



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location: **Courthouse Assembly Room, (B105), Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Committee Members: Sara Guild, Chair; Ka Lo, Vice-Chair; Gary Beastro; Becky Buch; Tom Rosenberg; Rick Seefeldt, Chris Voll

Marathon County Mission Statement: *Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)*

Committee Mission Statement: *Provide the leadership for implementation of the Strategic Plan, monitoring outcomes, reviewing and recommending to the County Board all policies related to educational and economic development initiatives of Marathon County.*

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. Instead of attendance in person, Committee members and the public may attend this meeting by **telephone conference**. If Committee members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the **telephone conference beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number:**

Phone #: 1-408-418-9388

Access Code: 146-159-7938

If you are prompted to provide an "Attendee Identification Number," enter the "#" sign. No other number is required to participate in the telephone conference. When you enter the telephone conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment (15 Minutes)
3. Approval of the Minutes of the November 5, 2020, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee Meeting
4. **Policy Issues** Discussion and Potential Committee Determination
5. **Operational Functions** required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution:
6. **Educational Presentations** and Committee Discussion
 - A. Recap of UW Extension programming based on 2018 Situational Analysis
 - B. 2021 Situational Analysis development discussion
 1. What process will we use to determine the UW Extension programming focus over the next 12-24 months
 - C. Recommendation from the MCPL Task Force to seek membership in the South Central Library System
 1. Task Force Report Vote Results
 - D. Reports from Other Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations
 1. UW-Stevens Point Wausau
 2. MCDEVCO
7. **Announcements and Future Meetings:**
 - A. Committee Member Announcements and Future Agenda Recommendations
 - B. Future Committee Calendar
 1. Next meeting Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 4:00 pm
8. **Adjourn**

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk's Office at 715-261-1500 one business day before the meeting.

SIGNED /s/ Sara Guild
Presiding Officer or Designee

FAXED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages,
FAXED TO: and Other Media Groups
FAXED BY: T. Ranallo
FAXED DATE: _____
FAXED TIME: _____

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE
BY: T. Ranallo
DATE: _____
TIME: _____



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, November 5, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

Employee Resources Conference Room C-149, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Attendance:	Present	Absent
Sara Guild, Chair	W	
Ka Lo, Vice Chair	W	
Gary Beastron	W	
Becky Buch	W	
Tom Rosenberg	X	
Rick Seefeldt	W	
Chris Voll		EX

Others Present: Lance Leonhard, Jason Hake, Kurt Gibbs, Toshia Ranallo, Mary Palmer

VIA WEB/Phone: Vicki, Resch, Jane Spencer, Craig McEwen, Jason Hausler, Ann Hamline, Lee Webster, Brian Kowalski, Ann Herda-Rapp

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

The Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Guild.

2. **Public Comment:** Lee Webster, Wausau School District, regarding recent referendums from the Wausau School District.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** of the September 3, 2020, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee (EEED) Meeting.

MOTION BY ROSENBERG, SECOND BY LO, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2020, EXTENSION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination:** None

5. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:**

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Deliberating on its strategy for negotiating the sale or lease of property located at 615 Garfield Avenue (UW-Stevens Point, Wausau Campus Dormitory) in the City of Wausau.

- a) The Committee may, if appropriate, consider a motion (Roll Call Vote Recommended) to convene in closed session, pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(e), Wis. Stats., for the purposes of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

2. **MOTION BY ROSENBERG, SECOND BY SEEFELDT TO RECONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION, PURSUANT TO S. 19.85(1)(E), WIS. STATS., FOR THE PURPOSES OF DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASE OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION**

ROLL CALL TAKEN:

Sara Guild, Chair	Y
Ka Lo, Vice Chair	Y
Gary Beastrom	Y
Becky Buch	Y
Tom Rosenberg	Y
Rick Seefeldt	Y
Chris Voll	n/a

Discussion:

Deliberating on its strategy for negotiating the sale or lease of property located at 615 Garfield Avenue (UW-Stevens Point, Wausau Campus Dormitory) in the City of Wausau

Action:

No action taken in closed session.

