



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location: **Courthouse Assembly Room, 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 #: (650) 215-5226. Access Code: 140 339 037 Password: 3333 from Phone.

When you enter the telephone conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment Portion of the Agenda has been Temporarily Suspended
3. Approval of the Minutes of the February 18, 2020, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee Meeting.
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 to Forward to HR, Finance & Property Committee for Consideration
 1. UWSP Wausau Campus – Security Camera Project
6. **Educational Presentations** and Committee Discussion
 - A. Committee Role and Responsibilities – Guild / Leonhard
 1. Committee Overview – Mission, Purpose, & History
 2. Operational Decision-Making – Common Committee Operational Functions
 3. Reporting Relationships – Departments and Subcommittees Reporting to this Committee (see [Rule 2.04\(1\) of Marathon County Code of Ordinances](#))
 - B. Reports from Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations
 1. UW Madison Division of Extension Update
 2. UW-Stevens Point Wausau
 3. MCDEVCO
 4. Marathon County Library Board
 - C. Activities & Priorities – Discussion of Committee's actions during the recent session and potential priorities for the next session in light of Marathon County's [Strategic Plan](#) and [Comprehensive Plan](#) ([Executive Summary](#))
7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:

A. Future committee calendar

1. Next meeting Thursday, June 4, 2020 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 or e-mail infomarathon@mail.marathon.co.wi.us 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: M. Palmer
FAXED DATE: _____
FAXED TIME: _____

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE
BY: M. Palmer
DATE: _____
TIME: _____



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

Courthouse Assembly Room, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Attendance:	Present	Absent
Sara Guild, Chair	X	
Romey Wagner, Vice Chair		EX
Gary Beaström	X	
Alyson Leahy	X	
Ka Lo	X	
Rick Seefeldt	X	
Loren White	X	

Others Present: Mary Palmer, Lance Leonhard, Jason Hausler, Vicki Resech, Lee Webster, Media

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, 155617 Pine Bluff Road, Wausau – representing Wausau School Board. Gave an update on the last Wausau School Board meeting.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** of December 11, 2019, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee (EEEC) Meetings and the December 17, 2019, Joint meeting with Infrastructure.

Action:

MOTION BY WHITE, SECOND BY LEAHY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, AND DECEMBER 17, 2019 MEETINGS. MOTION CARRIED.

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

5. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:** None

6. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion**

A. Discussion on the work of the committee during this session relative to the 2018 – 2022 Marathon County Strategic Plan

Discussion:

This committee has worked on the following portions of the strategic plan this committee was leading:

Objective 8.7 Strive to provide affordable, reliable, high-speed internet access throughout the county.

- Discussed broadband expansion and/or plan development at majority of meetings
- Created criteria for defining “countywide-coverage” in broadband RFP
- Participated in joint meetings with Infrastructure to oversee progression of broadband plan development, which was finalized and released to the public by the end of 2019
- Supported and funded hiring of Extension employee for broadband initiative
- Individual members attended community, town, and organization meetings to share information about broadband expansion efforts and obtain feedback
 - By end of session, there has been a noticeable positive increase in both awareness of, and support for, broadband expansion in rural areas of the county
- Supported policy change for branch libraries to offer free wi-fi access in parking lots after hours

Objective 10.6 Ensure the future availability of a skilled and flexible workforce prepared to meet the needs of both existing and emerging industries and technologies.

- Provided funding for:
 - Greater Wausau workforce attraction website

- WIPPS Family-Friendly Workplace study
- Chamber regional economic development study
- Passed resolutions showing support for specific workforce demographics, including:
 - Indigenous Peoples Day
 - Hmong Veterans Day
 - Hmong New Year
 - Lunar (Chinese) New Year
 - Pride Month
- Supported UWSP Wausau with efforts to attract and retain more students, including:
 - Publicly supported transition from UW-Marathon County to UWSP Wausau
 - Supported funding infrastructure improvements to facilities, including pool, ice rinks, and furnace.

