

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
AGRICULTURE & EXTENSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2025
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 21, Chair	Present	
Matthew Peterson	Chippewa County	District 10, Vice-Chair	Present	
Joel Seidlitz	Chippewa County	District 9	Present	
Pamela Guthman	Chippewa County	District 2	Present	
Timothy Goettl	Chippewa County	District 6	Present	

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

There were no members of the public present.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matthew Peterson, District 10, Vice-Chair
SECONDER:	Timothy Goettl, District 6
AYES:	Ives, Peterson, Seidlitz, Guthman, Goettl

1. Approve the agenda
2. Approve the Minutes

Agriculture & Extension Committee - Regular Meeting - Aug 7, 2025 7:45 AM

3. Schedule Next Meeting Date - Thursday, December 4, 2025, 7:45 am

5. REPORTS

1. Educator Reports
The Educators gave a brief overview of the August and September reports.

Crops and Soils - Jerry Clark

Livestock - Ryan Sterry

Community Development - Garret Zastoupil

Health & Well-Being - Sandy Tarter

Agriculture & Extension Committee

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Chippewa County Courthouse, Rm 302

October 2, 2025
7:45 AM

Horticulture - Margaret Murphy

Human Development and Relationships - Jeanne Walsh

Positive Youth Development - Jordan Blue

2. Area Extension Director Report - Kristen Bruder

3. Review 2026 Contract Template

Area Extension Director Kristen Bruder explained the changes to the 2026 contract template. She explained that the County Administrator will sign the contract for Chippewa County.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Declaration of National 4-H Week in Chippewa County

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joel Seidlitz, District 9
SECONDER:	Matthew Peterson, District 10, Vice-Chair
AYES:	Ives, Peterson, Seidlitz, Guthman, Goettl

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8. ADJOURN

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joel Seidlitz, District 9
SECONDER:	Timothy Goettl, District 6
AYES:	Ives, Peterson, Seidlitz, Guthman, Goettl

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
AGRICULTURE & EXTENSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2025
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 21, Chair	Present	
Matthew Peterson	Chippewa County	District 10, Vice-Chair	Absent	
Joel Seidlitz	Chippewa County	District 9	Present	
Pamela Guthman	Chippewa County	District 2	Present	
Timothy Goettl	Chippewa County	District 6	Present	

Others Present: Kristen Bruder, Jordan Blue, Jerry Clark, Ryan Sterry, Sandy Tarter, Macy Lien, Margaret Murphy, Jeanne Walsh, and Andy Albarado. Recorder: Lisa Merrell.

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joel Seidlitz, District 9
SECONDER:	Pamela Guthman, District 2
AYES:	Ives, Seidlitz, Guthman, Goettl
ABSENT:	Peterson

1. Approve the agenda
2. Approve the Minutes

Agriculture & Extension Committee - Regular Meeting - Jul 10, 2025 7:45 AM

3. Schedule Next Meeting Date - October 2nd, 2025

5. REPORTS

1. Update on FoodWise Program - Kristen Bruder

Bruder stated they administer the SNAP Education part of the FoodWise program. The program was zeroed out so they are winding down the program across the state. It affected four staff, two were laid off as of October 1st, and two as of December 1st.

The grant concludes on September 30th, but the UW allowed them to do a little more of a layoff based on seniority. The lay off on the first of the month would also allow one more month of benefits for affected employees.

Agriculture & Extension Committee

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Chippewa County Courthouse, Rm 302

August 7, 2025
7:45 AM

2. Recognition of FoodWise Program - Kari Ives

Ives drafted a proclamation to show the County's appreciation for the work done in the FoodWise Program. They have affected a lot of people through the program.

3. Extension Educator Reports

Crops and Soils - Jerry Clark

Clark presented his report, and noted that they just completed a nitrogen optimization field day on Monday. Small grain harvest has just wrapped up. They will be holding a Water Quality Field Day next week in Cadott for the Yellow River/Moon Bay area.

Livestock- Ryan Sterry

Sterry said they are looking at bringing sheep and goats back into the program this fall. He has been trying to attend events over the summer.

Community Development - Garret Zastoupil

Health and Well-Being - Sandy Tarter and Macy Lien

Lien stated they are going to the Farmer's Market with WIC to do a lesson on food preparation and bring some recipes. Tarter noted that they will be sharing some of their resources with the WIC Department and she will be trying to hand off as much as she can to some of their partners in the fall.

Horticulture - Margaret Murphy

Murphy stated she has been spending a lot of time answering yard and garden questions. She is planning for some programs in September and October on fall cleanup, and a prairie walk in September out at Lake Wissota State Park. A Horticulture garden course starts in September.

Human Development and Relationships - Jeanne Walsh

Positive Youth Development - Jordan Blue

Blue stated they have been very busy in the last month. They had two education stations at the Fair, and they had close to 350 people visit, with lots of interest in their 4-H program. Day camps have been very successful; because of the addition of their AmeriCorps members, they have been able to do more. They recently did a Discover Wisconsin experience where they went to the Duluth/Superior area and learned about the area, the culture. They are hoping to continue these trips next year.

4. Area Extension Director Report - Kristen Bruder

Bruder stated the UW has taken some pretty major hits with some federal money being pulled, and the state budget was not looking good, but at the end of the day, there were no cuts to the UW. There were some increases in some areas that didn't affect Extension, but because they are part of the larger UW, all divisions had to take a cut and Extension's portion is \$1.5 million. They are looking at what they might look like.

They got approved for another AmeriCorps member for October through the end of August.

5. AmeriCorps Presentation - Kristen Bruder

Blue provided a report on the AmeriCorps program. Because of the programs they did this year, membership increased from 355 to 468, which was a 31.83% increase in one year. His goal is they would

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love to see 500 members. Chippewa County has one of the largest 4-H programs per youth capita in Wisconsin.

Bruder noted that October is National 4-H Month and they would love the opportunity to bring some youth forward to speak to the County Board at that time. They did something similar in Dunn County and it went very well.

Guthman asked if there were threats of cuts for the programming that supports AmeriCorps? Bruder stated at this time there is not, the funding was established for 2026, but it will be a matter of what the funding looks like in future years. The challenge might be finding applicants for the jobs.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 AM.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joel Seidlitz, District 9
SECONDER:	Timothy Goettl, District 6
AYES:	Ives, Seidlitz, Guthman, Goettl
ABSENT:	Peterson

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Aug 7, 2025 7:45 AM (Consent Agenda)



Crops & Soils

Jerry Clark | Regional Crops and Soils Educator

To view the *Extension in the Valley, E-Newsletter*, [Click Here](#).



