

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
AGRICULTURE & EXTENSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2022
CHIPPEWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RM 302
7:45 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Kari Ives	Chippewa County	District 12 (Chair)	Present	
Ken Schmitt	Chippewa County	District 3 (Vice-Chair)	Present	7:49 AM
Charlene Kervina	Chippewa County	District 10	Present	
Annette Hunt	Chippewa County	District 13	Present	
Glen Sikorski	Chippewa County	District 2	Excused	

Others in attendance - Chad Alberg, Randy Scholz, Addison Vang, Jerry Clark, Jeanne Walsh, Nancy Fastner, Margaret Murphy, Catherine Emmanuelle, Heidi Vanderloop, Jaclyn Sadler

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

There were no members of the public wishing to be heard.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Annette Hunt, District 13
SECONDER:	Charlene Kervina, District 10
AYES:	Ives, Schmitt, Kervina, Hunt
EXCUSED:	Sikorski

1. Approve the agenda
2. Approve the Minutes

Agriculture & Extension Committee - Regular Meeting - Oct 6, 2021 7:45 AM

3. Schedule Next Meeting Date - June 1, 2022 7:45 AM

D. Business Items

1. Review and Approve 2021 Wildlife Damage Program Crop Prices - Chad Alberg
Chad Alberg presented the committee with the information to set a price for crop damage. See attachment on business item #2
2. Review and Approve 2021 Wildlife Damage Program Claims - Chad Alberg
Chad Alberg presented the claim to the committee for approval. see attachment.

Agriculture & Extension Committee

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Chippewa County Courthouse, Rm 302

February 2, 2022
7:45 AM

5. REPORTS

1. Extension Departmental Support Position - Catherine Emmanuelle and Randy Scholz

Area Extension Director, Catherine Emmanuelle, provided the committee with an update on the Department Support position. The position will be a .8 FTE as a State employee but funded by Chippewa County. The meeting clerk duties are being moved to the County Clerk office, the Wildlife Abatement and Annual Budget/Monthly reports are being moved to the Finance Department.

Supervisor Schmitt questioned if the .8 FTE is enough support for the department.

Supervisors Schmitt and Hunt would like the resolution at the next meeting to include wording to review the position in 6 months to make sure it is working for the department.

2. Area Extension Director - Catherine Emmanuelle

Area Extension Director, Catherine Emmanuelle, provided a verbal report to the committee.

3. Human Development & Relationships - Jeanne Walsh

Jeanne Walsh provided a verbal report to the committee.

4. FoodWise - Sandy Tarter/Nancy Fastner

Nancy Fastner provided a verbal report to the committee.

5. Community Development - Addison Vang

Addison Vang provided a verbal report to the committee.

6. Horticulture - Margaret Murphy

Margaret Murphy provided a verbal report to the committee.

7. 4-H - Heidi Vanderloop

Heidi Vanderloop provided a verbal report to the committee.

8. Agriculture/Crop & Soils - Jerry Clark

Jerry Clark provided a verbal report to the committee.

6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

There were no items for future consideration.

7. ADJOURN

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Annette Hunt, District 13
SECONDER:	Ken Schmitt, District 3 (Vice-Chair)
AYES:	Ives, Schmitt, Kervina, Hunt
EXCUSED:	Sikorski

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
AGRICULTURE & EXTENSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2021
CHIPPEWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RM 302
7:45 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived	Departed
Kari Ives	Chippewa County	District 12 (Chair)	Present		
Ken Schmitt	Chippewa County	District 3 (Vice-Chair)	Present		
Charlene Kervina	Chippewa County	District 10	Excused		
Annette Hunt	Chippewa County	District 13	Present	7:51 AM	8:16 AM
Glen Sikorski	Chippewa County	District 2	Present		

Others Present: Randy Scholz, Chad Alberg, Jerry Clark, Lori Zwiefelhofer, Heidi Vanderloop, Sandy Tarter, Joie Puig, Jeanne Walsh, Margaret Murphy, Catherine Emmanuelle, Addison Vang, and Nancy Fastner. Recorder: Lisa Merrell.

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Glen Sikorski, District 2
SECONDER: Ken Schmitt, District 3 (Vice-Chair)
AYES: Ives, Schmitt, Hunt, Sikorski
EXCUSED: Kervina

1. Approve the agenda
2. Approve the Minutes

Agriculture & Extension Committee - Regular Meeting - Aug 4, 2021 7:45 AM

3. Schedule Next Meeting Date - December 1, 2021

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Wildlife Damage Abatement - Chad Alberg
Alberg provided copies of the 2022 proposed budget for 2022. The DNR requires each county to submit an approved budget each year. There were only changes in salary, mileage and travel, and office overhead. The total increase was \$995.61, with \$783 of that in salaries. This budget is fully reimbursable through the County through a quarterly reimbursement process.