Objective 10.8 – Encourage development and redevelopment of key employment centers in areas that possess strong market potential, provide good transportation access for workers, and promote the efficient movement of goods.

- Provided funding for:
 - Greater Wausau Chamber’s regional economic development study
 - Regional sports complex development study
 - Gap funding

Objective 10.10 – 10.10 – Create an innovative atmosphere to foster an entrepreneurial-supportive environment.

This objective ties directly into 10.6.

- Provided funding for:
 - Wisconsin Valley Fair (2018)
 - Ginseng festival (2018)
- Toured MCDEVCO’s new GEARS center and obtained information regarding their efforts to support entrepreneurs and businesses in the county

Wisconsin Valley Fair update by Supervisor Seubert – we are losing money. In 2019 down about \$50,000. This year they have tightened the budget and are not going with top name entertainment. The 4-H end is going strong.

Suggestions for the future committee:

Broadband/Infrastructure: (8.7)

- In former budgets this committee had about \$45,000 to use for various projects. In the 2019 budget the funding for this committee was transferred to fund 50% of the UW-Madison Division of Extension position on Broadband. The future EEEEC will want to make sure there is a position funded to work on broadband to make sure we have a seat at the table for these discussions. This committee designed a broad plan of Marathon County’s needs. We need to make sure there is communication with the citizens on what is happening. This committee should make itself available.
- Stay involved with facilities and roadway maintenance/transfer to affect policy decisions on how much money to allocate to infrastructure in the budget.

Workforce: (10.6)

- UW-Stevens Point Marathon County will be asking for the dormitory to be remodeled or rebuilt. This committee remains involved, as it has been explained that this is a barrier to get students to come to UWSP-Wausau because of lack of housing.
- Work with North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board and look at their data to see if we can use it to make policy.

Development and Redevelopment of employment center (10.8)

- Public and Private Prosperity Partnership – Look at the Master Plan of Rib Mountain State Park and linking it with 9-Mile to make a year-round attraction. Encourage the committee to continue monitoring the results of the economic survey and the report and recommendations of our private/public partnership.

Entrepreneurial– (10.10)

- Work with the Fair Board to make the Wisconsin Valley Fair more viable and economically sound. Perhaps advertise more on the 4-H end of it, not just the entertainment. The Fair is both educational and economical and should it be more of a community wide effort?
- MCDEVCO needs to be kept viable. Create an atmosphere for entrepreneurial support. Look at doing it contractually. There is growth potential.

Follow Through:

The above information will be shared with the next Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee

B. Update from MCDEVCO on recent economic development activities

Discussion:

Vicki Resech, Director of Marathon County Development Corporation (MCDEVCO), handed out a copy of their next two year Strategic Plan, explaining who they are, what their values are and how they do what they do. She also handed out a document that showed how MCDEVCO works with Marathon County's Strategic Plan Objectives.

POWTS is up and running and they already have applicants.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

C. UW Madison Division of Extension Update – discussion of work of educators, including efforts relative to Broadband Feasibility Study and Lunar New Year activities

Discussion:

Jason Hausler – The reports from the educators are in the packet. Janelle Wehr is our new Horticulture Educator. Lunar New Year activities were a success with over 750 attendees. When the annual report is complete he would like to have the opportunity to present to the Board. Data on Agriculture will be included in the report this year, including ginseng.

Chair Guild gave a short update on broadband. There was a meeting with staff and John Robinson and her to discuss what should be accomplished before April and after the new Board is seated. Current proposal is to have Melinda coordinate a conversation with potential private sector broadband partners to find out what they are willing to do and how can we get them engaged? They have to apply for the grants, get it in the ground and Marathon County can't make them do anything. Use what they say along with the report to determine next best steps whether it's a taskforce or something else.

Some providers (primarily wireless providers) are interested and want to talk, but we don't know what that means. A meeting with staff and committee Chairs Guild and Robinson to come up with questions to ask when they have the first meeting.

Follow Through:

None at this time.