An on-farm research study to better understand manure application, commercial nitrogen application rates, and nitrogen credits on corn yield and potential effect on ground water. Results from this study will help farmers, agriculture industry professionals, and agency professionals in adjusting manure and commercial nitrogen applications to optimize corn yield and protect groundwater resources. Total Reach: Educational field days are planned throughout the summer and fall 2025. (Jerry Clark, Christine Clark, Joshua Kamps, Lindsey Rushford, Liz Gartman, Scott Reuss)

An on-farm study to better understand the effect of nitrogen application rates on nitrogen cycling and corn yield. Results from this study will help corn growers in that they can implement and adapt nitrogen management practices to optimize economic return, improve efficiency of nitrogen fertilizer resulting in more sustainable corn production and farm profitability.

Farmers, crop consultants and agency staff who own, manage, or consult with landowners in and around the Yellow River Watershed received hands-on training in soil health practices, and received a toolkit to use on land they manage/consult on to assess infiltration, compaction, and general soil health. Total Reach: 17 total participants - 3 crop consultants, 5 farmers, 1 farmer/tech college instructor and 8 agency staff. Collaborated with: Kevin Erb

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Nitrogen management and water quality field day

A field event for farmers where participants learned management strategies to limit nitrogen application rates to increase farm profitability and protect groundwater resources.

Groundwater quality is a major concern in Dunn, Chippewa, and Eau Claire counties. Use of nitrogen in agriculture production fields is often needed for higher crop yields. Application of additional nitrogen and above-average rainfall can increase the risk of nitrogen moving to groundwater.

A nitrogen management and water quality field day was held as part of the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program to inform farmers of nitrogen management strategies. The field day also highlighted how groundwater moves and how field surface management leads to impact on groundwater.

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CHIPPewa COUNTY

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August 2025 Report

Participants increased their knowledge about nitrogen application and management and how different nitrogen management strategies may impact groundwater.

Speakers and topics include, Dr. Steven Hall, Extension Water Quality Specialist, UW-Madison, Department of Plant and Agroecosystem Sciences, "Understanding nitrogen movement and lysimeter results from 2024"; Lindsey Rushford, Extension, On-Farm Nitrogen Optimization Coordinator, "What we have learned through NOPP"; and Jerry Clark, Extension, Regional Crops and Soils Educator, "Local on-farm nitrogen research results."

Livestock

Ryan Sterry | Regional Livestock Educator

To view the Extension in the Valley, E-Newsletter, [Click Here](#).



Planning a September 2025 in-person late afternoon meeting hosted on a commercial beef operation and taught by livestock, and crop and soil educators. The goal is to increase cow-calf producers' understanding of heifer reproduction and fall forage management to improve their farm's economic viability. Total Reach: will be reported once registration numbers are known. Collaborating with: Sandy Stuttgart, Bill Halfman, Jerry Clark, and Melissa Ohlrich

Ryan attended the Northern Wisconsin State Fair, Dunn County, and Eau Claire County Fairs, along with attending two pasture walks, a nitrogen optimization project field day, as well as a local cooperative field day, in an effort to introduce himself to the area and learn more about livestock producer needs in the Chippewa Valley.

Planning a September in-person, full day, lambing school for Northwestern Wisconsin. The goal is to help producers prepare ahead of winter lambing. This workshop will cover essential topics, including biosecurity, animal health, parasite management, and nutrition, to ensure your flock thrives. Focused on sheep, but goat producers are also welcome to participate. Learn about the necessary lambing supplies, the phases of lambing, and effective lamb processing techniques. Thanks to generous support from the American Sheep Industry Association, hands-on activities include a realistic lambing simulator. Collaborating with: Carolyn Ihde

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Planning a hybrid workshop series for dairy and beef producers, and dairy workers (in English & Spanish) in September 2025. The goal is to provide information and techniques to boost cattle caretakers' (including Hispanic dairy workers) confidence in preparing the cow for calving, obstetric techniques, and newborn calf care so that their health and reproductive programs maintain their farm's economic viability. Collaborating with: Sandy Stuttgen, Heather Schlessner, and Matt Lippert.

Community Development

Garret Zastoupil | Regional Community Development Educator



Strategic planning for a community-serving organization where we updated the organization's mission and vision statement, identified goals, and developed action plans. The planning process is intended to clarify the organization's purpose and develop achievable steps to realize its vision. Total Reach: 12 representatives from childcare agencies.

Planning for a three-part workshop series titled "Building Powerful Networks of Support" for librarian directors, staff, volunteers, and leaders in collaboration with IFLS Library System. The goal is to build the strategic capacity of these individuals to lead their organizations, so that they can strengthen volunteer, financial, and community support for libraries across the IFLS region.

Continued development of the Chippewa Valley Health Cooperative and its efforts to re-open the former St. Joseph's Hospital in Chippewa Falls as a full-service interim healthcare facility, and to build a new full-service hospital in Lake Hallie, Wisconsin to replace the 34% of regional health care lost with the closure of the two HSHS hospitals in Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls and 19 Prevea clinics across the region. Collaborating with: Bill Oemichen, Karl Green, Kristen Bruder

Planning for the launch of the "Chippewa Valley Nonprofit Exchange," a collaborative effort to consolidate nonprofit resources and professional development opportunities. The Exchange aims to strengthen nonprofit capacity by developing and sharing resources.

Attachment: August 2025 Monthly Report (9213 : Educator Reports)

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August 2025 Report

Health and Well-Being

Sandy Tarter | FoodWise Regional County Coordinator

Macy Lien | FoodWise Chippewa & Dunn Educator

Hillarie Roth | FoodWise Eau Claire Educator



In-person nutrition lessons at Riverside Park Farmers Market in partnership with the Chippewa County WIC for parents and caregivers. These engaging lessons included topics of freezing fruits and vegetables, shopping tips, strategies to include children in mealtimes, importance of fresh foods during early childhood, and shared recipes with foods available at local farmers markets. We offered tastings of fresh produce, kale dip, and kale crisps to participants. (Sandy Tarter, Macy Lien)

We thank Macy Lien for her many contributions to our FoodWise team the past two months. Macy's last day was August 26th. We wish her well in her future endeavors with Roosevelt Elementary School.

