



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, August 6, 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 Beaström; 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 No. 1-408-418-9388. Access Code: 146 525 7266**. 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 July 2, 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: None
6. **Educational Presentations** and Committee Discussion
 - A. *Reports from Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations*
 1. UW Madison Division of Extension
 - a) General update on staff education efforts
 - b) Relationship of local Master Gardener groups with Extension
 - c) Horticulture position – potential sharing of position with Wood County
 2. UW-Stevens Point Wausau
 3. MCDEVCO
 4. Marathon County Public Library
7. Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:
 - A. Future committee calendar
 1. Next meeting Thursday, September 3, 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 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

Thursday, July 2, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

Courthouse Assembly Room, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

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

Others Present: Lance Leonhard, Kurt Gibbs, Mary Palmer, Ann Herda-Rapp, Scott Corbett, Media

VIA WEB: Ralph Illick, Jason Hausler, Melinda Osterberg, Gary Radunz

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:** The Public Comment portion of the agenda has been temporarily suspended, pursuant to Marathon County Resolution # R-18-20, dated March 17, 2020.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** of the June 4, 2020, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee (EEED) Meeting.

MOTION BY BUCH, SECOND BY VOLL, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2020, EXTENSION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

A. Should Marathon County Explore a Public-Private Partnership to Address Student Housing Needs at the UW-Stevens Point Wausau Campus?

Discussion:

Marathon County owns the dormitory at the University and they are not in good shape. Does the committee feel there is enough merit for us to explore the possibility of new dorms?

Ann Herda-Rapp, Wausau Campus Executive – This is a county effort and the county would need to make the decision. The dorms were built in 1968, there are 3 floors, 54 rooms on each floor with 2 restrooms on each floor. There were some updates done a long time ago. The dorm houses UW and NTC students. Feedback from the student is that the hall is outdated, there is no air conditioning, lack of temperature control, paint is chipping and it's just dingy. A hall can be an important recruitment piece for a university. Interest remains in the hall, especially if it can be upgraded. With BA programs being added we may have juniors and seniors living in the dorms and they prefer suite living to share with roommates. This fall the hall will not be occupied. What can be done to improve the living conditions on campus? Now's a good time to have this conversation.

The history of the dorms gives us options;

- The County can preserve the status quo between the county and the university with a public/public partnership; or
- Return to what the relationship was before 1990 which was we own/operate/provide housing

- on behalf of the partnership and be a direct service provider; or
- Have a county/university/private provider to operate and deliver with a public/public/private partnership. This option would take away maintenance responsibility from county and the university would get out of the student housing business. Maintenance and direct operation would be handled by the private provider. That's the policy question before you today. Is it something the County should look into as an option?

This is a good time for a conversation on these considerations. There are no students in the dorm right now through next year. The lease we have expired in 2016. We need to take a good hard look at this.

- A suggestion was made that we contact NTC on the public/private housing they have and how that option works. Leonhard stated it has been explored, but could be explored further
- How do we keep the cost affordable/quality/safety/security of student housing with a private partner?
- Can we find a private party to do renovations without using county funds?
- There is a fund with about \$239,000 that the university has that could be used for an RFP or renovations. The university is willing to relinquish those funds for a new facility.
- Students would rent through a property manager if we go public/public/private.
- It could be possible to retain a block of rooms each year so students would have the option for housing and then open it up to non-students as well.
- We have a 50+ year old building that needs many updates. Exploring a public/public/private partnership makes the most sense. If the UW changed and they didn't need the use, we need to explore this option.
- There is a lot of flexibility with the public/public/private partnership

Action:

MOTION BY ROSENBERG; SECOND BY LO TO SEND THIS TO HR/FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO EXPLORE A PUBLIC/PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR STUDENT HOUSING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF STEVENS POINT – WAUSAU CAMPUS. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow Through:

Send to HR/Finance, and Property Committee.

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

- A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to CIP Committee for Consideration
1. UW-Stevens Point Wausau Campus 2021 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Requests
 - a) Parking Lot C Replacement
 - b) Heating Plant Roof Replacement
 - c) Building HVAC Control System Upgrade

Discussion:

Gary Radunz, Director of Facilities for UW-Stevens Point, Wausau Campus, went through the Capital Improvement Projects named above. Detailed information is in the request forms in the packet.

If these upgrades happen, and the University would pull out of Wausau, we would still need to have heating/cooling in the buildings for other uses.