7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:

A. Future committee calendar

The next meeting will be March 17th at 4:00 p.m. (Leahy will not be in attendance on 3/17)
No announcements.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION BY SEEFELDT, SECOND BY BEASTROM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes prepared
by Mary Palmer

UWSP-Wausau Camera Project

The below proposal is based on details from a specific provider. State procurement policies may require a competitive process that could result in minor changes to hardware, software or infrastructure. Such changes would not negatively impact system operation or functionality and maintain overall integrity of the system as defined below. These potential changes would not impact the annual operational budget.

Project Overview:

The system will consist of individual IP Axis cameras located at the UW-Stevens Point at Wausau campus. The cameras will be managed and monitored centrally by University Police. The University Police operation is staffed 24/7, 365 days a year. The cameras will consist of fixed, high resolution IP cameras located around the Wausau campus to provide views and images designated by University Police. Building entrances, parking lots, high profile meeting areas, and large common areas are the initial scope of where the cameras are to be placed. These cameras will record to local storage appliances for roughly 30 days and then the camera data will be offloaded to the cloud for longer term retention. These individual storage appliances will be managed centrally by UWSP Information Technology and by University Police. This system will be the standard for all UWSP campuses.

The contractor will be responsible for procurement and installation of all required network infrastructure, including cabling ***, patch panels, and data jacks, excluding network switches. The existing campus switchgear infrastructure will be used to power the cameras and provide network connectivity to the cameras. The contractor will be responsible for mounting both indoor and outdoor cameras, building penetrations, aiming of the cameras once installed, with the assistance of University Police.

***The university is exploring an option for doing the installation with UWSP staffing; if possible, this could reduce the Phase 1 and Phase 2 cabling expenses significantly.

UWSP will be responsible for procurement of the cameras, camera installation locations, camera gateways, licensing, and configuration of the cameras and camera gateways.

The camera system will be owned and maintained by UWSP.

UWSP is asking the county to cover the one-time costs of Phase 1 or the ongoing costs of Phase 2 (see below). If the county agrees to cover Phase 2, UWSP will need to encumber the expenses associated with Phase 1 by mid-June at the very latest; one-time funding provided by UW System will not be available after that.

Phase 1 cost breakdown – first budget cycle:

Cameras (Axis Cameras) – 32 cameras at \$350 per camera - \$11,200

Licenses – 32 licenses at \$110 per license - \$3,520

Gateway – 16 lenses per gateway, 2 gateways at \$2,500 per gateway - \$5,000

Cabling - \$19,200 (32 drops)

Total - \$38,920

Phase 2 cost breakdown – subsequent *annual* budgets:

Cameras (Axis Cameras) – \$350 per camera (7-year replacement cycle)

Licenses – \$3,520

Gateway – 16 lenses per gateway at \$2500 per gateway (2 total) (5-year replacement cycle)

Annual total - \$6620

Breakdown of annual operating budget:

OPERATING BUDGET BREAKDOWN	COST (\$)	COMMENTS
ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET	6,620	
Expenses		
License Fee	(3,520)	Annual license fee and carry-over
Camera Replacement (carry-over)	(1,600)	7- year replacement cycle
Gateway Replacement (carry-over)	(1,000)	5- year replacement cycle
Contingency	(500)	Unused contingency will carry-over
BALANCE	0	

Sec. 2.04. - Standing committees.

(1) Extension, *Education, and Economic Development Committee.*

- (a) *Mission/purpose:* 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.
- (b) *Statutory responsibilities:* § 59.56(3), Wis. Stats.
- (c) *Membership:* Shall be comprised of seven County Board supervisors appointed by the County Board Chairperson at the April meeting of the County Board in even-numbered years.
- (d) *Term:* Members shall serve for a two-year term concurrent with their terms of office as County Board Supervisors.
- (e) *Reporting relationship:* The Education and Economic Development Committee shall have responsibility for outcome monitoring and oversight of the performance of education and economic development initiatives supported by Marathon County. The Committee shall have the primary responsibility of conferring with and acting as liaison for the following County departments:

