#### AGENDA CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

# DATE:Wednesday, June 4, 2025TIME:9:00 a.m.LOCATION:Courthouse – Room 302

- 1. Call meeting to order
- 2. Declaration of Quorum
- 3. Public Comments (brief comments/statement regarding committee business)
- 4. Review Correspondence.
- 5. Approve minutes of previous meetings
- 6. Approve vouchers, staff reports, & committee reports
- 7. Risk and Injury Report
- 8. Extension
  - a. FoodWIse Report
- 9. Land & Water Conservation Department
  - a. Resolution to amend 2025 LWCD budget for Surface Water Grant.
  - b. Introduction of LWCD summer intern (Nicolas Fuentes Branas).
  - c. Review and approve bid for Duckett waste storage facility closure project (Hoffman Dairy site)
  - d. Update and potential discussion regarding nitrate well testing project.
  - e. Update on ongoing violations.
- 10. Private Sewage
- 11. Land Records
- 12. County Surveyor
- 13. Planning & Zoning
  - a. Consider resolution approving a zoning amendment for the Town of Auburndale
  - b. Consider resolution discontinuing the Wood County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Repair Revolving Loan Program.
- 14. Economic Development
  - a. Update from Marshfield Municipal Airport and consider release of Economic Development grant funds of \$15,000.
  - b. Update from Central WI Junior Fair and consider release of Economic Development grant funds of \$38,000.
- 15. Committee requests for per diem for meeting attendance
- 16. Schedule next regular committee meeting
- 17. Agenda items for next meeting
- 18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
- 19. Adjourn

#### Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll Meeting number (access code): 2491 941 6270

#### Join by WebEx App or Web

https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcounty wi/j.php?MTID=m576891ef6ea2073fecc9132d1 6cac168 Meeting number (access code): 2491 941 6270 Meeting password: 060425

#### MINUTES CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE:Wednesday, May 7, 2025TIME:9:00 AMPLACE:Courthouse – Conference Rm #302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Tim Hovendick, Wayne Schulz, Russ Perlock, George Gilbertson

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

- 1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
- 2. Corporation Counsel Flanagan was present to discuss the Economic Development Grant Funding program and the current criteria and limitations placed on the applicants. He reviewed statutory guidance on allowable expenditures of the program, notably the limitation of application by sectarian causes. Consensus of the committee was to leave the current restriction language in place on the application. The scoring rubric was discussed. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to change the following criteria points:
  - a. Program provides a clear ROI for Wood County: from 25 points to 17 points
  - b. Program is clearly described: leave at 10 points
  - c. Program demonstrates alignment to REDI category: from 10 points to 14 points
  - d. Program includes a match. Match is clearly described, especially if in-kind: from 10 points to 14 points.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 3. There was no public comment.
- 4. The minutes of the April 2, 2025, meeting were presented. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 5. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6. Extension Area Director Gatterman introduced the new Human Development & Relationships Educator Ben Eberlein to the committee. They reviewed the areas of education he provides and the residents this position serves.
- 7. County Conservationist Wucherpfennig and Portage County Conservationist Tracy Arnold reviewed the sodium rates in the Mill Creek Watershed. Arnold reviewed the testing that has been completed all along the watershed and how the committee can track this information online. Many levels of the DNR are involved this this research with the ultimate hopes of being able to find the source of this pollutant.
- 8. LWCD Engineering Technician Andrae reviewed the presentation he gave to the Wisconsin Land + Water Conference, titles Drones & Conservation. He reviewed some the data garnered by the drone and how it incorporates into all of the county data needed for their department.

- 9. Wucherpfennig reviewed the 2024 departmental annual report with the committee.
- 10. Wucherpfennig updated the committee on the status of the nitrate testing project and reviewed the map showing where the tests were conducted and the levels of nitrates found. He discussed the next steps and a questionnaire developed to help aid in the disbursement of ARPA funding for possible reverse osmosis systems.
- 11. Wucherpfennig reviewed the status of the two ongoing violations within the department.
- 12. Chair Leichtnam called a 5-minute recess.
- 13. The Village of Port Edwards is officially requesting to opt out of the economic development grant funding for this year due to the inability to obtain a demolition permit from the landowner (DMI Property). The committee encourage the Village to apply again in the future.
- 14. GIS Specialist Bernard reviewed the 2025 Emergency Services Atlas that was developed for the fire department in the aid of fighting forest fires. DNR Grants helped pay for the project in the amount of \$22,000.
- 15. County Planner Arndt presented a resolution amending the City of Marshfield Sewer Service Area Map/Plan to allow for the development of I-State Trucking on the southeast part of the city. City Administrator Barg highlighted the pertinent information. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
- 16. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg updated the committee on the state decision to close out the county CDBG Housing Grant Program across the state. There will, however, be opportunities for this type of funding for residents through the state. A resolution will be forthcoming next month to officially close out the program in Wood County.
- 17. Schulz attended the Town of Lincoln meeting to highlight and promote the nitrate testing being done by the Land & Water Conservation Dept. and requested per diem for attendance. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the per diem request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 18. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM.
- 19. Chairman Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