- a) Motion to return to open session (Roll call not necessary)

Action:

**MOTION BY ROSENBERG; SECOND BY BEASTROM TO MOVE BACK INTO OPEN SESSION.
MOTION CARRIED.**

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

- b) Possible Announcements or Action Resulting from Closed Session

Announcement: Information will be provided to the HR/Finance/Property committee to continue the discussion looking into any and all options for suitable housing for the future success of the campus.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB) Update

Discussion:

Part of our Strategic Plan says we should collaborate with the Workforce Development Board and identify areas where we can work together.

Jane Spencer, NCWWDB Director, presented on the Workforce Development Board and what they do. They offer employment and training services for adults, youth/young adults, and dislocated workers and assistance needed such as creating a resume. Some additional programs are Windows to Work – Offender Reentry Program; LifeWork\$-Summer Youth Employment Program; Support to Communities/Opioid Recovery Grant, and Employer Alliances.

Jane asked that if there is a need in the Marathon County community, please reach out to them. Or if you see something is being missed, let them know too.

If anyone has suggestions on how we can support each other, let Chair Guild know.

Jane also provided a current EMSI economic overview report. This can be updated anytime and Derrick is the person who can reach out to at NCWWDB.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

B. MCDEVCO Updates

1. Business Support Efforts During COVID
2. Broadband Expansion Support Opportunities

Discussion:

Vicki Resech, Executive Director, gave a presentation on Pivotal Moments – Navigating the Crossroads 2019- 2020 for MCDEVCO (Marathon County Development Corporation). The highlights of 2019-2020 were given throughout the county on many of the collaborations made.

MCDEVCO has a full staff and are ready to help with any projects such as possible assistance with funding related to broadband.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

C. Review of EEED Committee's Strategic Plan Objectives and Recent Activities

Discussion:

Vice-chair McEwen asked that the new tool be used to track accomplishments on the objectives assigned to this committee. He is looking for a consistent way for all standing committees to share information. We are about 2 ½ years through the strategic plan. Extension, Education & Economic Development has the lead on objectives: 8.7; 10.6; 10.8 and 10.10

There has been a lot of activity on these objectives. Review the updated strategic plan document also.

Follow Through:

- Vice Chair McEwen asked that the template be shared with the rest of the committee. Administrator Leonhard will send that out tonight.
- The partially completed form will be brought back at a future meeting.

D. Reports from Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations

1. UW Madison Division of Extension

Discussion:

Jason Hausler – Two months of written reports were in the packet. Please be sure to review them.

He mentioned the Rural Health Resolution going to County Board. Their division has been working on the rural health initiatives and will pursue this in the future through Health & Human Services and Extension, Education & Economic Development committees. He provided data points to Supervisor Cihlar.

212 River Drive – All three departments in that building are working together to do consolidation. Their Division will be shifting some staff to the main office and will have reuse for that space for veterans. The HUD program will come in a couple days a week. They are re-strategizing the use of the building.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

2. UW-Stevens Point Wausau

Discussion:

- Ann Herda-Rapp, Wausau Campus Executive – There are a number of new initiatives on campus: a grant with the Medical College of Wisconsin to feed the physician pipeline. they are working to identify students from underserved populations with more locally grown physicians.
- The Wausau campus will be the only campus for the Master's program. We are the hub and hope practicing social workers will go back for their master's degree.
- Assist students who lost jobs and are suffering significant hardships
- Enrollment is up – 10% new students; 8% continuing students (first time in 10 years)
- Covid – the campus will be a community testing site for covid. (407 tests given two days a week) at the fieldhouse. Free testing to members of the public. It is the antigen quick test. If positive or negative with symptoms, would be referred to other location for further testing.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

3. Marathon County Public Library

Discussion:

No report. Chair Guild has been forwarding e-mails on the Library Task Force to the committee.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:

A. Future committee calendar

- The next meeting will be Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Let Toshia Ranallo and/or Chair Sara Guild know if you are unable to attend.
- Announcement:

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION BY SEEFELDT, SECOND BY LO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:10 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes prepared
by Mary Palmer



FINDINGS FROM 2018
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Please contact your Area Extension Director or Jenna Klink (jenna.klink@ces.uwex.edu) with any questions or for more detail.