Enrollments are increasing. It doesn't appear the UW will be going anywhere, anytime soon.

Action:

MOTION BY BEASTROM; SECOND BY ROSENBERG TO MOVE THE THREE PROJECTS NAMED ABOVE TO THE CIP COMMITTEE FOR THEIR EVALUATIONS AND RANKING. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow Through:

Move the CIP requests to the CIP Committee.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

- A. Reports from Committee-Affiliated Departments and Organizations

1. UW Madison Division of Extension

a) Update on CAF II Broadband Implementation Progress in Relation to Strategic Plan Objective 8.7, Outcome 1 Goals

Discussion:

Jason Hausler gave highlights on UW Madison, Division of Extension [report](#) – Food in a Box, 4-H Development, Horticulture Education, and pointed out that the Annual Report for 2019 is online. Staff is looking to begin returning in July. Moving to in-person programming following CDC recommendations, but still doing telework.

Melinda Osterberg – the Broadband Task Force will not meet their [CAF II](#) (Connect America Funding Phase II) broadband implementation relating to Strategic Plan Objective 8.7, Outcome 1 Goals. Frontier is not providing information and it's not easy to find any information. The Public Service Commission (PSC) is willing to provide information. All grants in Marathon County are met according to the agreements. It's difficult to find out how the CAF II funds were used. The speed Frontier provided was relatively slow. Frontier mainly used the funds for decaying DSL services.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed at this time.

2. UW-Stevens Point Wausau

Discussion:

Covered above in 4A.

Follow Through:

No follow through needed.

3. MCDEVCO

Discussion:

See [MCDEVCO's](#) written report included in the packet.

Follow Through:

Contact Vicki Resech from MCDEVCO with any questions.

4. Marathon County Public Library

a) Reopening Plan

Discussion:

The [Reopening Plan](#) is provided in the packet. Attendance is up for online programs. Right now the Library has started taking computer appointments and have curbside/drive thru pick in Wausau and Marathon. With Library Board approval a “walking” Library will open in late July.

Follow Through:

None needed.

7. **Announcements, Next Meeting Date and Time:**

A. Future committee calendar

- The next meeting will be Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Let Mary Palmer and/or Chair Sara Guild know if you are unable to attend.
- No announcements.

8. **Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION BY ROSENBERG, SECOND BY BUCH TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes prepared
by Mary Palmer



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

August 2020 Educator Update

(for work completed in July 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, and coalition meetings with community partners.
- Tammy has begun to complete our FoodWise FY21 partner agreements for programming that will take place from October 1st, 2019 – September 30th, 2021 and she and Gaonou will be contacting each partner to discuss programming options in the next few weeks.
- Gaonou and Melissa completed their work with their first statewide curriculum teams and began participating in a second round of statewide curriculum workgroups this week Tammy is starting work this week on the statewide Policy, Systems and Environmental (PSE) review team looking at the issue of Food Security and FoodWise work with food pantries.
- Tammy coordinated the Marathon County HungerCoalition's "Share the Harvest" gleaning project for this summer on Saturdays at the Wausau Farmers' Market. The first collection was July 11th. So far in the first three Saturdays, we have collected 1290 pounds of donated food that have been shared with the older adult residents at Riverview Towers and patrons of the Neighbors' Place Food Pantry.
- Tammy initiated a discussion on offering a statewide StrongBodies virtual series that would be led by Gaonou with Tammy and Melissa serving as co-hosts along with other Hmong volunteers from around the state. The first planning meeting is later this week.
- Now that we know the school opening plans for the Wausau School District, we will be further reviewing FoodWise approved curriculums for kindergarten and 4-K classrooms to determine what lessons/activities can be adapted to a virtual format.

4-H Youth Development - Kaitlyn Bernarde

- Collaborated with 4-H colleagues from Clark, Lincoln, Langlade, Oneida, Shawano and Wood counties to assemble, distribute Camp in a Box kits to over 400 families. This program overall reached over 800 youth from the 7 counties, including 45 families in Marathon County. We also successfully held 3 Zoom online sessions for youth to meet other youth campers, play games, sing songs, and learn from guest speakers.
- Planned and facilitated "Current Conversations" with high school students from around Wisconsin. These weekly conversations organized by WI 4-H staff provide a space for youth to learn about current topics, have conversations about what they are hearing and seeing, and commit to next steps to keep the conversations going. These are scheduled through Mondays through August, and then a state team of youth will continue moving the work forward.
- Met with 4-H leaders via Zoom to discuss the process for beginning to hold small group in-person programs. This process includes completing a checklist to minimize risks and having it approved at the local and state level.