Participation in Chippewa County Health Communities- Pathway to Health Action Team to support their priority areas. This effort included discussion around developing an online resource hub to help residents navigate local resources. (Sandy Tarter)

A collaboration with Eau Claire Master Gardener Volunteers, Eau Claire City Parks and Recreation, Chippewa Valley Builders Association, and Chippewa Valley Technical College to start activities in implementing the FoodWise Garden Grant program- Year 2. This effort will replace 9 raised beds and widen pathways for accessibility in the North River Fronts Kids Garden. (Sandy Tarter, Hillarie Roth, Joy Weisner)

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A series of virtual strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness. Sandy led nutrition chats on Whole Grains and Using Leftovers/Food Safety (Sandy Tarter)

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

As this marks my final report as a FoodWise Nutrition Educator, I want to highlight the meaningful impact of my programming and express my deep sadness over the devastating consequences this funding loss will have on the low-income communities we serve. The elimination of this role means the loss of direct, accessible nutrition education for hundreds of individuals who rely on these services to make informed, healthy choices for themselves and their families.

Over the past three fiscal years, I have provided nutrition education across a variety of settings, including early learning centers, K-12 schools, low-income senior housing facilities, food pantries, and WIC clinics. My focus has been on reaching individuals with limited access to nutrition resources, delivering practical, age-appropriate lessons that promote healthier lifestyles.

- *In FY 2023, I served 8 sites and 27 classrooms, delivering 92 lessons to 395 individuals.*
- *In FY 2024, I expanded to 11 sites and 41 classrooms, teaching 163 lessons to 616 individuals.*
- *In FY 2025, I reached 12 sites and 44 classrooms, providing 214 lessons to 653 individuals.*

Across these three years, I taught a total of 469 lessons to 1,664 individuals at 20 unique sites, demonstrating consistent growth and deepening engagement with the communities most in need. This work has not only supported nutritional literacy but also fostered stronger community connections and empowered individuals to make informed choices about their health. ~ Hillarie Roth, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

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Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Regional Horticulture Educator

To view the Extension in the Valley, E-Newsletter, [Click Here](#).



An activity for families where participants engage in a field walk on a nature trail to explore signs of animal usage of the habitat and to learn how a natural ecosystem supports and interconnects a community of fauna. This effort focuses on looking for animal tracks and is designed to increase awareness about the importance of natural areas and to increase family activities exploring nature.

A program on accessible and adaptive gardening for the public where participants discover how gardening can be a lifelong source of wellness, connection and joy. This effort is designed to show participants how to keep gardening part of one's life and continue to gain the physical, nutritional, mental and social benefits it offers. Collaborated with: Deanna Wiersgalla, Michelle Bachand

Provide garden articles published in the Extension in the Valley, tri-county monthly newsletter that focuses on Agriculture and Horticulture news, where participants learn about various topics. This month includes harvesting garden produce, soil testing and soldier beetles. Links to UW Madison Extension fact sheets, garden articles and upcoming events are also provided. This effort is designed to keep participants connected to current horticulture topics and concerns. Total Reach: Over 700 on email distribution list (Margaret Murphy, Amber Gilles, Jerry Clark, Ryan Sterry)

Planning, coordinating and presenting the optional Lab component of the fall 2025 Foundations in Horticulture online course for course participants where they can dig deeper into important horticulture concepts and apply what they learn through interactive activities. This effort is designed to increase both knowledge and confidence in addressing topics of pruning, soil testing, IPM and plant identification. Collaborating with: Amy Freidig, Andy Heren, and Julie Hill

Attachment: August 2025 Monthly Report (9213 : Educator Reports)



Human Development and Relationships

Jeanne Walsh | Human Development and Relationships Educator



A Financial Wellness at Work flyer provided to all new Chippewa County employees, showcasing the free practical resources of the program. The goal of this program is to provide tools aligned to help build and retain financial security.

A 6-session course for renters where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses.

Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public support. (Amanda Kostman, Alana Perez-Valliere, Carol Bralich, Crystal Walters, Jeanne Walsh, Jennifer Abel, Katie Daul, Kula Yang, Sarah Kubiak, Sarah Hawks, Tahnee Aguirre, Todd Wenzel) 50 participants.

Encouraging Financial Conversations booster session designed for social workers, case managers, and community agency staff where they learn about financial competency skills such as goal setting, budgeting, building credit and paying off debts, strategies for saving money, and how to engage their clients in money management discussions. The goal of this effort is to build their knowledge and confidence when engaging clients in financial conversations. 26 participants.

A coaching program for families and individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to enable participants to prepare for and take charge of household financial situations that occur due to changes in income or unforeseen hardships. 14 participants.

A workshop (Read and Connect) where parents in jail and prison learn the importance of reading aloud to children and ways to engage their child through books. The goal of this program is to help parents strengthen the parent-child bond and build children's early literacy skills, which are an important foundation for success in school and life. 4 participants.

A program (Making Reading Memories) for families involved in the justice system where parents in jail are video recorded reading storybooks, which are then shared with their children at home. The goal is to reduce the trauma of separation, strengthen family relationships and at the same time increase children's exposure to books and reading. 13 participants.

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The Financial Coaching Foundations course is designed to provide social workers, case managers, and other professionals who provide direct services to individuals with the knowledge and skills to help clients craft solutions to any financial problems they may be experiencing. (Amanda Kostman, Jeanne Walsh, Jennifer Abel) 26 participants.

Reentry class. A two-session course for participants in the Chippewa County Jail. Designed to provide goal setting, wellness and resources for success upon leaving jail and reentering the community. 16 participants.

Positive Youth Development

Jordan Blue | 4-H Program Educator

To view the Chippewa Chatter, E - Newsletter, [Click Here](#).



National Night Out outreach event in partnership with the Chippewa Falls Police Department for community members, where participants engaged in hands-on grab-and-go activities such as rock painting, financial literacy, and horticulture. Through this effort, community members learned about Extension's programs and resources, strengthening local engagement and visibility in Chippewa County.

Planning for an eight week enrollment campaign for 4-H members and community youth The goal is to share timely and engaging information through press releases, website updates, and email communications, so that families are informed and inspired to enroll in 4-H, increasing participation and awareness of youth development opportunities in Chippewa County.

A three-week LEGO Club for youth in Chippewa County, where participants explored STEM concepts through hands-on building challenges and teamwork. Through this program, youth developed problem-solving and communication skills while gaining exposure to 4-H programming and the broader mission of positive youth development.

An annual meeting for 4-H adult volunteers and youth leaders, where participants reviewed program highlights: By-Laws, Committee Structures, and program policies, provided input on future initiatives, and elected officers to strengthen leadership, transparency, and collaboration within the Chippewa County 4-H program.

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Provided leadership at the Wisconsin 4-H Arts Camp Planning Weekend for 24 high school students, where participants developed leadership skills by planning and leading arts-based sessions and serving as color group counselors. This experience built confidence, creativity, and peer mentorship in preparation for delivering a high-quality camp experience for middle school youth in a supportive, youth-led environment.