Process

In 2018, Extension embarked on a statewide Developmental Situational Analysis (DSA) to gain an updated understanding on existing and emerging issues and opportunities in the state that Extension programming could address.

1. In Part 1 of the DSA, 22 Area Work Groups, made up of colleagues, reviewed existing local data and resources and engaged county funding partners¹ (500+ sources reviewed), and then summarized findings into a Developmental Situational Analysis Report per Area.
2. Office of Program Support Services analyzed the 22 reports and developed this coding framework of issues (pages 2-3) that reflects the circumstances across the state as mentioned by Area Work Groups.
3. Current status and next steps: Extension’s Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources and Department of Youth Family & Community Development are forming work groups of colleagues, including specialists, who will review data at the statewide scale to build on this framework. The end goal of this process is to clearly prioritize issues for each of our Extension Institutes; this will aid us in communicating impacts, identifying strategic partnerships and interdisciplinary opportunities, supporting educators, and developing programs. Work groups and program leadership will incorporate statewide trends and data with the local input and data to inform the prioritization of Extension Institute issues/needs.

Reading the Results

- We have arranged the issues through key themes and sub-themes. The key themes are in bold font, below. Each key theme’s sub-themes are listed under that key theme.
- The language used below in describing these issues is typically not the exact wording used by Area Work Groups, but was derived and synthesized from Area Work Groups’ language. We acknowledge that the wording we chose has its limitations and multiple interpretations, and we see this as a starting point. We made a choice to frame each issue as a “need” which includes more negative language, rather than as an “opportunity,” which would be more positive framing. This is how most work groups described the issues.

¹ Every Area Extension Director (AED) made an effort to engage county funding partners through a Qualtrics survey, in-person or phone conversation, or during a facilitated process at a committee meeting unless they had very recently asked for similar input and therefore did not ask again, or if it proved difficult to get on committee meeting agendas. Examples of who was engaged include Board Chairs, Administrators, Executives, Administrative Coordinators, and Extension Committees.



<i>Issues as Key Themes</i>	<i>Number of Area Reports mentioning this issue (n=22)</i>
Workforce & Workplace Development	22
Workforce Shortage	21
Insufficient Wages/Low Income Rate	11
Farm Viability and Sustainability	21
Population Health	
Limited Access to Health Necessities	18
Chronic and Ongoing Health Issues	17
Trauma	15
AODA & Mental Health	18
Environmental Health	2
Infrastructure	
Transportation	13
Housing	13
Broadband	6
Environment & Stewardship	
Natural Resource Economies	7
Poor Water Quality	14
Land Stewardship	8
Social Infrastructure & Systems	
Life Skills	8
Violence and Aggression	7
Limited Capacity of Organizations	15
Ways to Interact, Cope, Adapt	14
Social Cohesion	15

Do not interpret the numbers below as “X issue only exists in Y number of areas.”

Interpret the numbers instead as “Y number of work groups wrote about X issue in their Summer 2018 report.”

For more detailed definitions of the themes, see the table on the following page.