iviay 7	, 2025
NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Clerkezzing	WCB #15
George Gilbertson	~
Russ PErLock	WCB II4
DENNIS POLACH	WCB- #14
Wayne Schol	WCB #1
Barb Peeters	Luco
Kyle Andreae	LUCD
Tracy Arnob	Portage Co.
Shane w.	inco
Ben Martinson	Post Edwards
Nick Flancegow	Corp Counsel
Ben Eberlein	UWExtension
Kayla Rombalski	Extension
Jason Grueneberg	P~3
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Victoria Wilson (WebFr)	P.3
Steve Barg (Web Ex)	C/MarshField
Kendra Withelm (Web Ex)	LWCD
Cance Flime [Web Er]	CB Chain
Paul Bernard (WebEx)	P23
Qulie Manch (Web Ex)	P-3
Emily Arnot Weber	P3
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Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee May 7, 2025

#### **Committee Report**

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Exntesion

For the period of: May

For the range of vouchers: 30250050 - 3025006250

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30250050	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	05/06/2025	\$16.92	Р
30250051	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	05/06/2025	\$61.03	Р
30250052	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Educational Materials	05/06/2025	\$386.35	Р
30250053	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	05/06/2025	\$5.99	Р
30250054	AMERICAN INCOME LIFE INS CO	4H Insurance - Annual Policy	05/06/2025	\$739.00	Р
30250055	HUBER LAURA	March-April Expenses	05/06/2025	\$523.48	Р
30250056	ROMBALSKI KAYLA-ROSE	February-April Expenses	05/06/2025	\$427.26	Р
30250057	BORES TRINA	MAY EXPENSES	05/20/2025	\$68.60	Р
30250058	HUBER LAURA	HUBER MAY EXPENSES	05/20/2025	\$124.60	Р
30250059	MITCHELL ANNA M	MITCHELL MAY EXPENSES	05/20/2025	\$71.12	Р
30250060	ROMBALSKI KAYLA-ROSE		05/20/2025	\$98.99	Р
30250061	WEHR JANELL	WEHR MAY EXPENSES	05/20/2025	\$155.82	Р
30250062	US BANK	MAY STATEMENT	05/28/2025	\$413.15	
		Grand	Total:	\$3,092.31	

#### Signatures

Committee Chair:		
Committee Member:	Committee Member:	
Committee Member:	 Committee Member:	
Committee Member:	Committee Member:	
Committee Member:	Committee Member:	

#### **Committee Report**

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Land & Water Conservation

For the period of: May 2025

For the range of vouchers: 18250043 - 18250086

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18250043	TRACTOR SUPPLY CREDIT PLAN	Tools to repair no-till drill	04/29/2025	\$39.98	Р
18250044	BAUMAN DAVID	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$1,150.00	Р
18250045	BREITENFELDT JENNA	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$508.00	Р
18250046	CIHLAR DAN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$1,150.00	Р
18250047	ENSIGN EVAN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$436.00	Р
18250048	GAJEWSKI WAYNE	NMFE Reimbursement	05/02/2025	\$400.00	Р
18250049	GRIESBACH DAN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$889.00	Р
18250050	HAAS JEREMY	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$1,150.00	Р
18250051	HENRICKSEN AND COMPANY INC	Control switch for desk	04/30/2025	\$48.79	Р
18250052	HIEBL NICHOLAS	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$781.00	Р
18250053	JANSEN RANDY	NMFE Reimbursement	05/02/2025	\$499.00	Р
18250054	JORGENSON ERIC	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$400.00	Р
18250055	MARTIN JUSTIN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$970.00	Р
18250056	MICHALEWICZ DAVID	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$616.00	Р
18250057	MONNESS WILLIAM	NMFE Reimbursement	05/02/2025	\$607.00	Р
18250058	MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	Farmer Expo expenses	05/01/2025	\$1,028.42	Р
18250059	SOCHA PATRICK	NMFE Reimbursement	05/02/2025	\$913.00	Р
18250060	SEEFELDT MARK	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$652.00	Р
18250061	SHOOK ERIN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$706.00	Р
18250062	STROETZ DANE	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$400.00	Р
18250063	THANIG JOHN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$589.00	Р
18250064	UTECHT NATHAN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$400.00	Р
18250065	VAUGHAN AARON	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$931.00	Р
18250066	VENZKE LARRY	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$706.00	Р
18250067	VIEGUT JAMES	NMFE Reimbursement	05/01/2025	\$400.00	Р
18250068	ZAHRT ROGER	NMFE Reimbursement	05/02/2025	\$679.00	Р
18250069	MATYKA GERALD	NMFE Reimbursement	05/12/2025	\$958.00	Р
18250070	RASHKA NEIL	NMFE Reimbursement	05/12/2025	\$490.00	Р
18250071	USTIANOWSKI DANIEL	NMFE Reimbursement	05/12/2025	\$700.00	Р
18250072	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Field Day; Educ; LMPN supplies	05/15/2025	\$351.69	Р
18250073	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	Office supplies	05/20/2025	\$45.46	Р
18250074	US BANK	Office/LMPN/Field day supplies	05/19/2025	\$160.35	
18250075	BRUSS SCOTT	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$679.00	
18250076	KRAUSE ALLEN	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$835.00	