UW Extension

- (f) *Duties and responsibilities:* The duties and responsibilities of the Extension, Education, and Economic Development Committee include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Foster the implementation of the County's Strategic Plan initiatives related to education and economic development.
 - 2. Identify the need for and recommend to the County Board, policies related to education and economic development initiatives appropriately supported by Marathon County.
 - 3. Review new programs and associated budget requirements, prior to their being considered for inclusion in the County's budget.
 - 4. Facilitate broad based discussion of issues and policies encouraging public involvement and communications with the public.
 - 5. Serve as the initial contact point for individual and/or organizations who wish to influence County Board policy regarding County education and economic development.
 - 6. Delegate operational procedures and practices to appropriate administrative committees and department(s) of the County.
 - 7. Review and recommend to the County Board programmatic and facility plans consistent with the community's expectations for the UWMC.
 - 8. Serve as the County's Extension and Education Committee by performing the following responsibilities:
 - a. Establish UW County based extension department policy.
 - b. Provide budget oversight for UW County based extension department.
 - c. Provide input and monitor their performance on the County based UW Extension programming.

- d. Create policies and strategies that accomplish educational needs in an efficient and cost effective manner.
 - e. Provide a leadership role with the County Board and other community partners to preserve and enhance access to the resources of the public university.
 - f. Assess future community educational needs.
 - g. Facilitate a partnership between the County and the University of Wisconsin.
9. Additional duties as assigned by the County Board Chairperson.
- (g) *Committee relationships:* The Extension, Education, and Economic Development Committee shall be the committee of jurisdiction (governance) providing the leadership for interaction, communications, and policy recommendations to the County Board with respect to the following:
- Industrial Development Agency
- (h) *Other organization relationships:* The Extension, Education, and Economic Development Committee will also serve as Marathon County's liaison (non-governance) to the following organizations:
- Marathon County Public Library Board
 - North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB)
 - Wisconsin Valley Library Board (WVLB)
 - North Central Regional Planning
 - Northcentral Technical College (NTC)
 - Marathon County Agriculture Society
 - Marathon County Development Corporation (MCDEVCO)
 - Marathon County Historical Society
 - University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point – Wausau



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

May 2020 Educator Update

(for work completed in March and April 2020)

FoodWise Education - Tammy Hansen, Gaonou Thao

- In the first two weeks of March, Tammy and Gaonou continued regularly scheduled nutrition programming with kindergarten classrooms at Franklin and Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Wausau area food pantries, the Hmong “Healthy Eating” series, and the StrongBodies strength training/ nutrition series. Tammy also met with partners in meetings of the Hunger Coalition Leadership Team and at Neighbors’ Place.
- After beginning to telecommute on March 17th, Tammy supported our FoodWise nutrition educators in their transition to telecommuting including working with them to develop alternate work plans and helping to solve technology issues. She also worked with partners to cancel upcoming programming, explored ideas for alternate program delivery models, and participated in professional development training on Zoom and Microsoft Team technology as well as many other topics related to COVID 19 such as healthy equity and food safety.
- The biggest task Tammy completed was the initial submission of our annual FY21 SNAP-Ed grant renewal including the budget, staff teaching events plan, logic model, three-year action plan, and county agreement letters. She will be updating the plans with any needed revisions/clarifications in the next week.
- Tammy conducted performance review discussions and completed the written performance evaluations with nutrition educators in all three counties.
- Tammy completed FoodWise’s portions of the annual report on the Marathon County Strategic Plan.
- Gaonou has been reviewing all approved FoodWise curriculum, participating in professional development opportunities, participating in a statewide FoodWise curriculum work group, and taking COVID 19 leave as needed to help her children in their transition to homeschooling.

