunities to stimulate participant's senses, enjoy social interactions, and provide physical activity while imparting a sense of purpose.

A presentation on how gardening benefits us mentally, physically, and socially for honor students at UW Eau Claire where participants learned and discussed how gardening can help us age with vitality. This effort was

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Extension Eau Claire County

October 2023 Report

designed to illustrate how gardens are a source of excellent nutrition, provide opportunities for exercise at any age, and can provide a sense of meaning or purpose in people's lives.

A program on planting hardy bulbs for the public where participants learned bulb selection, planting, and care to learn best practices in growing early spring blooms.

A presentation on gardening with kids for the 2023 Family and Consumer Sciences Education and WI DPI Childcare Conference at UW Stout where participants learned how gardening can enrich a child's life in many ways. This effort was designed to encourage gardening with youth with strategies to engage kids in gardening activities.

A presentation about the benefits of gardening for the Wisconsin United Women in Faith Annual Gathering where participants learned and discussed how gardening is a great way to incorporate many mental, physical, and social benefits into your life. This effort was designed to encourage people of all ages to incorporate plants and gardening into their lifestyle to experience many of these benefits.

Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



Planning for a Citizen Science STEM Day for 5-8th graders to provide an opportunity for them to engage in one of their Sparks.

A Citizen Science STEM Day for 5-8th graders to provide an opportunity for them to engage in one of their Sparks.

Planning for 4-H Summer Camp & Camp Counselor Application process to promote youth leadership opportunities for camp.

Interview with WAXX radio as part of the "4-H on the Air" program that is aired weekly. This program is to provide clubs and groups an opportunity to practice interviewing skills as well as promote the 4-H Program and the activities clubs and groups engage in.

A food preservation workshop where young people learned about safe food preservation methods and reliable resources.

4-H Discovery Day at the L.E. Phillips Memorial Library where young people and adults led 4-H Project activities. This effort is an opportunity for youth to practice leadership skills as well as an opportunity to engage with non-4-H families and promote the 4-H program.

Planning for an urban Citizen Science afternoon program for grades 5-8 to provide programming in the spark of STEM.

A presentation on completing a Record Book for the Country Cousins 4-H Club. This was in response to a club leader's request to learn more about record books and increase participation in the full 4-H program of the county as some of the county awards require a record book to participate.

Meeting with Vecino a Vecino to discuss support for their Latino 4-H Club. This effort is to support volunteers and programming in an underserved audience.

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:

Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.

Value Added Programming

A coaching and Money Matters program for qualifying individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to increase meeting financial goals and increase financial capability for long term financial success.

A live, on-line meeting series, for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research and applications regarding different manure processing options. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on manure processing options including the good and bad of each system.

The webinar, Badger Crop Connect, is meant for agriculture producers, consultants, and industry professionals where they can learn more about timely agriculture related topics from non-bias research-based sources. The goal is to provide seasonal updates on the latest research and recommendations related to current field conditions and crop stages. This activity is designed to provide tangible information that can make a positive impact in the short term which ultimately leads to long term environmental and financial sustainability on Wisconsin farms.

An all-day educational event for new farmers, part-time and full-time operators, low-income startups, graziers and non-graziers featuring guest speakers, farmer/local resources panel, commercial and agency exhibitors, and farmer-to-farmer networking with emphasis on grazing fundamentals, cattle stockmanship and handling facilities, wildlife and grazing ecology and future grazing opportunities and programs. The goal is for people to be able to make informed decisions about the pros and cons of grazing, and to meet other people with similar interests and goals related to grazing and pasture management.

Extension Eau Claire County

October 2023 Report

A facilitated conversation with nonprofit leaders in Northeast Wisconsin where participants learned about reviewing grant applications and applying for grants to further the mission of their organization.

A special event in which business experts join the UW-Madison Extension Entrepreneur in Training Partnership (EITP) to coach EITs about their business ideas. These events improve business viability and build empathy among participants, which leads to structural changes in the workforce and incarceration systems, long term.

Agriculture

For updated Valley E-Newsletters click [here](#)

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Introduction to Extension Spanish translated resources for dairy workers for Wisconsin Literacy volunteers that tutor Spanish speaking dairy workers to increase knowledge and awareness.