An Annual Financial Review for all 12 4-H community clubs and county program financial records, where volunteers and staff ensured compliance with financial policies and transparency standards to maintain trust, accountability, and sustainability in 4-H programming. Collaborating with: Amber Gilles

Developed an Annual Plan of Work and 4-H Management Action Plan as part of my role as an Extension Educator, focusing on identifying program goals, strategies, capacity-building efforts, and evaluation methods. This planning process ensures that youth development programming is intentional, measurable, and aligned with both local community needs and statewide Extension priorities—supporting equitable, high-impact outcomes for youth in Chippewa County.

Planning for a monthly Cloverbud Club for youth in grades K–2, where participants will explore age-appropriate 4-H activities through hands-on learning and play to foster curiosity, social skills, and early engagement in the 4-H program. In partnership with a dedicated volunteer, each monthly session focuses on a different 4-H project area. This club was designed as an accessible, condensed introduction to 4-H for community youth in response to growing interest in expanded opportunities for younger youth of Chippewa county.

Serve on the Positive Youth Development State Arts Advisory Board, providing input on statewide arts programming and helping to plan future events in the Chippewa Valley. This role supports efforts to ensure that 4-H arts opportunities are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of youth across the region. (Jay Johnson, Erin Dahle, Alicia Schroeder-Hagg, Ellen Andrews)

Developed a 4-H Enrollment Flyer aimed at increasing youth participation by highlighting local project areas, club opportunities, and the benefits of 4-H involvement. The flyer was designed to be visually engaging and accessible to families, with clear instructions for enrollment and contact information supporting outreach efforts to both current and prospective members across Chippewa County. (Amber Gilles)

In response to a growing need for youth programming, local community partners have inquired about opportunities to collaborate and expand access. As a result, planning is underway for two new partner sites at low-income schools for the upcoming academic year. These partnerships aim to provide equitable, high-quality youth development experiences for underserved youth in Chippewa County.

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Value Added

Investment in Chippewa Extension Brings Additional Resources.

Co-Chairing the Chippewa Valley Suicide Prevention Workgroup, which covers suicide prevention efforts in Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire Counties. The goal of this group is to collaborate on efforts to reduce deaths by suicide in the region. (Margo Dieck)

A crisis training workshop on Emotional Intelligence for crisis workers for the Recovery and Wellness Consortium where participants learned about Emotional Intelligence (EQ), completed an EQ assessment, and learned about ways to improve their individual and workplace EQ. The goal of this effort was to provide participants with education, a baseline assessment score, an opportunity to create goals/action steps for their individual needs, create a collective goal for their unit, and build consistent efforts across the entire consortium to improve staff mental wellbeing. Total Reach: 52 service professionals (Margo Dieck)

A SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results) Analysis for leadership and management professionals for the Recovery and Wellness Consortium, where participants were guided through an idea-generating process and activities. Through this focused effort, hundreds of ideas were generated to guide the next strategic plan for this nine-county consortium. Total Reach: 30 service professionals (Margo Dieck, Deanna Wiersgalla)

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Chippewa, Eau Claire and Dunn Counties



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

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


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

Attachment: August 2025 Monthly Report (9213 : Educator Reports)

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Crops & Soils

Jerry Clark | Regional Crops and Soils Educator

To view the *Extension in the Valley, E-Newsletter*, [Click Here](#).



An in-person workshop for beef cow-calf producers, where participants learned about selecting heifer replacements, fall weed control, winter feeding, and truck and trailer safety. Through this workshop, beef cow-calf producers can make informed decisions when it comes to management practices. Total Reach: 56 participants (Collaborated with: Beth Mcilquham, Bill Halfman, Sam Bibby)

An on-farm research study to better understand manure application, commercial nitrogen application rates, and nitrogen credits on corn yield and potential effect on ground water. Results from this study will help farmers, agriculture industry professionals, and agency professionals in adjusting manure and commercial nitrogen applications to optimize corn yield and protect groundwater resources. Total Reach: Educational field days are planned throughout the summer and fall 2025.

(Collaborated with: Christine Clark, Joshua Kamps, Lindsey Rushford, Liz Gartman, Scott Reuss)

An on-farm study to better understand the effect of nitrogen application rates on nitrogen cycling and corn yield. Results from this study will help corn growers in that they can implement and adapt nitrogen management practices to optimize economic return, improve efficiency of nitrogen fertilizer resulting in more sustainable corn production and farm profitability.

An on-farm study to better understand industrial hemp fiber and grain performance related to varieties, effect of planting date, tillage treatments, and nitrogen application rates. Results from this study will help hemp growers select better performing varieties and optimize economic return to nitrogen to increase sustainable hemp production and farm profitability.

A field day for farmers, consultants, and agency personnel where participants learned the impact of liquid manure injection and surface applications to reduce soil disturbance, retain nutrients, and protect surface and groundwater. Total Reach: 81- farmers, consultants, custom manure businesses, agency personnel (Collaborated with: Deanna Wiersgalla, Michelle Bachand, Ryan Sterry)



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
CHIPPewa COUNTY

Extension Chippewa County

September 2025 Report

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Establishing conservation and environmental stewardship within students was identified as a need by teachers to help students understand the importance of conservation. As students explore career opportunities, conservation topics related to various careers are needed. The annual School Conservation Day program was held at Brunet Island State Park to provide conservation education to 5th grade students in Chippewa County. The purpose of the program is to increase knowledge of students on several conservation topics and meet conservation professionals working and living in their area. The program was attended



by 247 students and 21 teachers, aids, and parents. Another program is scheduled for October at Lake Wissota State Park. Topics covered during the programs included ground and surface water protection, energy conservation, soil management and conservation, careers in conservation, rules and regulations, invasive species, forestry, and wildlife management. Conservation professionals provided educational topics from the Division of Extension UW-Madison, Department of Natural Resources, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Chippewa County Department of Land Conservation and Forest Management, Master Gardener Volunteers, and the City of Chippewa Falls. This was the 52nd year of the event for students in Chippewa County.

Livestock

Ryan Sterry | Regional Livestock Educator

To view the *Extension in the Valley, E-Newsletter*, [Click Here](#).