- Concerns were raised about where clubs could even meet with schools, town halls, and other public spaces not allowing outside groups to meet in their spaces for the foreseeable future. I participated in a “Next is Now” discussion on 4-H to create ideas for how to continue moving 4-H programming forward with the limitations due to COVID.
- Collaborated with Melinda Osterberg and Heather Schlessler to organize a programming series to commemorate the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment in August. Two 10-minute video interviews, a panel discussion and a youth civic engagement series will be held virtually through Facebook and Zoom.
- Continued to participate in my standing commitments including the Marathon County Editorial Board, Wisconsin 4-H Policy Advisory Standing Committee, and WI 4-H Thriving Model Pilot group.

Agriculture Education - Heather Schlessler

- Collaborated with Melina and Kaitlyn on the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Spent time editing and closed captioning videos that will show case during the month of August for our celebration program.
- Completed video edits for the Livestock Stocker Cost of Production Video
- Worked with the Dairy Team to create Heat Stress Factsheets
- Finalized the Animal ID factsheet for the First Responder training the Livestock Team is putting together.
- Created factsheets and videos for the FARM Team on farm succession related issues.
- Took some personal time to spend with family.

Community Development Education - Melinda Osterberg

- **Broadband Task Force.** Provided staffing assistance to the Marathon County Broadband Task Force. The Task Force’s first meeting on July 27th and was well attended with 23 individuals attending the event, including seven of the eight Task Force members.
- **100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment.** Collaborated with Heather Schlessler and Kaitlyn Bernarde on events recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment in Marathon County. Schedule of events includes a series of interviews and Facebook live events recognizing the path to the 19th Amendment in Marathon County and what the next 100 years of women’s suffrage may look like in Central Wisconsin. Confirmed panelists include Wausau Mayor Rosenberg, Portage County Board Supervisor Chai Moua, Stockbridge-Munsee Cultural Affairs Director Heather Brugel and Dr. Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Professor of U.S. Social History, Military History and African American History at UW-Eau Claire.
- **Provided Community Development information** from various sources to individuals and organizations within Marathon County. Communications with area school districts on broadband needs and teacher training opportunities through UW-Madison. Relayed information from the Small Business Development Center on [FREE training opportunities](#) for area [restaurants](#) and Central Wisconsin businesses impacted by the stop of operations at the Verso Paper Mill, and assisted a local BIPOC entrepreneur locate appropriate resources to start a small business.
- **Lake Organization Strategic Planning and Capacity Building.** In collaboration with Extension-Lakes, to develop a pilot program to assist Lake Organizations with strategic planning and capacity building to more effectively apply and obtain State funding. This partnership program is in the pilot stage and is being offered to the Lake DuBay Property Owners Association, Lake Wausau Association, and the Big Eau Pleine Citizens Organization.

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 Ntawv 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.

Horticulture Education - Janell Wehr

- Intro to IPM (Integrated Pest Management): Developed and hosted interactive virtual educational programs in conjunction with YMCA's The Landing, Marathon County Library, and UWSP Continuing Education. 71% of participants stated as a result of participating in the program, when considering all the options for pest management, they understood where chemical solutions fall in the hierarchy of options. This will lead to reduced inappropriate pesticide use in their landscapes and better environmental stewardship.
- Much of my time has been spent answering horticulture inquiries from county residents.
- Foundations in Horticulture: I have worked with a statewide committee to overhaul the Master Gardener program. Level 1 Training will now be "Foundations in Horticulture" and no longer tied to the MG program. This comprehensive 12 week program will become available to all interested, rather than specific to prospective Master Gardener volunteers. This change will lead to expanded access to the comprehensive educational program.
- Updated Horticulture section of the Extension website.

Area Director Update - Jason Hausler

- Continue serving on the Deans COVID task force, ensuring program delivery and support to educators during this challenging time.
- Working with Administration on the 2021 Budget, meeting the needs of Marathon County residents while being fiscally responsible.
- Conduct mid year reviews for staff, benchmarking their programming goals for 2020 to date and making adjustments as needed to meet the needs of Marathon County residents during the pandemic.
- Participated in the first Broadband Task Force meeting and assisting staff with executing the administrative functions of staffing that group.