Planning for development of factsheets/articles, longer publications, and videos on nutrition, genetics, & reproduction topics. The goal of this effort is to increase farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, and other agribusiness professionals' understanding of management of these topics to help improve farm sustainability and economic viability.

Conversations with dairy farmers to discuss current / ongoing research opportunities for collaboration with Extension educators, state specialists, & campus specialists.

Revisions for Emergency Operations Plan for the section on agriculture & animal agriculture. This effort supports the county emergency management team being able to contact appropriate agriculture contacts in the event of an agriculture emergency in the county.

Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



A field event for beef farmers and pasture managers where participants learned cattle health, handling management, and pasture and soil management to improve beef cattle health, farmer safety, and pasture and soil management to increase beef and pasture production efficiency and improve farm profitability. The goal of the program is to increase knowledge and improve understanding of beef herd health and pasture management practices.

A Fall Beef and Pasture Management field event was hosted to provide cattle handling, herd health, and soil and pasture management to address herd and farmer safety. Speakers and topics included "Farm Facility Tour & Handling Demonstration, Low Cost Farmer-Built Portable Corral System with a Bud Box Demonstration with Heifers", Ken Schmitt & Family; "Biosecurity Discussion", Implementing Herd Health Programs & Correct Injection Placemen", Sandy Stuttgen, Division of Extension UW-Madison, Taylor County Agriculture Educator; "Considerations for Handling Facilities" and "Stretching Hay Supplies", Bill Halfman, Division of Extension UW-Madison, Beef Specialist; and "Estimating Forage & Feed Inventory", Jerry Clark, Division of Extension UW-Madison, Crops and Soils Educator for Chippewa, Dunn & Eau Claire counties. Twenty-four beef farmers and pasture managers attended the event. Informal post-meeting evaluation indicated all farmers increased their knowledge of the topics presented.

Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



Educational program development on food truck/transient businesses so entrepreneurs can learn about the food business and basic food safety practices. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers for food entrepreneurs to sell prepared foods in the Chippewa Valley. In the process of finalizing workshop dates and agenda.

Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth. Partners are gathering to develop 2024 workshops.

Education workshop on the Wisconsin Local Food Produce Assistance (LFPA) program targeting underserved small farmers. Assistance was provided to those who wanted to apply for the program. The workshop was conducted in English and Hmong. The program was promoted to anyone interested in the program with the main audience being Hmong farmers who sell direct to market as an identified underserved farm population.

Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner
FoodWise Educator



Jael M. Wolf
Bilingual FoodWise Educator



Collaboration with Longfellow Elementary School to develop a Kids Garden. This effort is concentrated on developing a strategic plan to include comprehensive programming with newly established garden beds which will introduce youth to new foods.

A 6-week nutrition education series to 3rd graders at River Heights Elementary to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, and included hands-on activities. This effort was designed to encourage students to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in River Heights, Longfellow, and Flynn Elementary Schools. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of handwashing.

A 4-lesson series for women in an addiction treatment program where they learn about nutrition and food resource management principles. The goal of this effort is to help limited resource participants make healthy food choices on a budget.

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Participation in the Eau Claire Health Alliance monthly meeting including active support for the local chronic disease prevention action team. The goal of this effort is to help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to improve the health of residents.

Participation in a statewide collaboration for local farmers markets that offer a token program to be included in a GusNIP grant proposal. This effort would provide a Market Match for fruits and vegetables purchased by FoodShare individuals which enhances food security.

Margo Dieck | Health and Well-Being Educator



Margo was hired to fill the Health and Well-Being Educator position and began on November 29th. Her role will be focused on behavioral health in Eau Claire County. She attended the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health and Community Health Education with a minor in nutrition. She has been a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES[®]) since 2018. Formerly, Margo was employed for the last five years as the Community Health Educator and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Waupaca County Department of Public Health. Her work focused on

content areas such as chronic disease prevention, nutrition and food insecurity, alcohol and other substance use, and communicable disease prevention. She is a trained facilitator with experience in coalition building, grant writing, CHA/CHIP processes, and communications. Margo is looking forward to learning more about Eau Claire County, the unique mental health landscape in the area, and how she can work with partners to better the health and well-being for everyone who comes to Eau Claire County to live, learn, work, and play.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



A presentation about the benefits of gardening at the first annual Age Your Way Conference in Chippewa Falls, where participants learned and discussed how gardening is a great way to incorporate many mental, physical, and social benefits into your life. This effort was designed to encourage people to include plants and gardening in their lifestyle to experience many of these benefits.