A September 2025 in-person beef cow-calf producer meeting was hosted on a commercial beef operation and taught by livestock, crop and soil educators. The goal was to increase cow-calf producers' understanding of heifer reproduction and fall forage management to improve their farm's economic viability. Total Reach: Thirty individuals attended, of which 33% responded to a post-workshop evaluation. Their feedback showed they gained knowledge in several areas: heifer selection by 1.7 points, dewormer resistance by 1.4 points, soil sampling and understanding the pasture soil report increased by 1.3 points, and hay sampling and understanding forage reports by 1.0 point. When asked what strategy they plan to use, 40% chose soil sampling, 40%

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chose hay sampling, and 10% plan to apply dewormer knowledge. They suggested future meeting topics such as cow/calf nutrition, treatments and vaccinations, cattle handling, and obstetrics. (Collaborated with: Sandy Stuttgen, Bill Halfman, Melissa Ohlrich, Jerry Clark, Sandy Stuttgen)

An article was written that explores the potential shifts in reproduction management associated with adopting Automatic Milking Systems (AMS). Changes in reproduction management can have significant effects on herd performance and subsequently impact farm economic performance. This article provides an unbiased summary of considerations related to reproductive management in AMS situations. (Collaborated with: Katelyn Goldsmith, Heather Schlessler)

Community Development

Garret Zastoupil Regional Community Development Educator



Strategic planning for a community-serving organization where we updated the organization's mission and vision statement, identified goals, and developed action plans. The planning process is intended to clarify the organization's purpose and develop achievable steps to realize its vision. Total Reach: 12 representatives from childcare agencies.

Planning for a three-part workshop series titled "Building Powerful Networks of Support" for librarian directors, staff, volunteers, and leaders in collaboration with IFLS Library System. The goal is to build the strategic capacity of these individuals to lead their organizations, so that they can strengthen volunteer, financial, and community support for libraries across the IFLS region.

Planning for the launch of the "Chippewa Valley Nonprofit Exchange," a collaborative effort to consolidate nonprofit resources and professional development opportunities. The Exchange aims to strengthen nonprofit capacity by developing and sharing resources.

Continued development of the Chippewa Valley Health Cooperative and its efforts to re-open the former St. Joseph's Hospital in Chippewa Falls as a full-service interim healthcare facility, and to build a new full-service hospital in Lake Hallie, Wisconsin to replace the 34% of regional health care lost with the closure of the two HSHS hospitals in Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls and 19 Prevea clinics across the region. Total Reach: CVHC has more than 1,000 members in the Chippewa Valley Region. The CVHC

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Board of Directors is made up of 6 community leaders and three physicians. CVHC is working closely with the 160+ medical professionals who are part of the Oakleaf Physicians Network.

(Collaborated with: Bill Oemichen, Karl Green, Kristen Bruder)

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Mental Wellness & Recovery professionals in Chippewa County's Adult Services Division recently took part in a High5 Strengths Test. The training helped them identify their personal leadership strengths and, more importantly, understand how those strengths combine with others to improve teamwork and overall divisional effectiveness. Total Reach: 22 Mental Wellness & Recovery Professionals

The Community and Leadership Development Educator connected with MWR staff about the opportunity to provide group development facilitation during an all division meeting. Working with division leadership, the educator proposed the High5 Strengths assessment, aligning programmatic needs with financial constraints. The Educator created guides for participants to complete the assessment, and adopted an exercise for individual and collective reflection on strengths. The educator further provided research-based information on the positive-psychology foundation of asset-based leadership and teamwork.

Health and Well-Being

Sandy Tarter | FoodWise Regional County Coordinator



Participation in Chippewa County Health Communities- Pathway to Health Action Team to support their priority areas. This effort included discussion around developing an online resource hub to help residents navigate local resources. (Sandy Tarter)

A series of virtual strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness. Sandy led nutrition chats on Whole Grains and Using Leftovers/Food Safety (Sandy Tarter)

Attachment: September 2025 Monthly Report (9213 : Educator Reports)

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Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Regional Horticulture Educator

To view the Extension in the Valley, E-Newsletter, [Click Here](#).



A field event for 5th grade students where participants learned about pollinators, native plants and invasive species. The goal of this effort was to increase awareness of the importance of pollinator conservation, native plants and the removal of invasive species. Total Reach: Includes 5th grade classes throughout Chippewa County – several hundred kids over a 2-day event (Collaborating with: Amber Gilles, Jerry Clark, Jordan Blue)

A class on fall yard and garden cleanup for the Lake Wissota Garden Club where participants learned and discussed tasks and strategies for balanced, eco-friendly fall yard and garden care that supports birds and pollinators. Total Reach: 25

Provide garden articles to the public published in the Extension in the Valley, tri-county monthly newsletter that focuses on Agriculture and Horticulture news, where participants learn about various topics. This month includes yard and garden tasks for October. Links to UW Madison Extension fact sheets, garden articles and upcoming events are also provided. This ongoing effort is designed to keep participants connected to current horticulture topics and concerns. Total Reach: email recipient list over 650 (Collaborated with: Amber Gilles, Jerry Clark, Ryan Sterry)

A class with students on fall clean-up of their garden that included taking a soil test and discussing preparations for next spring. This effort was designed to connect and encourage youth to participate in gardening and enjoy the benefits gardening offers and experience the feeling of accomplishment. Total Reach: 21

A class on gardening with kids at the 2025 UW Stout Family and Consumer Sciences Education and WI DPI Childcare Conference where participants learned how gardening can enrich a child's life in many ways. We discussed strategies on how to create a garden space just for kids and about available research-based youth garden curriculum. This effort was designed to encourage gardening with youth with strategies to engage kids in gardening activities.

An activity for people living with dementia and their care partners. Surrounded by the beauty of an apple orchard, attendees participated in an art activity and created their own unique piece of glass fusing allowing them to tap into their imagination and creativity while using fine motor skills. The experience also provided a sense of accomplishment, positive socialization, and a way to stimulate the senses. Total Reach: 23

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A presentation for the public on native plants and pollinators where participants learned the value of creating native niches in their landscape to support a host of different insect pollinators. This effort was to encourage individuals to adopt gardening practices that increase pollinator habitat and support pollinator health throughout the year.

A walk through the wildflower trail at Lake Wissota State Park for the public where participants learned about native plants and how they positively impact the local ecosystem and support native wildlife. This effort was to provide information on native plants while actively engaging in a productive, healthy and scenic native plant system to encourage attendees to consider incorporating native plants into their own landscape.

Human Development and Relationships

Jeanne Walsh | Human Development and Relationships Educator



Participation in Chippewa County Health Communities- Voices in Prevention and Men's Mental Health- to support their priority areas of vaping, alcohol misuse, and harm reduction.

Participation in Reentry Ready. This is a 2-session class held in the Chippewa County Jail, focusing on resources, and setting goals, which helps prepare individuals to return successfully to the community.

Participation in Chippewa County Recovery Court Team. This team meets weekly. The goal of the program is to break the cycle of dependence, reduce drug and alcohol related crimes, increase community safety, offer effective sanctions, rewards, and treatment programming to participants, increase employment stability of participants, and ensure participants contribute to all court related costs.