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#### Committee Report - County of Wood

#### Land & Water Conservation - May 2025

#### 18250043 - 18250086

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18250077	LUCHTERHAND BRYCE	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$679.00	
18250078	LUEDDECKE LEON	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$736.00	
18250079	MARTIN DENNIS	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$1,450.00	
18250080	NIGON TYLER	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$1,150.00	
18250081	PARKER MCCRORY MFG CO	5-6V Gel Batteries-Hauke Honey	05/23/2025	\$140.55	
18250082	PETERS EDWARD	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$868.00	
18250083	POPP MICHELLE	NMFE Reimbursement	05/23/2025	\$517.00	
18250084	UW - STEVENS POINT AT MARSHFIELD	Inv. Species Summit Rm Rental	05/27/2025	\$150.00	
18250085	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	Office supplies	05/23/2025	\$10.99	
18250086	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office supplies	05/23/2025	\$19.99	
		Grand T	otal:	\$26,990.22	

#### Signatures

Committee Chair:		
Committee Member:	Committee Member:	

#### **Committee Report**

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: May 2025

For the range of vouchers: 38250007 - 38250007 22250030 - 22250036

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22250030	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Prof Services	05/01/2025	\$1,126.67	Р
22250031	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	PS-Prof Serv/Postage	04/28/2025	\$100.17	Р
22250032	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	PS-Prof Serv/Postage	04/28/2025	\$1,749.40	Р
22250033	INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION	PS-Sanitary Permit Fees	05/01/2025	\$1,600.00	Р
22250034	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	05/16/2025	\$116.97	
22250035	US BANK	LR/ED Credit Card Charges	05/19/2025	\$391.30	
22250036	AYRES ASSOCIATES INC (Eau Claire)	LR-Other Equipment	05/20/2025	\$87,264.00	
38250007	MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	ED-REDI Funds	05/08/2025	\$10,000.00	Р
		Grand	l Total:	\$102,348.51	

#### Signatures

Committee Chair:		
Committee Member:	 Committee Member:	
Committee Member:	 Committee Member:	
Committee Member:	 Committee Member:	
Committee Member:	Committee Member:	



Extension Wood County staff led, delivered, planned or collaborated on all of the following activities:

# **4-H POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

Laura Huber, 4-H Program Educator Olga Meza, Bilingual 4-H Associate Educator Trina Bores, 4-H AmeriCorps member

- An activity provided as a Take & Learn Kit free for all families regardless of 4-H membership. Youth who participated learned in 4-H's hands-on, experiential style. This activity helped to foster stewardship of nature and wildlife.
  - **Total Reach:** 23 youth from kindergarten through 6th grade representing 10 families
- An activity for 4-H Cloverbuds where we paired youth from different clubs to become pen pals. This program offered youth an opportunity to develop new friendships while learning basic communication skills like writing a letter, addressing and envelope, and responding to correspondence.
  - o **Total Reach:** 10 youth from 8 families and representing 6 4-H clubs
- Youth participated in a Distance Learning program, Science of the Chocolate Chip Cookie, were youth in grades 3 and up experimented through hands-on learning through zoom and independent experiments to explore different baking techniques to help them find their favorite chocolate chip cookie recipe, while learning more about baking and food science along the way.
  - o <u>Total Reach:</u> 693 youth
- Planning for a Juntos Career Pathways Programs for Youth and Families in collaboration with local school districts and technical colleges. The goal is to provide families with career pathway information and build community between families, so that are better able to prepare for their students future career goals.
  - o **Total Reach:** 115 youth and 67 adults
- The Marathon & Wood County 4-H staff developed a training for the 2025 4-H summer camp where youth and adult leaders learned gained a deeper understanding of their role and how to support campers at the upcoming 4-H Summer Camp.
  - o Total Reach: 20 4-H Youth 2 AmeriCorps Staff 2 4-H Educators 4 approved 4-H volunteers
- A series of lessons (Healthy Living/Life Management) for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting, cooking, nutrition, and basic home repairs, to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.

### AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

• A workshop "Dairy Feeder School" for all the individuals with a link with the formulation, mixing, and/or delivering of feedstuff for dairy cattle. We are creating an in person and bilingual event where participants

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will learn and reinforce their knowledge about feed safety, feed management, transition cow health, and the economics of feeding. Through this effort we will impact animal health and milk production efficiency, by improve the use of resources such as, feed ingredients, time and labor leading to an increased farm profitability and waste reduction. This early April event had a strong winter storm the day it was held. Extension offered interpretation services for Spanish speaking attendees. The weather prevented the interpreters from travelling from the Southern Wisconsin area. The day before the event it was converted to a zoom meeting. Zoom has very good interpretation services that we were able to utilize, now the program is recorded and will be offered online in Spanish and English.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- A virtual workshop for members of the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System, where participants learned about the components of a grant proposal and tips on how to write the narrative to enable them to apply for grants to fund their child welfare programs.
  - o <u>Total Reach:</u> 78 staff and volunteers
- Basic grant writing workshop for local government, businesses, and organization members and staff. The goal of this effort is for people to learn how to find, write and apply for grants so that they can carry out the activities of their organization, business, or government unit.
  - <u>Total Reach</u>: approximately 150 individuals from nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments
- Partnering on a Wisconsin Partnership Program Community Impact Grant with CAP Services, Inc. and the UW Center for Community and Non-Profit Studies to grow and improve CAP Services' housing repairs programming. A goal of this project is to improve the accessibility and timeliness of their services in order to improve housing conditions for low to moderate income individuals and improve health equity in housing.
- A series of meetings with a local steering committee to plan for the 2025 Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference, which will be held June 16-18 in Wisconsin Rapids. The purpose of this conference is to showcase the scope and impact of entrepreneurial programs across the state, supporting a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem for all rural Wisconsin communities.

### **CRANBERRIES**

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

• Allison is currently on maternity leave and will return in June.

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### FOODWISE

Hannah Wendels, FoodWIse Nutrition Educator Mallory McGivern, FoodWIse Administrator Michelle Van Krey, Healthy Communities Coordinator

- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Grove Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, making healthy food choices, how to read nutrition facts labels, and about being physically active to help students to be healthier in school and at home.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for kindergarten classrooms at Grove Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, the five food groups, and try new fruits and vegetables. The goal of the series is for students to learn about how making healthy food choices will help them to be healthier in school and at home.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for kindergarten classrooms at Howe Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, the five food groups, and try new fruits and vegetables. The goal of the series is for students to learn about how making healthy food choices will help them to be healthier in school and at home.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for kindergarten classrooms at Mead Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, the five food groups, and try new fruits and vegetables. The goal of the series is for students to learn about how making healthy food choices will help them to be healthier in school and at home.
- Collaborating with students from UWSP to create a Food Access Map for Area 7 (Clark, Marathon, Portage, Wood) that includes grocery stores, farmers markets, farm stands, convenience stores and food pantries. The purpose of this project is to assist community members in understanding all food resources available to them in their communities.
- A collaboration with DPI and the Wisconsin Rapids School District where changes such as the hanging of educational posters, installation of cafe awning and a photoshoot of breakfast options were done in cafeterias to upgrade school meal appeal, encourage healthier choices and increase meal redemption for students at Grove, Howe and Mead Elementary Schools and River Cities High School.
- A 12-week series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for older adults/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. This series is led by one Extension StrongBodies volunteer.
- A 15-week series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for older adults/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. This series is led by two Extension StrongBodies volunteers.
- A series of lessons (Healthy Living/Life Management) for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting, cooking, nutrition, and basic home repairs, to

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prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.

 A partnership with United Way/Hunger Coalition, FOCUS Food Pantry, and the Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids that provides "Stockboxes for Seniors", a monthly food box service where low-income seniors can receive around 25-30 pounds of nutritious foods to stock their pantry with. The goal of this partnership is to promote the boxes with community partners with the overall goal to improve food security.