Completing the first year of a horticulture-inspired program in partnership with the ADRC Eau Claire County for people living with dementia and their care partners that offers hands-on, nature-inspired experiences that provide opportunities to stimulate the senses, enjoy social interactions, and provide physical activity and the use of fine motor skills while imparting a sense of purpose.

A presentation on gardening with kids for the 2023 Family and Consumer Sciences Education and WI DPI Childcare Conference at UW Stout where participants learned how gardening can enrich a child's life in many ways. This effort was designed to encourage gardening with youth with strategies to engage kids in gardening activities.

A presentation on how gardening benefits us mentally, physically, and socially for honor students at UW Eau Claire where participants learned and discussed how gardening can help us age with vitality. This effort was

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designed to illustrate how gardens are a source of excellent nutrition, provide opportunities for exercise at any age, and can provide a sense of meaning or purpose in people's lives.

A program on planting hardy bulbs for the public where participants learned bulb selection, planting, and care to learn best practices in growing early spring blooms.

A presentation about the benefits of gardening for the Wisconsin United Women in Faith Annual Gathering, Eau Claire, where participants learned and discussed how gardening is a great way to incorporate many mental, physical, and social benefits into your life. This effort was designed to encourage people of all ages to incorporate plants and gardening into their lifestyle to experience many of these benefits.

Implemented an educational garden for the public in collaboration with facilities at the Dunn County Government Building. The goal of the effort is to incorporate native plants into the garden for both beautification and an opportunity to demonstrate plantings that, once established, support pollinators by increasing habitat, are lower in water needs and reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides helping to keep our waterways clean and reduce chemical input to our environment.

Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



Supporting the Leaders Association to plan for the future of the organization and develop a viable leadership structure.

Planning for Art U, a virtual art project club in partnership with UW-Stout's art education department to provide a program that meets the needs of families and provides opportunities for kids to explore their sparks.

Developing a GooseChase game in partnership with two high school students to provide an engaging experience for young people and their families and build engagement across the county.

A straw weaving activity as part of Smart Girls Rock at Menomonie Middle School to provide a hands-on activity for middle school girls as part of their STEM exploration. This activity was to promote STEM learning and to increase the visibility of 4-H.

Meetings with Eau Claire Area School District and the Altoona School District to discuss partnerships in providing Juntos programming to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking families and provide a positive youth development opportunity for young people and increase families' sense of belonging.

Planning for the annual 4-H Awards Banquet. The Awards banquet is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the work of young people and volunteers over the past year to provide a positive youth development experience.

Interview with WAXX radio as part of the "4-H on the Air" program that is aired weekly. This program is to provide clubs and groups an opportunity to practice interviewing skills as well as promote the 4-H Program and the activities clubs and groups engage in.

A Speaking Contest for Dunn, Eau Claire, and Chippewa Counties. Youth participated in a variety of events that allowed them to improve their public speaking and presentation skills. They were given feedback which

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celebrated their strengths and provided education on areas to improve. Awards were given to the top speakers in each category.

Planning for a refresher of the Building Safe Spaces training for 4-H volunteers. The goal of this effort is to develop a short, interactive training for volunteers that will refresh them on the content of the original Building Safe Spaces training. The content of this training is important for volunteers because it helps us ensure a safe space for youth to participate and aligns with the Youth Protection policy.

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:

Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.