Agriculture & Extension Committee

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Chippewa County Courthouse, Rm 302

October 6, 2021
7:45 AM

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ken Schmitt, District 3 (Vice-Chair)
SECONDER:	Glen Sikorski, District 2
AYES:	Ives, Schmitt, Hunt, Sikorski
EXCUSED:	Kervina

6. REPORTS

1. Area Extension Director - Catherine Emmanuelle

Emmanuelle informed the committee that their Administrative Assistant position recently became vacant. She has been meeting with the Finance Director, Human Resources Director and County Administrator on options to fill the position. They are looking at whether the position should be County or State employee. There are strengths and weaknesses with both options.

Emmanuelle is working on some operational solutions. It is hard to find temporary help so they will look forward to having a solution and moving forward. They have one person able to help out four hours a week starting on October 20th. They are working to transition some of the responsibilities. The County Clerk's office will be clerking all of the Ag and Extension Committee meetings. Their wildlife abatement will be handled in the Finance office and approved by the County Administrator.

Emmanuelle noted they held a meet and greet virtually for Chippewa, Dunn and Eau Claire Counties. The theme was Transforming Lives and Communities. Staff highlighted local accomplishments and what is on the horizon for programming. They also had representatives from Farm Technology Days, FoodWise leadership, and a broadband state specialist.

Emmanuelle introduced their newest educator, Addison Vang, who is their Community Development Educator. One of the areas he will be working in is broadband in the three counties.

2. Human Development & Relationships - Jeanne Walsh

Walsh noted that in July and August she talked about a three part financial education series she was providing for homeless veterans. During the program, participants talked about not knowing how to make meals and buy food, so they ended up eating a lot of fast food. The program manager asked if they could provide something through Extension, and she and Nancy Fastner just taught a class the end of September, looking at nutrition, healthy meal planning, buying food on a budget, and using your slow cooker. Each participant was given a slow cooker, and grant funds from United Way were used to help support this program.

Walsh continues to offer a literacy program within the County Jail, and she recently started offering re-entry training.

Walsh continues to work with the work and learn program. At present, there are 77 people that have received a \$50 savings account voucher and finished the program. There are 182 that are somewhere in the process. The program ends the end of December, unless they get more funding.

3. FoodWise - Sandy Tarter/Nancy Fastner

Tarter noted that Fiscal Year 2022 started on October 1st. They have about 18 local countywide partners they work with. They worked with the Senior Center to do a virtual Strong Bodies program for them. They are co-chairing the CHIP team and have been meeting to develop a three year plan. This past

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summer, their Chippewa team on Chronic Disease Prevention, worked with Dunn County and Eau Claire County and did a summer activity passport. There were 80 families in the area that did that in July and August.

Fastner stated she has scheduled a virtual program that will go with the Boys and Girls Club. She did an outdoor program this summer, and she will be doing a virtual after school program. She contacted the schools to find out if they were interested in virtual or in person, and because the schools are at a level three, which means no visitors, she will be offering virtual programming.

Fastner and Tarter are working to offer a Strong Bodies class in person with masks in Menomonie on Tuesdays, and she continues her work with the statewide Strong Bodies program.

4. Community Development - Addison Vang

Vang stated that this is his eighth week, and he has been connecting with various stakeholders and educators in Area 6, but also through the rest of the State. He has been doing a lot of networking and getting to know the area and the different organizations. A lot of it has been focused on community food systems and broadband, but it is also determining the needs of communities.

Vang has been approached by a few different educators in the state whether he wants to be a part of what they are doing. One is a program exploring support for Hmong farmers. The idea is to assess our understanding of how to support the state's Hmong farmers. Assessment was just completed and they are continuing to do more interviews. They are thinking about some programs they could do, such as succession plans and value added products.

There is also an Entrepreneurs in Training program which supports recently incarcerated individuals interested in starting their own business, to give them the tools they need. A second program is starting in November, and he sent information out to the three counties, as well as talking with Rose Baier in Criminal Justice Services about it.

Hunt left the meeting at 8:18 AM.

5. Horticulture - Margaret Murphy

Murphy stated this is a very busy season with questions. More and more people are turning to Extension for recommendations on tree selection, asking what trees to plant in their yard. Murphy and Fastner developed a 10 week youth gardening program this summer for the Boys and Girls Club, which took place at the Chippewa Falls Community Garden.

Horticulture and Master Gardener has a 12 week course, Foundations in Horticulture, which replaces the Master Gardener program. This is the first time it is open to the public. They have 380 students throughout the state enrolled. They are also offering optional labs for the participants. She runs a lab on Monday that addresses things like understanding the importance of reading pesticide labels, how to interpret soil sample results, etc. They will be working to review botanical terms and identifying plants. They will offer question and answer sessions and she will be taking part in that.