<i>Issues as Key Themes</i>	<i>Definitions of Issues</i>
Workplace & Workforce Development	Work and working are not viable enough.
Workforce Shortage	There are not enough people to fill jobs.
Insufficient Wages/Low Income Rate	Jobs do not pay enough to make them financially feasible.
Farm Viability and Sustainability	Tight profit margins and a changing operational environment limit farms' fiscal viability.
Population Health	
Population Health	Our residents experience significant mental and physical health challenges related to access, trauma, behaviors, and exposures.
Limited Access to Health Necessities	Residents have limited access to health necessities.
Chronic and Ongoing Health Issues	Many residents do not have appropriate resources to prevent, manage, and heal chronic and ongoing health issues.
Trauma	Many residents suffer from the effects of traumatic experiences.
AODA & Mental Health	Residents suffer from high rates of alcohol and drug use/abuse and mental health conditions.
Environmental Health	Residents are exposed to dangerous environmental toxins via homes, water, and air.
Infrastructure	
Infrastructure	Our infrastructure does not serve Wisconsin residents enough.
Transportation	Transportation is too expensive, failing or unavailable.
Housing	The housing market does not serve all of the population enough.
Broadband	Access to high-speed internet is limited in some areas.
Environment & Stewardship	
Environment & Stewardship	Our environment needs protective management balanced with economic productivity.
Natural Resource Economies	Communities primarily supported with natural resource economies need to protect resources while providing for sustainable livelihoods.
Poor Water Quality	Water quality is poor and causing various health, environmental and economic problems.
Land Stewardship	Private forested lands lack management and farm land requires conservation practices.
Social Infrastructure & Systems	
Social Infrastructure & Systems	Our current social systems are not equitable to all residents, which can disadvantage individuals' and groups' abilities to lead full, productive lives.
Life Skills	Residents that have not had full access to education need the skills and content that help them navigate through social systems.
Violence and Aggression	Violence and the threat of violence sometimes causes and sometimes stems from distress in communities; this distress has or can become intergenerational and/or historical trauma.
Limited Capacity of Organizations	Organizations that provide public services lack the resources needed to provide adequate and equitable services to communities.
Ways to Interact, Cope, Adapt	People must individually navigate, interact with, cope with, and/or adapt to inequitable or otherwise difficult social systems and situations, and many require support in doing so.
Social Cohesion	Misperceptions and misunderstandings between groups can hinder efforts to collectively solve shared problems.

Area 7 Situational Analysis

In 2018, Extension engaged in a statewide situational analysis, led locally within Areas, to determine current and emerging needs in our communities. Once completed, Extension educators, state teams and program leaders would develop strategies to address those needs systematically. Process for gathering data was multilayered:

- Conversations with County Board Chairs/Administrators/Committees
- Examine existing research, reports, assessments within the area (LIFE Report, etc)

What a couple of years can do

Since the time the team completed its work (August 2018), numerous events—both locally and nationally – have impacted our success in some areas as well as diverted resources (local and state) to other areas that were not pressing at that time. Examples = Broadband & Public Health

Area Priorities in 2018

Developmental Situational Analysis; UW Cooperative Extension: AREA 7
Quality of workforce (training for available jobs)
Incomes decreasing compared to cost of living (living wage)
Decline in water quality in both surface and groundwater
Mental Health Resources
Diversity of employment sectors/ Quality of jobs in part of Area 7
Lack of planned development to manage impacts of growth (natural resources, quality of life...)
Disconnect with the importance of forestry to Area 7
Access to Broadband
Alcohol and Substance Abuse/Drug epidemic
Need for Healthy Activity and Food Environments (bike paths, food systems)
Positive Health outcomes (preventative screenings, check-ups)
Lack of community resources (organizations and services??) ALICE populations
Access to farmland for small & medium farms (avg size 200-300ac)

Marathon County's Situation

In 2018, here is what Marathon County (through conversations with County Board members and County Administration) identified as high priorities

- What do you see as major needs in this county currently and moving forward?
 - **Broadband, Opioid Crisis, Agriculture (Water Quality & Sustainability), Workforce Development (EC Development Emphasis), Criminal Justice Reform**

What have we (Extension) done to address those issues?

- **Broadband**
 - Assist with the Broadband Task Force; Design Nine Study and peripherals; conversations with ISP's, Towns, Villages, etc. regarding Broadband; Broadband policy research; etc.



- **Opioid Crisis/Criminal Justice Reform**

- Horticulture Education focusing on Therapeutic Horticulture

(reduce recidivism through meaningful outlets while promoting job skills)

- Gaining Grounds Garden on Grand Ave (working with the jail);

ATTIC Services Partnership; Juvenile Detention Center; etc.

- **Agriculture (Water Quality)**

- Ag: Farm Succession/ Estate Planning; Emerging Agriculture Industries

- WQ: Collaborations with Farmer Led Coalitions (ex. EPPIC) to educate and change Ag Practices; regional efforts throughout the Center Wisconsin River Watershed

Other Items

- **Healthy Eating/Active Living (FoodWise Program)**
 - Food Gleaning initiatives; Strong Bodies
- **Youth Development (4-H Program)**
 - Life Skill Development = job skill development

Area 7 Situational Analysis Update

So – what next?