### **HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

#### Ka Zoua Thao, Bilingual (Hmong) Community Health Worker

- A Tai Chi class for older adults and individuals with arthritis, where participants learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. Through this activity, the program help reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
  - o <u>Total Reach</u>: 20 registered participants with 4 on a waitlist
- An educational presentation for the Wood County Health Department staff and community members, where participants explored the rich history and vibrant culture of the Hmong community. Through this effort, participants gained a deeper understanding of the Hmong community's contributions and challenges, fostering cultural awareness and inclusivity.
- Building relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the Hmong community within Wood County.
- Ongoing one-on-one meetings with Hmong clients, where resources and referrals are made. Through these efforts, individual clients are able to receive support navigating through the healthcare and legal systems, and get connected with community resources.
  - o <u>**Total Reach:</u>** 8 one-on-one clients</u>
- The Hmong Women's Social Space serves as a monthly gathering for Hmong women to engage in discussions about often overlooked topics within their community. This initiative aims to foster relationships among participants and empower them to advocate for the recognition of their voices.
  - **Total Reach:** 5 participants
- Monthly meetings for Hmong youth, at Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School, where participants engage in healthy eating, active living, and behavioral health topics affecting their communities. This effort is designed to build a better understanding of these topics and promote advocacy for change in the Hmong community.
  - o <u>Total Reach:</u> 28 Hmong youth
- A monthly youth group for Hmong youth at Lincoln High School where participants discuss active living and behavioral health topics. Through this effort, Hmong youth will have a better understanding of these topics and advocate for change within the Hmong community.
  - o <u>Total Reach:</u> 5 Hmong youth and 1 Filipino youth

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# HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

## **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & RELATIONSHIPS**

Ben Eberlein, Human Development & Relationships Educator

• Ben joined the Extension Wood County office on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please help us welcome Ben to Wood County!

### NATURAL RESOURCES

Jen McNelly, Natural Resources Educator Anna Mitchell, Natural Resources Educator

- A study to better understand the viability of harvesting potato vines prior to crop harvest and what effects the process has on reducing nitrate leaching. Results from this study will help potato producers, industry professionals, and other stakeholders in determining if new vine harvesting equipment is suitable for farming operations and whether or not harvesting potato vines is an effective strategy for reducing nitrate leaching in potato production. The study will also explore the feasibility of converting harvested potato vines into biochar, a possible soil-enhancing amendment.
- Facilitation of monthly meetings of the Wood County Citizen Water Groups, where stakeholders meet to discuss ways to implement their annual action plan, learn about water related issues in Wood County, plan events and activities, update each other on work being done in Wood County, and identify new collaborations for future work/projects.
  - o <u>Total Reach</u>: 15 Citizen Members of the Wood County Citizen Water Group
- A meeting County Conservation Staff, County Health Department Staff, and County Board Supervisors of the Central Sands Region, where participants learned about the process that was used to create risk maps for each of the central sands County's, and their was facilitated discussion about how to use the maps as decision support tools for local management decisions and planning efforts.
  - o <u>Total Reach:</u> 17 participants
- A hands-on learning station utilizing the Enviroscape Model for students from Assumption Elementary Schools in Wisconsin Rapids where students learned about watersheds, land use impacts to them and best management practices that can be used to mitigate human impacts. Through this activity students are able to visualize what a watershed is and human land use impacts the watershed. Students also are able to demonstrate the impacts of best management practices to minimize human impacts.
  - o <u>Total Reach:</u> 27 students and 5 teachers

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#### **Activities Report for Barb Peeters - May 2025**