A 6-session course for renters where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public support. (Collaborated with: Amanda Kostman, Alana Perez-Valliere, Carol Bralich, Crystal Walters, Jennifer Abel, Katie Daul, Kula Yang, Sarah Kubiak, Sarah Hawks, Tahnee Aguirre, Todd Wenzel)

A coaching program for families and individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to enable participants to prepare for and

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take charge of household financial situations that occur due to changes in income or unforeseen hardships.

A workshop (Read and Connect) where parents in jail and prison learn the importance of reading aloud to children and ways to engage their child through books. The goal of this program is to help parents strengthen the parent-child bond and build children's early literacy skills, which are an important foundation for success in school and life.

A program (Making Reading Memories) for families involved in the justice system where parents in jail are video recorded reading storybooks, which are then shared with their children at home. The goal is to reduce the trauma of separation, strengthen family relationships and at the same time increase children's exposure to books and reading.

The Financial Coaching Foundations course is designed to provide social workers, case managers, and other professionals who provide direct services to individuals with the knowledge and skills to help clients craft solutions to any financial problems they may be experiencing.

(Collaborated with: Amanda Kostman)

Positive Youth Development

Jordan Blue | 4-H Program Educator

To view the Chippewa Chatter, E - Newsletter, [Click Here](#).



Serve on the Positive Youth Development State Arts Advisory Board, providing input on statewide arts programming and helping to plan future events in the Chippewa Valley. This role supports efforts to ensure that 4-H arts opportunities are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of youth across the region.

(Collaborated with: Jay Johnson, Erin Dahle, Alicia Schroeder-Hagg, Ellen Andrews)

Planning for a monthly Cloverbud Club for youth in grades K-2, where participants will explore age-appropriate 4-H activities through hands-on learning and play to foster curiosity, social skills, and early engagement in the 4-H program. In partnership with a dedicated volunteer, each monthly session focuses on a different 4-H project area. This club was designed as an accessible, condensed introduction to 4-H for community youth in response to growing interest in expanded opportunities for younger youth of Chippewa county.

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Launching a 4-H enrollment campaign with clubs and partners to create outreach materials and empower local engagement. As of September 24, 33% of members have re-enrolled or joined, boosting youth participation and program visibility.

Completion of the Annual Financial Report process for 12 community clubs and 3 project groups, where leaders submitted required documentation and gained clarity on financial accountability. Through this effort, clubs strengthened their fiscal transparency and compliance, reinforcing trust and sustainability within the 4-H program.

A sustainability-focused session for 5th graders, where 217 youth at school conservation days explored recycling, composting, and waste management while identifying environmental issues in their schools and brainstorming solutions. Through this program, students gained awareness and agency to take action, fostering a culture of environmental responsibility and leadership at a young age.

An hour-and-a-half in-person training for 20 adult volunteers, where participants received required training and planning tools to support their roles in 4-H programming. Through this effort, volunteers were empowered with knowledge and resources to lead confidently, ensuring safe, enriching experiences for youth across the community.

Planning for multi-county youth development programming for 4-H members and community youth in collaboration with Area Six 4-H educators. The goal is to deliver engaging events in speaking, STEM, robotics, performing arts, and leadership throughout the year, so that youth across Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire Counties have expanded access to skill-building opportunities and collaborative learning experiences.

Preparation for a youth empowerment session for middle and high school students, in collaboration with the Eau Claire County Health Department and colleague Rachel Hart-Brinson. The focus was on developing content around the Five Steps of Action Planning to guide youth in identifying school-based issues and creating actionable solutions, so that they build leadership skills and confidence to effect positive change.

Coordinating the year of service and onboarding process for an incoming AmeriCorps member, in collaboration with internal program staff and partners. The goal is to equip the member with foundational knowledge, resources, and expectations to effectively support 4-H positive youth development programming and community outreach, so that their service year is impactful, aligned with program goals, and contributes meaningfully to youth development efforts.

Attachment: September 2025 Monthly Report (9213 : Educator Reports)

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Value Added

Investment in Chippewa Extension Brings Additional Resources.

A monthly email newsletter for woodland owners and stewards of Wisconsin, where readers learn about upcoming events from UW-Madison Extension Forestry and our partners. Readers also learn about new and interesting forestry-related content, often educational and interactive. Through this effort woodland owners and stewards are involved in greater community education to learn and participate in stewardship activities by applying new knowledge to their forests. When woodland owners and stewards implement these activities on their woods, more of the woodlands in Wisconsin are managed in an environmentally and economically sustainable way. (Olivia Kovacs, Scott Hershberger)

Navigator enrollment assistance provided to anyone in Wisconsin, where 97,013 consumers were assisted with health insurance questions or enrollment. Through this effort, our Navigators completed 4,041 qualified health plan enrollments through the federal Health Insurance Marketplace and assisted 5,615 consumers with Medicaid, resulting in widespread access to health care and improved health outcomes. Total Reach: Statewide: 97,013 consumers helped, 4,041 Marketplace qualified health plan enrollments, 5,615 Medicaid enrollments, 32,283 consumers educated in health insurance literacy (Adam Vanspankeren, Allison Espeseth, Elizabeth Rothe)

Co-Chairing the Chippewa Valley Suicide Prevention Workgroup, which covers suicide prevention efforts in Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire Counties. The goal of this group is to collaborate on efforts to reduce deaths by suicide in the region. (Margo Dieck)

A wellness fair for Department of Corrections staff, where participants received education related to mental health and well-being to give them additional tools to combat provider burnout and stress moving forward. Total Reach: 60 Department of Corrections staff (Natalie Ursin)

Planning, in partnership with Wisconsin Farmers Union and member farms, a farm tour for Hmong-speaking farmers to explore small-scale farm operations (ideally 5 acres or less) that differ from typical Hmong farming practices. The tour will highlight season extension techniques, post-harvest handling, infrastructure, wholesale market preparation, and sustainable practices (e.g., cover cropping). The goal is to increase awareness, knowledge, and interest in diverse small-farm models. (Addison Vang)

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Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Chippewa, Eau Claire and Dunn Counties



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

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

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

Attachment: September 2025 Monthly Report (9213 : Educator Reports)

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Contract Account # XXXX2026A

**Contract Between [NAME] County
and Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System**

This contract is by and between [NAME] County, State of Wisconsin (County), and Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, on behalf of the University of Wisconsin - Madison, Division of Extension (Extension) and is entered into pursuant to the authority vested in the County Committee on Agriculture and Extension Education by sections 59.22(2)(d) and 59.56(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Whereas, Extension is organized both around geography, as Extension educators deliver programs in communities throughout the state, and around academic disciplines including Agriculture, Natural Resources, Community Development, Youth, Human Development & Relationships, and Health;