Value Added Programming

An all-day educational event for new farmers, part-time and full-time operators, low-income startups, graziers and non-graziers featuring guest speakers, farmer/local resources panel, commercial and agency exhibitors, and farmer-to-farmer networking with emphasis on grazing fundamentals, cattle stockmanship and handling facilities, wildlife and grazing ecology and future grazing opportunities and programs. The goal is for people to be able to make informed decisions about the pros and cons of grazing, and to meet other people with similar interests and goals related to grazing and pasture management. (Kevin Schoessow)

Updating and adapting a risk and grain marketing curriculum into a more relevant format for use in-person, stand-alone educational videos, and an on-line course. This curriculum will assist beginning, organic and transitioning dairy farmers in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability. (Katie Wantoch)

A community of practice for horticulture educators where we explore strategies and resources to expand horticulture education and outreach to underrepresented audiences. The goal of participating in this group is to dig into ways we can locally continue to grow and enhance our horticulture programs to reach more diverse audiences. (Julie Hill)

A pasture walk on an organic dairy farm was held for local dairy producers to learn about sustainable practices in pasture management and the management of pasture grazed dairy cows and replacements. (Matt Lippert)

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

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Planning for a dairy goat field day to be held in the local Amish Community who are expanding in goat production capacity and who as new producers have many production and marketing related questions. (Matt Lippert)

A field study data collection in collaboration with Colorado State University to better understand the practices and challenges associated with transportation of pre-weaned dairy heifer, dairy bull, and beef x dairy calves from the source (dairy farms), hauler, and receiver (calf raiser). Results from this study will help dairy farmers, managers, haulers, calf raisers, and the dairy community in adopting practices and improving transportation welfare to improve farm business viability and food safety. (Tina Kohlman)

21 - Ext

Fund	Account Description	Account No	Orig Budget 2023	Adj Budget 2023	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	YTD 2023	% of Budget
100	COUNTY TAX LEVY	23-100-21-41110-000-000	304,263	304,263	76,066	76,066	76,066	0	228,198	75.00%
	01-Tax Levy	Sum:	304,263	304,263	76,066	76,066	76,066	0	228,198	75.00%
	STATE POSTAGE GRANT	23-100-21-43690-000-000	994	994	0	863	0	0	863	86.79%
	04-Intergovernment Grants and Aid	Sum:	994	994	0	863	0	0	863	86.79%
	EXTENSION/ DUPLICATING	23-100-21-46772-000-000	0	0	93	0	0	0	93	0.00%
	EXTENSION/ EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS	23-100-21-46774-000-000	2,500	2,500	175	440	75	0	690	27.59%
	EXTENSION/ REFERENCE MATERIALS	23-100-21-46771-000-000	0	0	0	18	0	0	18	0.00%
	EXTENSION REVENUE-CLEARING ACCOUNT	23-100-21-46775-000-000	0	0	310	-310	10	0	10	0.00%
	GARDEN RENT	23-100-21-46773-000-000	1,300	1,300	735	870	0	0	1,605	123.46%
	PESTICIDE TRNG FEES	23-100-21-46776-000-000	0	0	0	0	60	0	60	0.00%
	SCHOOL OUTREACH PRG GRT	23-100-21-46770-007-000	1,800	1,800	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
	06-Public Charges for Services	Sum:	5,600	5,600	1,313	1,018	145	0	2,476	44.21%
	FAMILY & WELLNESS DONATIONS	23-100-21-48503-000-000	775	775	500	0	0	0	500	64.52%
	09-Other Revenue	Sum:	775	775	500	0	0	0	500	64.52%
	FUND BALANCE APPLIED	23-100-21-49300-000-000	0	11,494	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
	11-Fund Balance Applied	Sum:	0	11,494	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
	Total Revenues:	Sum:	311,632	323,126	77,879	77,947	76,211	0	232,037	71.81%

Fund	Account Description	Account No	Orig Budget 2023	Adj Budget 2023	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	YTD 2023	% of Budget
100	EXTENSION/ SAL PERM-REGULAR	23-100-21-55600-111-000-000	-79,157	-79,157	-16,502	-21,291	-18,338	0	-56,132	70.91%
	01-Regular Wages	Sum:	-79,157	-79,157	-16,502	-21,291	-18,338	0	-56,132	70.91%
	EXTENSION/ DENTAL INS	23-100-21-55600-164-000-000	0	0	-131	-131	-131	0	-393	0.00%