- Assisted landowners picking up/dropping off nitrate water test kits (for the ARPA grant project). Answered questions in person and via phone posed by landowners regarding the nitrate testing. Delivered water tests to the Health Department as received. As of 5/28/25, out of 600 letters sent to landowners, 195 kits have been picked up and 166 water test kits have been returned. This first round of testing ends on May 29<sup>th</sup>, after which we'll use the test data results to begin the process of working with landowners testing above 20ppm for nitrates regarding interest in RO systems.
- Scheduled, attended and took minutes at May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup> staff meetings.
- Attended Nitrate Well Testing Meeting with LWCD staff and Chairman Bill Leichtnam on May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator with scanning of a nonmetallic reclamation plan and contacting County Conservationist to respond to a time sensitive request from Corporation Counsel to reschedule date for mediation.
- Processed orders for extra trees from the 2025 tree/shrub sale. There were 57 bundles of extra trees after the sale. 45 bundles were sold totaling \$1,347.34. The remaining 12 bundles of trees (white spruce, Douglas fir, sugar maple, hybrid poplar and highbush cranberry) were donated to Wood County Parks & Forestry Department to be planted at Cera Park.
- Finalized 2025 tree/shrub/seed sales: processed 197 orders and sold a total of 16,550 trees, 12# of tree gel, 532 tree shelters and 268 pounds of wildflower/grass/food plot seeds. Staff working the sale (5 of the 6 LWCD employees) streamlined the bagging process to improve efficiency. We collected suggestions from customers on species to offer in the 2026 tree/shrub sale and will begin working with the nursery in June to determine species for the 2026 tree sale.
- Processed permit payment for closure of an animal waste storage facility.
- Scheduled and attended staff meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> to review revised/new contracts/DATCP documents with County Conservationist and set reimbursement rates for 2025 nutrient management cost share contracts. Discussed drafts of new contract templates for use with harvestable buffers program for both the Surface Water Grant and ARPA funds as well as a draft contract for ARPA reverse osmosis systems.
- Attended May 7<sup>th</sup> CEED committee meeting in person.
- Drafted means questionnaire/application to determine eligibility for cost sharing of reverse osmosis systems and shared draft with County Conservationist and CEED Committee at May 7<sup>th</sup> CEED meeting.
- Completed and submitted four new budget account requests to the Finance Dept. to track LMPN and Surface Water grant revenue and expenses. This will be VERY beneficial in meeting reporting requirements and tracking grant funds separately from LWCD revenue/expenses. Submitted journal entries to transfer funds to appropriate accounts.
- Created spreadsheet to track required annual verification of best management practices for SWRM, ARPA and Surface Water Grant cost share contracts.
- Processed orders for wildflower/grass seeds and contacted customers to pick up orders after shipment(s) were received.
- Vacation days May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Downloaded the DATCP monthly report for May and shared with LWCD staff.
- Recorded RSVPs as received for the Central WI Invasive Species Summit that we are sponsoring on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Generated cost share contract for a manure storage closure project (D. Hayden).
- Created resolution for unanticipated funds for the 2025 LWCD budget (State of WI DNR Surface Water Grant -\$50,000).
- Reviewed DATCP Innovations Grant Contract to determine reimbursement requirements to be discussed with County Conservationist at an upcoming staff meeting.
- Attended the virtual North Central WI Land & Conservation Spring meeting hosted by Wood County LWCD on 5/13/25 and was host for the WebEx on behalf of the County Conservationist in his absence. Provided group with the Wood County update. Provided County Conservationist with general overview of meeting and items requiring his follow-up.
- Developed a department-specific orientation form for the summer intern due to the fact there was no such document on file for our department and to assure all bases were covered with incoming summer intern. Submitted to County Conservationist for his review and approval.
- Assisted Safety & Risk Specialist with determining which orientation models the summer intern should complete based on duties when the County Conservationist was out of the office.
- Ordered department supplies and processed invoices/payments.

- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Processed payments for rental of no-till drill as received.
- Provided orientation to summer intern (Nicolas Fuentes Branas).
- Processed reimbursements for Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) as received. Wood County is the financial manager for the DATCP NMFE Grant in 2025 and responsible for processing reimbursements to class attendees for Wood, Marathon, Taylor, Clark, Portage and Lincoln counties. Processed 34 payments to farmers in May.
- Completed project to bag up and label common milkweed seeds (a native perennial to WI and an essential plant for monarch butterfly survival) that I obtained free for our dept. from the Goose Pond Sanctuary (Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance) to use as handouts at upcoming events. Created milkweed fact sheet to attach to milkweed seed packets.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> payrolls.
- Assisted with and attended Central WI Invasive Species Summit at UW-Marshfield campus on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The event was a success and well received by attendees with lots of positive feedback and appreciation for hosting the event.
- Reviewed payroll reports and verified distribution by accounts/department.
- Worked with Henricksen sales rep & customer service to address ongoing issues with sit-stand desk. After 2 months of communications and ordering/installing a new part, the issue remains unsolved; continue to work with customer service.
- Looked into possibility of offering fruit trees with our 2026 spring tree/shrub sale. Working with contact obtained from Sheboygan County Land & Water Conservation dept. utilized for their tree sale. Many customers have requested fruit trees be offered and we are in the initial stages of determining whether it would be feasible to include in our tree sale.
- Processed department invoices/vouchers and deposits weekly for submission to the Treasurer/Finance.
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator with contacting vendor regarding an outstanding check issued for the venison donation program in January 2025. Followed up with Deputy Treasurer.
- Generated bid letters for the Duckett waste storage facility closure project (Hoffman Dairy site).
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator with lookup of locations of Haukee Honey bee hive sites for the Wildlife Abatement and Claims program.
- Sent email communication to tree sale program customers to gauge interest in offering fruit trees in the 2026 tree sale due to customer requests. Within the first 12 hours, received overwhelmingly positive responses from over a hundred customers in favor of purchasing fruit trees (with responses still coming in at the time of this report).
- Served as point of contact for LWCD staff on May 15, 16, 23 & 27 while County Conservationist was out of the office.
- Scheduled and attended staff meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss reverse osmosis system applications based on nitrate well water testing results between mid-March to May 2025.
- Scheduled and attended staff meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss feasibility of offering fruit trees with the 2026 tree sale.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the CEED meeting packet.