4-H Youth Development - Kaitlyn Bernarde

- Communicated out program updates, cancellations, postponements for programs and events due to the COVID-19 pandemic including statewide programs and experiences, Leadership Washington Focus, Area Animal Science Days (Marathon County was supposed to host June 2020), Junior and Intermediate summer camps, 4 summer intern positions, Wausau School District Community Connections (we normally conduct 214 hours of programming in June and July).
- Assisted with drafting efforts to complete the annual report on Marathon County Strategic Plan.
- Facilitated a Zoom meeting for 4-H members and volunteers to share tips and essentials while completing virtual 4-H meetings.
- Met via Zoom with Clark and Wood County to plan two virtual Volunteers In Preparation (V.I.P.) leader training in May.
- Advised the Marathon County Market Animal Show and Sale (M.A.S.S.) Committee and the Wisconsin Valley Fair (WVF) on safely holding training programs and completing requirements during COVID-19 through several meetings. This included postponing show clinics, open arenas, and having animal DNA samples mailed in instead of dropped off in person.

Agriculture Education - Heather Schlessner

- During the month of April I have worked to create various YouTube videos about the office staff. I have also created Youtube videos to highlight the main takeaway items from new factsheets being put out by Extension. To see these YouTube videos you can visit my YouTube channel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCReOkUVwgPFN3rEklpMPhw>
- I am continuing to work on the State team that is updating the Dairy Worker modules, I have created the storyboards and shot lists for the Calving assistance subgroup.
- I am working to bring a virtual Heart of the Farm program to county farmers to help them get through these trying times.

Community Development Education - Melinda Osterberg

- Increasing Broadband Access. Assisted with organizing and facilitating a meeting between Marathon County officials and incumbent internet service providers on ways to increase countywide broadband access and gather input on the County's Broadband Assessment Study. Prepared summary of the CARES Act Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant and forwarded summary to County broadband stakeholders, including area school districts and medical providers.
- Prior to the Safer at Home order, I assisted the Village of Kronenwetter with an effective board meetings training on March 12th. The training was provided remotely by Daniel Foth, of the Local Government Center.
- As part of my work in Lincoln County, I developed a webinar on State and Federal Resources for Small Businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The webinar was advertised and open to business owners in Lincoln, Marathon, Portage and Wood counties. Thirty-one participants attended the webinar featuring representatives from the Small Business Administration, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and UW-Stevens Point Small Business Development Center. Panelists provided information on State and Federal grant resources to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the Payroll Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loans, and the Pandemic Unemployment Program, as well as, local resources to assist with paperwork preparation and business development. An outcome of this webinar was development of a series of online programs to build business resilience in Central Wisconsin. The upcoming webinars are being planned in conjunction with Community Development Educators in Wood and Portage Counties.
- Assisted with coordinating efforts to complete the annual report on Marathon County Strategic Plan.
- Organized and facilitated two "Sip and Learn" events to promote social interaction and build communication skills during the COVID-19 health crisis. The programs featured a local subject matter expert and were open to all Marathon County residents.

Horticulture Education - Janell Wehr

- Prior to the "Safer at Home" order, I began weekly therapeutic horticulture programming at NCHC Community Corner Clubhouse. The program introduced beginning's level of gardening with limited resources.
- Within the first week of "Safer at Home" order, I hosted three Zoom training sessions with the Master Gardeners, to maintain social connection and cohesion within the organization. Master Gardeners have since held weekly Zoom sessions on their own.
- Right Plant, Right Place, a horticulture program originally scheduled for UWSP@ Marshfield Continuing Education, was moved to the online platform, Zoom. The program was opened for UWSP and UWSP@Wausau campuses, increasing participation to Portage and Marathon Counties.
- In collaboration with colleagues in Wood County, I created a 40 minute video on Gardening in Small Spaces. The video is hosted on Youtube, and has been shared with community partners through Facebook, many of the libraries of Marathon County, and the Landing at the YMCA.
- Due to reports of food supply anxiety, there has been a resurgence in popularity of the war time Victory Gardens. To fill the need for evidence based beginner's gardener information, I created Romaine Calm and Garden On. It is a 12

part, fully interactive, virtual beginner's gardening course using the platform Zoom. Sessions were held twice a week, one hour each. The course was free and participants received links to supplemental material. Melinda Osterberg facilitated hosting the program through technical support. After Session 8, 100% of participants reported they were motivated to grow some of their own vegetables over the summer, with 70% of participants reporting an increase in motivation after that session.