- During the Spring of 2021, conversations will be had with all Area 7 Extension oversight committees, along with County Board Chairs, County Administrators and Executives.
- From Spring into Summer, an AreaWorkteam will begin to compile and synthesize data sets/reports/etc. to help complete the picture of the situation in Central Wisconsin.
- The information generated from this situational analysis will help to inform/shape colleagues plans of work for 2021-2022.



So... What's the Situation now and moving forward?

What do you see as the major needs in Marathon County currently and moving forward?



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

January 2021 Educator Update

(for work completed in November and December of 2020)

FoodWise Education - Tammy Hansen, Gaonou Thao, Melissa Yates

- All staff continued to participate in webinars on virtual communication platforms, nutrition/physical activity updates, food security issues and health/racial equity, while also participating in regular Extension/ FoodWise zoom meetings at the local, regional, and state levels.
- Tammy, Gaonou and Melissa presented two virtual “Let’s Talk Turkey” lessons with Marathon County Head Start parents on November 12th. Tammy also contacted FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) staff about conducting a three lesson “Healthy Cents” series in Marathon, Lincoln and Langlade Counties in 2021.
- Tammy developed the new 2021 schedule for the monthly “Healthy Eating” series that will now be held virtually. These nutrition/food demonstration lessons will resume in January. The first lesson is on preparing healthy one-dish meals.
- Gaonou and Tammy continue to work on a virtual Hmong StrongBodies series. We originally planned to initiate this series in November, but had to postpone its start until technology issues could be resolved. The planned start date now is mid-January. Gaonou and Tammy are also meeting with Portage/Wood Counties FoodWise staff in early January to discuss a joint monthly nutrition/ food demo series with Hmong families to start in February.
- Tammy continues to work on the statewide Policy, Systems and Environmental (PSE) review team looking at the issue of food security and FoodWise work with food pantries. She has also started working with a second PSE team looking at FoodWise work with Farmers’ Markets.

4-H Youth Development - Kaitlyn Bernarde

- OUT ON MATERNITY LEAVE (November 18th,2020)

Agriculture Education - Heather Schlessor

- Updated the Midwest Manure Summit Webpage for the 2021 summit (<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/midwestmanure/>)
- Hosted the first virtual Heart of the farm of the winter programming season. Jerry Apps presented on the Women’s role in farming. 94 people across the state attended.
- I finally heard back from the Journal of Extension on the manuscript I submitted in March and have started making their suggested changes.
- This month I have been working a lot on creating and reviewing the Dairy Worker Training Modules on reproduction.

Community Development Education - Melinda Osterberg

- **Broadband Task Force.** Continued to staff the Marathon County Broadband Task Force and the Project Evaluation Work Group. The Broadband Task Project Evaluation Work Group met on November 6th and 13th to evaluate proposals from the internet service providers on how to expand broadband access in Marathon County. Develop a

matrix to evaluate and rank the proposals. The Broadband Task Force met on November 16th and determined to move forward with two major proposals, one for wireless broadband infrastructure on a series of existing and proposed towers throughout the County and a 7-mile fiber expansion project south of Hatley in the Town of Reid.

- **State of Wisconsin Public Service Broadband Expansion Grant Coordination.** Acted as a liaison between internet service providers and the County to ensure that ISPs had the information needed for a successful grant application. This included direct outreach to property owners along the fiber route, contacting all the municipalities and school districts in the County, and compiling the resulting letters in support of the two projects. This outreach led to over **71 letters of support** for the Marathon County/Wittenberg Telephone FTTH Phase One project and **67 letters in support** of the Marathon County Wireless Broadband Expansion project. In addition, through this outreach process, the **Marshfield Clinic will contribute up to \$30,000** for broadband expansion in Marathon County.
- **Diversity Affairs Commission Strategic Plan.** Continued to provide support and assist the Diversity Affairs Commission in developing a plan of work that reflects the Commission's mission. Attended the December Diversity Affairs Commission Meeting.
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day On.** Participated in multiple Martin Luther King Dr. Day On planning meetings and developed a document for facilitators and moderators on how to manage a successful WebEx program.
- **Local Government Education.** Conducted an interview with the State of Wisconsin Ethics Commission on campaign finance for local officials. This is part of an educational program on how to run for local elected office during the Spring 2021 election. For additional information on how campaign forms, including how to complete campaign finance reports, please visit: <https://localgovernment.extension.wisc.edu/elections/>