#### Activities Report for Emily Salvinski

-May 2025-

- **Thursday, May 1.** Attended staff meeting. Attended meeting on our current water testing program. Worked on NMFE paperwork so farmers can get reimbursed. Started mapping latest nitrate results.
- Friday, May 2. Worked on mapping latest nitrate results.
- **Tuesday, May 6.** Reviewed new cost-share contracts for 2025. Worked on Mill Creek BITS reporting, dealt with BITS issues with the DNR's BITs coordinator.
- Wednesday, May 7. Processed NMFE paperwork. Added more 2025 NMP info to GIS.
- **Thursday, May 8.** Took streamflow measurements at 5 locations in the SE of Wood Co. Attended Badger Crop Connect.
- Wednesday, May 14. Attended staff meeting. Took streamflow results off the monitor and added it to DNR database and our excel file. Worked on entering data into BITS.
- **Thursday, May 15.** Sampled surface water for phosphorus testing at 4 locations within the Mill Creek watershed. Prepared spreadsheets for the upcoming year's phosphorus results.
- Monday, May 19. Finished up adding 2024 Mill Creek data into BITS.
- Tuesday, May 20. Assisted with and attended the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Wednesday, May 21. Processed NMFE paperwork to get more people ready for reimbursement.

Activities Report for Kyle Andreae - May, 2025

- May 1 Staff meeting, Mueske site visit, Lippert site visit
- May 2 Lippert site visit
- May 5 Keuffer site tour prep
- May 6 Lippert site visit, Keuffer site visit, Mueske site visit, Hoffman sit visit
- May 7 CEED Meeting, Solar system meeting
- May 8 Keuffer site tour
- May 9 Lewis design
- May 12 Gilberson site investigation
- May 13 Lewis correspondence, Hayden correspondence, Krohn CRP eligibility determination
- May 14 Staff meeting, Lewis design revisions
- May 15 Lewis design revisions
- May 16 Lewis design documentation
- May 19 Lewis design documentation
- May 20 Lewis design documentation, Invasive Species Summit
- May 21 Duckett site investigation
- May 22 Duckett site visit/ design
- May 23 Duckett design/ out for bid
- May 26 Holiday
- May 27 Duckett design documentation, Lewis correspondence and coordination
- May 28 Invasive species control, Lewis site visit
- May 29 Lewis design documentation
- May 30 Lewis design documentation