- I regularly answer horticulture inquiries and connect community members with state specialists. With the help of Nancy Anderson, we have created an online form for the public to enter their horticultural inquiries. I am also fielding questions left on my voicemail.

Natural Resources Education - Rachael Whitehair

- Rachael started with Extension in October 2019. She is a Natural Resource Educator with a focus on water issues, and has a half-time position with Wood Co and half-time with the statewide NRE program. (The statewide NRE program is funded through a partnership with the Department of Natural Resources.)
- She worked in cooperation with Dan Zerr (NRE in Eau Claire) to work with Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation (EPPIC) to create a strategic plan. Rachael will continue to work with this group, in partnership with CPZ, moving forward.
- Kris Tiles is the Natural Resources Educator Program Manager, and is housed in the Marathon County office. In response to the COVID-19 changes to in-person programming, she worked with the forestry educators to move programming online and expand the social media presence. We have hosted 3 Facebook Live events that allowed interaction with a forestry professional.

Area Director Update - Jason Hausler

- Provide continued support of Educators throughout the Area, assisting them in the transition to telecommuting, maintaining communication with Marathon County Administration and monitoring educational outputs during the "Safer at Home" orders.
- Assisting Extension staff in completing the Marathon County Strategic Plan Annual Update, with the guidance and oversight of county Administration.
- Assist the Wisconsin Association of Fairs, on behalf of Extension, to understand the policies and procedures put into place by Extension and how it may impact local fairs. Extension is researching virtual fairs and livestock auctions, etc. in the event that fairs are adjusted in their execution during this pandemic.
- Serving on the Dean's COVID Task Force to help the organization move forward during this time.
- Conduct and final annual performance reviews for State colleagues, which were due April 30th.



Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee's Strategic Plan Objectives & Summary of 2018-20 Activities



Objective 8.7: Strive to provide affordable, reliable, high-speed internet access throughout the County.

- Discussed broadband activities at majority of EEED Committee meetings this session
- Approved position for Extension employee to coordinate broadband expansion efforts
- Developed guidelines for broadband consultant RFP
- Provided feedback to broadband consultant on final broadband expansion plan report
- Multiple committee members attended Farmers Union meeting and various Towns Association meetings to share information and obtain feedback
 - o Observed positive and noticeable shift in number of rural residents supporting broadband expansion efforts over course of the session
- Supported expansion of free after-hours wi-fi access at county libraries, including in parking lots

Objective 10.6: Ensure the future availability of a skilled and flexible workforce prepared to meet the needs of both existing and emerging industries and technologies.

- Supported transition of UW-Marathon County campus to UW-Stevens Point Wausau campus.
 - o Included support for infrastructure improvements
- Provided funding for the following workforce initiatives:
 - o GreaterWausau.org workforce attraction website
 - o Family-Friendly Workforce study coordinated by WIPPS in conjunction with the Marathon County Early Years Coalition
 - o Greater Wausau Chamber regional economic development study
- Approved resolutions recognizing the following groups:
 - o Hmong American Veterans Day
 - o Hmong New Year
 - o Indigenous Peoples Day
 - o Pride Month

Objective 10.8: Encourage development and redevelopment of key employment centers in areas that possess strong market potential, provide good transportation access for workers, and promote efficient movement of goods.

- Provided funding for Greater Wausau Chamber's regional economic development study
 - o Study resulted in the creation of the Greater Wausau Prosperity Partnership, which includes representation from Marathon County government
- Supported a feasibility study into potentially developing a new regional sports & events complex
 - o Explored the benefits of utilizing county-owned land for the facility

Objective 10.10: Create an innovative atmosphere to foster an entrepreneurial-supportive environment.

- Toured MCDEVCO's new facility and received multiple updates on the organization's initiatives
- Provided funding for the following initiatives:
 - o Central Wisconsin Children's Theater – Penguin Project
 - o Wisconsin Valley Fair
 - o Ginseng Festival