Whereas, Extension is committed to maintaining an office in every county willing to commit to continued funding and space for Extension staff. Extension recognizes the value in keeping a local presence in every county and keeping the shortest distance possible between the people of Wisconsin and the Extension staff delivering programming to them;

Whereas, Extension provides opportunities to additional resources such as statewide specialists and UW-System campus resources to address specific local issues in core areas of expertise;

Whereas, the County is a critical partner in developing and implementing key educational priorities for county residents. In collaboration with Extension leadership, counties will identify local services of priority to their communities. County will agree to co-fund Extension educators based upon annually established flat fees for positions as defined below; and

Whereas, the parties need to define their respective rights and responsibilities;

Now therefore, the parties agree as follows:

1. Term, Amendment & Termination.

- a. The term of this contract is one (1) year. The term shall run from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, unless amended or terminated as set forth below.
- b. Any additions, changes, modifications or renewals of this contract are subject to the mutual agreement and written consent of authorized representatives of both parties.
- c. Either the County or Extension may cancel this entire Agreement with or without cause upon sixty (60) days' written notice delivered by mail or in person; provided, however, the County shall be responsible for paying a prorated amount of fees under Section 3.1.a. through the notice period. In addition, if the contract is cancelled before the end of the term, the discount identified in Section 3.1.a. shall

Extension Contract 1

be prorated (i.e. the discount amounts to roughly \$834 per month).

2. **Extension Responsibilities.** Extension agrees to:

- a. Hire local Extension staff who will deliver educational services aligned to County priorities. As vacancies occur, and if the County and Extension agree to continue to support the desired program and position, Extension will seek County input when filling vacant positions.
- b. Provide an Area Extension Director (AED) to serve as County department head and supervise Extension staff at no cost to the County.
- c. Invoice the County semi-annually, in May and November for amounts due under this agreement.

3. **County Responsibilities**

3.1 In consideration of the programs that Extension provides to the County under this contract, the County agrees to:

- a. Pay to Extension the County share of up to \$[] for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 as allocated below.

Co-Funded Positions	Fee	FTE	Total
[Enter Position]			
[Enter Position]			
[Enter Position]			
[Enter Position]			
[Enter Position]			
[Enter Position]			
[Enter Position]			
First Educator Discount			(\$10,000)
Subtotal			\$
Proposed or fully-county funded positions and other county contributions	Fee	FTE	Total
[Enter Position]			
[Add Any Other Fee]			

Commented [RD1]: What if we added a section here so we can reference the first part of the table for second? 3.1.b
And then the county funded section would be 3.1.c.

Extension Contract 2

[Add Any Other Fee]			
Final Total			\$

- b. Provide travel funds, office facilities (for _____ county located at: _____), information technology equipment (such as computers, printer, and phones) and internet connectivity, office supplies, and educational programming materials to the Extension educators identified in 3.1(a),
- c. Provide salary and fringe benefits for the County clerical support staff who support the Extension educators identified in 3.1(a),
- d. Provide other supporting budgetary items through regular County budgetary procedures in which funds are appropriated for such purposes under applicable Wisconsin law.

3.2 Consider and assess opportunities to provide office space with desks and chairs; access to IT support and internet connectivity; and basic operational resources (in a manner similar to other Extension educators in the office) for FoodWise nutrition education programming to County SNAP/FoodShare eligible residents. Technology for FoodWise positions will be coordinated through the County.

3.3 Consider and assess opportunities to provide office space with a desk and chair for fully state funded Extension employees who serve in a regional or statewide capacity. These regional and statewide educators will be provided state-purchased technology and IT support. The opportunity for these positions to access the internet through the county may also be discussed.

- 4. **Delegation of Financial Budget Authority.** The parties hereby acknowledge that Extension will employ an Area Extension Director (AED), whose responsibilities may include certain budget-related functions as set forth in the Delegation of Financial Budget Authority Form (DFBA Form) attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. County may authorize the AED to carry out such functions on its behalf, but only to the extent specified in the DFBA Form, which must be signed by an authorized representative of County in order to be effective. The County may rescind such authorization at any time by providing written notice to Extension. In the event that the parties execute a new agreement governing the subject matter of this agreement such that the term of this agreement and the term of the new agreement run consecutively, the parties agree that the delegations set forth in a duly signed DFBA Form shall remain in effect upon execution of the new agreement unless the County rescinds such authorization by providing written notice to Extension.

5. **General Conditions** This contract is established under the following conditions:

- a. **Notices.** Any notice or demand which must be given or made by a party to this Agreement or any statute or ordinance shall be in writing, and shall be sent via e-mail and certified mail. Notices to the County shall be sent to County Representative(s). Notice to the Extension shall be sent to Area Extension Director.

Extension Contract 3

Commented [RD2]: In 3.2 we state 'internet connectivity'. Should we include this in the list of IT items in 3.1.b

Commented [JS3R2]: good idea

- b. **Employer, Personnel Rules, Volunteers and Liability.** Any employees hired by Extension under Section 2.a. of this contract are employees of Extension, and are subject to the personnel rules, policies, and procedures for faculty, academic staff or University staff, as appropriate to the respective appointment in Extension as established by Wisconsin statute, and, or administrative rules; and, or, by policies or procedures adopted by the Board of Regents and the University of Wisconsin - Division of Extension. Any individual who meets Extension's definition of a volunteer and completes all registration requirements will be considered an Extension volunteer. Extension will be responsible for ensuring that its employees and volunteers take affirmative steps to make clear, when entering into relationships with third parties, that they are employees or volunteers of Extension. Extension shall be liable for the acts and omissions of its employees while acting within the scope of such employment. To the extent they are acting as agents of Extension, Extension shall be liable for the acts and omissions of its volunteers while acting within the scope of such agency.

Any individuals who are employed by the County in order to satisfy obligations under Section 3.1 of this contract (fully county funded) are County employees and are subject to applicable County personnel rules, policies and procedures. Any volunteer engaged by County to further the purposes of this contract will be considered a volunteer of County. County will be responsible for ensuring that its employees and volunteers take affirmative steps to make clear, when entering into relationships with third parties, that they are employees or volunteers of County. County shall be liable for the acts and omissions of its employees while acting within the scope of such employment. To the extent they are acting as agents of County, County shall be liable for the acts and omissions of its volunteers while acting within the scope of such agency.