EXTENSION/ ER HSA CONTRIBUTIONS	23-100-21-55600-153-000-000	-2,250	-2,250	0	-563	-563	0	-1,125	50.00%
EXTENSION/ HOSP & HEALTH INS	23-100-21-55600-154-000-000	-37,656	-37,656	-9,001	-9,001	-9,001	0	-27,002	71.71%
EXTENSION/ LIFE INSURANCE	23-100-21-55600-155-000-000	-40	-40	-7	-10	-11	0	-27	68.20%
EXTENSION/ RETIREMENT EMPLR SHARE	23-100-21-55600-152-000-000	-5,145	-5,145	-1,122	-1,448	-1,247	0	-3,817	74.19%
EXTENSION/ SOCIAL SECURITY	23-100-21-55600-151-000-000	-6,056	-6,056	-1,072	-1,403	-1,173	0	-3,649	60.25%
03-Payroll Benefits	Sum:	-51,147	-51,147	-11,333	-12,555	-12,125	0	-36,013	70.41%
4-H PROGRAMS/ DATA PROCESSING	23-100-21-55641-214-000-000	-500	-500	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
EXTENSION/ CONTRACTED SERVICES	23-100-21-55600-200-000-000	-151,191	-151,191	0	-69,983	0	0	-69,983	46.29%
EXTENSION/ TELEPHONE	23-100-21-55600-225-000-000	-1,680	-1,680	0	-840	-420	0	-1,260	75.00%
04-Contracted Services	Sum:	-153,371	-153,371	0	-70,823	-420	0	-71,243	46.45%
EXTENSION/ MEMBERSHIP DUES	23-100-21-55600-324-000-000	-1,200	-1,200	-475	-150	0	0	-625	52.08%
EXTENSION/ OFFICE SUPPLIES	23-100-21-55600-310-000-000	-5,000	-5,000	-519	-1,468	-1,147	0	-3,134	62.68%
EXTENSION/ PRINTING & DUP	23-100-21-55600-313-000-000	-3,500	-3,500	-302	-622	0	0	-925	26.42%
EXTENSION/ STATE POSTAGE	23-100-21-55615-311-000-000	-994	-1,125	-236	-30	-10	0	-276	24.56%
EXTENSION/ SUPPLIES	23-100-21-55601-300-000-000	-2,500	-3,565	-1,138	-572	173	0	-1,537	43.11%
EXTENSION/ TRAVEL-REGULAR	23-100-21-55600-330-000-000	-5,000	-5,000	-907	-1,188	-976	0	-3,072	61.43%
EXTENSION/ TRAVEL-TRAIN & CONF	23-100-21-55600-340-000-000	-2,500	-2,500	-776	-921	-61	0	-1,758	70.32%
FAMILY & WELLNESS/ SUPPLIES	23-100-21-55610-300-000-000	-775	-2,429	-738	0	0	0	-738	30.38%
GARDENS/ REPAIR & MAINT SUPP	23-100-21-55620-370-000-000	-1,300	-1,300	0	-288	-1,064	0	-1,352	103.96%
SAFETY GRANT/ SUPPLIES	23-100-21-55606-390-000-000	0	-5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SCHOOL OUTREACH PROG/ SUPPLIES	23-100-21-55613-390-000-000	-1,800	-5,444	-494	-648	-699	0	-1,841	33.82%
05-Supplies & Expenses	Sum:	-24,569	-36,063	-5,585	-5,888	-3,784	0	-15,257	42.31%
EXTENSION/ OFFICE EQUIPMENT	23-100-21-55600-813-000-000	-3,388	-3,388	-67	-1,107	-1,107	0	-2,281	67.33%
09-Equipment	Sum:	-3,388	-3,388	-67	-1,107	-1,107	0	-2,281	67.33%
Total Expenditures:	Sum:	-311,632	-323,126	-33,487	-111,664	-35,774	0	-180,925	55.99%
Net Surplus/(-Deficit) - Extension		\$0	\$0	\$44,392	-\$33,717	\$40,437	\$0	\$51,111	