Horticulture Education - Janell Wehr

- **Heirloom Biographies-** I developed and delivered "Heirloom Biographies" in which participants learned about the decreasing genetic diversity of vegetable crops. I shared the historical, cultural, and economic significance of old, open pollinated cultivars of garden vegetables, most of which hailed from Wisconsin families. The programs were delivered in partnership with the Wausau, Rothschild, and Mosinee libraries with a total of 43 participants. Of the participants that answered the evaluation, 68% stated that as a result of the program, they now understood historically there was a wider diversity of genetics in garden vegetables, while 29% stated they were already aware. 74% of the participants stated that as a result of the program, they now understood the difference between open pollinated and hybrid plants, while 19% already understood the difference.
- **Pop Up Produce (PUP) Gardens-** This project seeks to unite donated, excess seeds with residents of Marathon County. This project has multiple components, including container gardens for school aged children and residents living in nursing and assisted living facilities. The remainder of the seeds will be donated to underserved community gardens. Master Gardener Volunteers will serve as mentors for novice gardeners. I am currently working on funding and connecting to community partners. The Marathon County Master Gardeners have been procuring donated materials and also seeking community partnerships. We expect this project to be completed in May.
- **Foundations in Horticulture (FIH)-** I continue to co-facilitate the pilot program, Foundations in Horticulture. FIH is a survey course which introduces the student to the fundamentals of horticulture. FIH will replace Master Gardener training and will be open to all interested individuals, regardless of desire to become a Master Gardener Volunteer. I look forward to bringing this program to Marathon County as an entry point for individuals interested in working in the green industry.
- **MLK Day On IT Sub-committee-** I continue to serve on the MLK Day On IT sub-committee.

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

Como empleador que brinda igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y acción afirmativa (EEO/AA, por sus siglas en inglés), la University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y en sus programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Título VI, Título IX, y de la ley federal para personas con discapacidades en los Estados Unidos (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés).

Tus Tswv Hauj Lwm Ntawm (EEO/AA), ntawm lub Tsev Kawm Ntawm Qib Siab (University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension) pab rau kev ncaj ncees txog kev hauj lwm thiab kev pab cuam, xws li nyob rau hauv Title VI, Title IX, thiab ntawm tsab cai Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) yuav tsum kom muaj.

Area Director Update - Jason Hausler

- Worked with County Administration to sign the 2021 Extension Contract for services and routed for signatures with UW-Madison. Executed contract was returned on November 24th.
- Assisted 4-H Program Coordinator, Kaitlyn Bernarde, on workflow transitions for when she is on maternity leave.
- Assisted Amin Specialist, Nancy Anderson, with work adjustments as she is out on FMLA leave.
- Worked with Extension Leadership and the Wisconsin Association of Fairs to pursue a statewide fairs advisory committee. This project is moving forward with Extension taking a leading role, with the first meeting scheduled for the end of January 2021. Goal is to improve communication between all parties involved with county fairs and developing a sustainability plan for the future of county fairs.
- Continue to serve on the Extension COVID Task Force.

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

Como empleador que brinda igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y acción afirmativa (EEO/AA, por sus siglas en inglés), la University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y en sus programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Título VI, Título IX, y de la ley federal para personas con discapacidades en los Estados Unidos (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés).

Tus Tswv Hauj Lwm Ntawm (EEO/AA), ntawm lub Tsev Kawm Ntawm Qib Siab (University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension) pab rau kev ncaj ncees txog kev hauj lwm thiab kev pab cuam, xws li nyob rau hauv Title VI, Title IX, thiab ntawm tsab cai Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) yuav tsum kom muaj.