- c. **Billing.** For the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, Extension shall bill the County for the total amount under Section 3.1.a. of this contract. The County will be billed for the first half of the total contract by May 31st and the second half of the total contract by November 30th. If services are not rendered or excess services are provided to the County by Extension during the contract period, the parties will use good faith efforts to adjust the total contract amount and update future bills to coincide with the new agreed upon amount. The County shall pay the amount billed within 30 days of the billing.
- d. **Cybersecurity Provisions.** Each party shall be responsible for the response to, remediation of, and any resulting notification requirements related to cybersecurity breaches of their own information technology systems or those of any third parties hired on their behalf. This responsibility includes the financial costs of any breaches, e.g., forensics, remediation, notifications, etc. The County and Extension shall determine their individual need for cyber liability insurance coverage. Any breaches that could impact Extension data classified as moderate or high risk must be reported to Extension staff, via the Area Extension Director, and the University of Wisconsin - Madison Cybersecurity Operation Center (CSOC) Help Desk, 608-264-4357 following the risk-based timelines outline in the UWSA System Policy 1033 and associated Incident Response Plan. Following a reported breach event, the County will provide a primary staff contact and periodic response updates to

Extension Contract 4

Commented [RD4]: Is there a way we can be explicit at we're talking about the bottom section of the 3.1 table added a new header (3.1.c), we could just reference it

Commented [JS5R4]: the county employees have included in the table. Only the Extension employees co-funded or county funded have been included. But your point that it would be helpful to clarify this.

Commented [JS6R4]: this paragraph specifically to county support staff.

Extension and the CSOC until event closure. Any breaches that could impact County data will be reported to the County immediately upon learning of the breach. The County shall provide the Area Director with the expressed point person or position for which to report a breach-

- e. **Insurance.** The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System as an agency of the State, and consequently, Extension, is self-funded for liability (both public and property) under ss. 893.82 and 895.46(1), Wis. Stats. As a result, such protection as is afforded under respective Wisconsin Statutes is applicable to officers, employees, and agents while acting within the scope of their employment or agency. Since this is statutory insurance, there is no liability policy as such that can extend protection to any others.

County agrees to maintain appropriate insurance to cover the potential liability of its officers, employees and agents while acting within the scope of their employment or agency. Such insurance may be provided through a self-insurance program. To the extent that an Extension employee is allowed to use a County vehicle, the responsibility for insuring that vehicle lies with the County.

- f. **Nondiscrimination Statement.** The County and Extension will comply with all applicable state and federal laws and rules prohibiting unlawful discrimination. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law..

By: _____ Date: _____ By: _____ Date: _____
County Representative County Representative

By: _____ Date: _____ By: _____ Date: _____
County Representative County Representative

By: _____ Date: _____ By: _____ Date: _____
Area Extension Director County Representative
UW-Madison, Division of Extension

By: _____ Date: _____ By: _____ Date: _____
Director of Financial Services On Behalf of Board of Regents of
UW-Madison, Division of Extension The University of Wisconsin System

Extension Contract 5

Exhibit A**Delegation of Financial Budget Authority Form**

Area Extension Directors play an important part in county Extension offices as they manage the faculty and staff within that county, and many times, that includes the county support staff. Area Extension Directors also work with county partners to develop a departmental budget and provide oversight to that budget on an annual basis in cooperation with corresponding county financial departments and county board committees. The Delegation of Financial Budget Authority allows Area Extension Directors, hired, and managed by Extension as state employees, to manage county fiscal resources in service to the people of those counties.

To be completed by the county administrator or county official delegating signature/budget authority.

County hereby delegates to the Area Extension Director for _____ County and _____ (no other person, if blank) authority to approve/authorize the following financial budget matters on behalf of County, provided, however, that such delegation is limited to the extent that such matters are directly related to County's authority under section 59.22(2)(d) and 59.56(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes and subject to any conditions/limitations indicated by County below.

Invoices	Travel Reimbursements	Supply & Expense Reimbursements
Time/Leave Approvals	Purchase Requisitions	Internal Budget Transfers
Inter- departmental transfers	County specific space agreements for educational programs	Bank account signatory
Other items:		
Conditions:		

This authorization is effective until either party (UW-Madison Extension or _____ County) requests a change to the document

Budget Authority signature: I am aware this constitutes a delegation of budget authority allowing the Area Extension Director, and any other position mentioned above, to manage county fiscal resources in service to the Extension office and residents of _____ county. I understand that delegating authority does not release _____ County, from full responsibility as Budget Authority.

County Administrator/County Official(s):

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Extension Contract 6



STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION
DECLARATION OF NATIONAL 4-H WEEK IN CHIPPEWA COUNTY

6.1

Passage of this declaration will formally designate the week of October 6-10, 2025 as National 4-H Week in Chippewa County. This declaration also formally recognizes the achievements of 4-H members and alumni, the dedication of volunteers and staff, and the steadfast support of partners who help deliver research-based education through University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension.

Declaration of National 4-H Week in Chippewa County

WHEREAS, 4-H is America's largest youth development organization, empowering young people with hands-on learning in STEM, agriculture, civic engagement, healthy living, the arts, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, 4-H youth in Chippewa County, Wisconsin are supported by a strong partnership of dedicated volunteers, families, community organizations, schools, county government, Tribal nations, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension-Chippewa County; and

WHEREAS, local 4-H programs strengthen communities across Chippewa County by cultivating belonging, generosity, independence, and mastery among young people from all backgrounds, preparing them to be capable, confident, and compassionate leaders; and

WHEREAS, research shows that youth engaged in 4-H are more likely to pursue higher education, contribute to their communities, and adopt healthy behaviors, thereby advancing the prosperity and well-being of Chippewa County; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa County recognizes the achievements of 4-H members and alumni, the dedication of volunteers and staff, and the steadfast support of partners who help deliver research-based education through University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension; and

WHEREAS, National 4-H Week is observed annually during the first full week of October to celebrate the impact of 4-H and invite more youth and families to get involved;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kari Ives, Chair, Chippewa County Agriculture and Extension Committee, on behalf of Chippewa County Agriculture and Extension Committee, do hereby proclaim October 6-10, 2025 as National 4-H Week in Chippewa County, Wisconsin, and encourage all residents to recognize 4-H for developing the next generation of leaders and innovators; and

WHEREAS, in Chippewa County, more than 470 youth participated in 13 4-H clubs, after-school programs, and camps in the past year, supported by 80 volunteers and 4-H Positive Youth Development Educator, Jordan Blue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Monday, October 6th, 2025, be recognized as "Wear Green for 4-H Day" in Chippewa County, and that community members, schools, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to display green or the 4-H clover to honor 4-H youth and volunteers.