They are growing leafy greens in their hydroponic unit, and will be donating their harvest to Agnes' Table.

6. 4-H - Heidi Vanderloop

Vanderloop noted that this is National 4-H Week. The new 4-H year started on October 1st, and registration started on September 1st for the upcoming year. Right now they have 165 youth enrolled, but she will see that number probably double by the end of this month.

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Discover 4-H starts this week. They are offering the first and last night in person, and the middle days virtually. Planning is underway for the upcoming 4-H year. They will be providing a Winter Camp Leadership Experience for grades 6-9. The tentative date is January 22-23, 2022.

Chippewa County 4-H participated and helped provide guidance and leadership for the Farm Bureau for Sunday at the Farm. They were recognized as their Rural Volunteer Organization, and Vanderloop was named their Volunteer of the Year.

7. Agriculture/Crops & Soils - Jerry Clark

Clark stated they are working on lots of harvest projects. They had quite a few harvests with their small grains recently. They had a lot of phone calls from Rusk and Barron County, since they don't have an assigned agent. He has also had calls on corn silage pricing.

The Chi Hi FFA Ag Mechanics Team is going to the National competition the end of the month. They needed help with a surveying component so they reached out to him, and he reached out to Sam Wenz in Planning and Zoning. Wenz put together a team of surveyors and with some of their help, the team was able to go to nationals. They will continue with teaching them how to use the equipment.

Clark has been doing a lot of work on alternate crops as well. He is working with the University of Vermont on growing saffron. Wisconsin has one grower and they are hoping they can grow it in Chippewa County. It is not easy to harvest, but it is easy to store.

They had to cancel School Conservation Days because there are 700 youth and Public Health didn't think it could be done safely, so they will try for Spring of 2022.

The last month they have been harvesting their industrial hemp. There are three locations in Chippewa County, as well as in Alma/Independence area and in Tomah. He spent two days harvesting here. It is all hand harvested. He also helped at the Independence field days. Now they just need to find a market for it.

8. Wildlife Damage Program - Chad Alberg

Alberg provided a YTD Program Enrollee report. Alberg noted that there are 92 fences in apiaries out in the County, and he hasn't heard of any of them failing. Alberg noted that the listing with ** might come back with a claim once they determine a price for the soybean loss.

There is a list of permanent fences shown at the bottom of the report, and one of them has reached the 15 year mark where it becomes the landowner's fence now.

Alberg pointed out there are currently two companion bills sitting in the Wisconsin Legislature that would change the wildlife damage program. The program they are working with was created in 1983. The main thing the bill would do is remove the County component of administration; it would revert back to the main administrator, the Wisconsin DNR. The process would remain similar, other than the County approving the budget. The program currently has a claim cap of \$10,000, and that would be eliminated and there would be no maximum claim cap. The bills have been stalled for over a year in committee, and are still stalled in committee.

Schmitt asked what the drive was behind the change. Albert stated to shorten the processing of claims and claim payments. Also, administratively, the state has to prepare and approve 70 budgets now, and they want to just do one.

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7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 9 AM.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ken Schmitt, District 3 (Vice-Chair)
SECONDER:	Glen Sikorski, District 2
AYES:	Ives, Schmitt, Hunt, Sikorski
EXCUSED:	Kervina

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2021 Chippewa County WDACP Crop Prices

Only those crops/commodities necessary to settle the current year claims are presented.

The USDA-Risk Management Agency (RMA) uses a pricing system for settling crop insurance claims. Two price discovery periods are used, one February 1 - February 28, 2021, the other October 1 – October 31, 2021. The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) closing price for each day within the discovery period is averaged, resulting in two prices. The February price, known as the Base or Projected Price is approved at \$11.87/bu. The October price, known as the Harvest Price is approved at \$12.30/bu. Most policies allow the option to use the higher of the two prices. The October price also aligns well with local/regional prices for new crop soybeans during that timeframe.

Soybean pricing was also obtained from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, USDA, and used their monthly reports specifically for Wisconsin for January 2021 to November 2021. The 11 monthly prices were then averaged, resulting in \$13.07/bu.

The proposed price averages NASS reports and RMA pricing systems.

Proposed soybean price #1:

- Soybeans = **\$12.68/bu.**

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program

Chippewa County 2021 Claims Summary

Participant	# Appraisals	Crop	Quantity Lost	Species	Appraised Damage	Subtotal	Recommended Action
						Claim	
David Skaw*	1	Soybeans	142.2 bu	Goose	\$1,803.01	\$1,303.01	Approve
Totals 2021							
1 Claimant	1				\$1,803.01	\$1,303.01	1 payable
Totals 2020							
0 Claimants	0				\$0.00	\$0.00	0 payable

* After \$500 standard deductible

**** Standard \$500 deductible and 80% rate applies**

*** Deductible split over 2 or more counties

Shooting permit harvest compliance not met