Wood County WISCONSIN

#### Activities Report for Kendra Wilhelm – May 2025

- Participated in the May 1<sup>st</sup> staff meeting.
- Participated in a meeting regarding next steps for nitrate testing with Chairman Leichtnam.
- Completed the first of two walk-throughs of the UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield Arboretum with master naturalist Bridget O'Brien to discuss the nature walk that will be part of the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Emailed a producer regarding the soil probe.
- Coordinated the use and transport of the drill for 7 operators.
  - This consists of answering questions via phone, managing the schedule of the no-till drill, and transporting the no-till drill to renters.
- Discussed potential dates for a Clean Boats Clean Waters training for Nepco Lake District.
- Met Dan Vollert from Parks Department at our forestry shed to give him the extra trees/shrubs from the tree sale. They will be planted at CERA Park by Parks & Forestry Department staff.
- Wrote and sent out a press release for the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Coordinated a time with Chad Schooley and a Nepco Lake District board member to meet at the Nepco Boat Landing to discuss final location for boating regulation and boat wash station signs.
- Assisted Barb with retrieving tree shelters from the forestry shed to fulfill an order and replenish our stock at the office.
- Compiled a list of intern duty ideas for the 2025 summer season.
- Participated in a staff meeting to discuss new cost-share contracts for 2025.
- Transported the no-till drill from a farmer in the Town of Seneca to a farmer in the Town of Port Edwards.
- Reached out to the landowner that has giant hogweed on their property to set up a time to monitor and potentially remove giant hogweed plants.
- Discussed logistics of a shoreline restoration plan as a future project. Goal would be to gather data via a shoreline assessment of Wazeecha and Nepco Lakes, write an approved shoreline restoration plan, allowing the department to apply for grants to receive money for implementing the shoreline restoration practices.
- Discussed the logistics of shoreline assessment surveys with the Portage County Conservationist, Tracy Arnold. There will be a partnering opportunity to complete a shoreline assessment on Nepco Lake this field season.
- Reviewed the "High Nitrate Questionnaire" draft that will be used as part of the pre-application to determine eligibility for cost-sharing of a reverse osmosis system (ARPA funding project).
- Attended the CEED meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Assisted with questions, distribution, and collection of nitrate tests. Also took samples to the Health Department when needed.
- Discussed the shoreline assessment app that Portage County has produced with Shane. The plan is for me to join Portage County staff to pilot the app on Nepco Lake this coming field season.
- Reviewed the "Verification of Annual Compliance" spreadsheet that Barb created to assist in tracking verification of cost-shared best management practices.
- Created an invasive species tic tac toe game to help explain that just because an invasive species is verified, it does not mean that it will take over. There are many environmental factors that contribute to the population size and spread of an invasive species. This will be used within my presentation at the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Reached out to a board member of the Nepco Lake District to let them know about the shoreline assessment that will be occurring on Nepco Lake this summer field season. I also presented this to the entire board at the May 19<sup>th</sup> Nepco Lake District board meeting.
  - This conversation sparked discussion about hosting a "pontoon tour" on Nepco Lake with board members to discuss the shoreline assessment results, see examples of different rankings, and discuss potential next steps.

River Block, 111 W Jackson Street, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54495 • Telephone (715) 421-8475 • Fax (715) 421-8579

- Finalized host location for Snapshot Day and signed up to be a site leader.
- Discussed logistics of Clean Boats Clean Waters training for Nepco Lake District towards the end of May.
- Transported the no-till drill from the Town of Port Edwards to a farmer in Junction City.
- Created and dropped off harvestable buffer maps to Roths Golden Acres.
- Emailed the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit flyer to Human Resources to share on the Wood County Facebook page.
- Planned for and hosted a Nekoosa High School senior to job shadow on May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Communicated with and dropped off the roller crimper at the Marshfield Agriculture Research Station. The roller crimper will be used in a field day hosted by the UW to demonstrate planting beans into roller-crimped cereal rye.
- Completed the second walk-through at the UW-Arboretum in preparation for the nature walk at the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Completed the equipment survey and the monitoring site selection for Snapshot Day that will be on August 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - Provided information on six new sites that will need to be set up with Station IDs in the SWIMS database.
  - The focus of this year's Snapshot Day is on Wazeecha Lake.
- Reached out to the facilities manager at the UW-Marshfield campus regarding signage and parking for the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Transported the no-till drill to a farmer in Junction City.
- Corresponded with a UW-Extension Natural Resources Institute staff member regarding Station IDs in the SWIMS database. The correspondence was in regards to naming conventions for SWIMS and local points of interest.
- Created plant identification cards for the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Participated in the May 14<sup>th</sup> staff meeting to discuss intern duties.
- Corresponded with the owner of The Hungry Hub with final meal numbers for the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Presented the rusty crayfish trapping project at Pittsville High School. Traps were also set the same day as the presentation.
- Communicated with UW staff regarding the pick-up of the roller crimper.
- Prepped all materials for the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
- Assisted with the rusty crayfish trapping project at Pittsville High School on various days.
- Participated in a meeting with a Nepco Lake District board member regarding educational sessions that coincide with their DNR Surface Water Education Grant.
- Attended and participated in the Nepco Lake District Board Meeting.
- Hosted and presented at the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit.
  Reach: 34 attendees.
- Participated in a meeting with the Nepco Lake District Secretary to assist in the finalization of materials for their "Welcome to a Clean Lake" folder that will be sent to parcel owners. Funding to put this folder together is provided by a DNR Surface Water Education grant.
- Created and sent out a resource list for attendees of the Central Wisconsin Invasive Species Summit. These resources consisted of items that were discussed during the Summit along with information regarding the rescheduled nature walks due to inclement weather.
- Conducted a Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) training to Nepco Lake District members, Nepco Lake District CBCW employees, and the Land & Water Intern, Nico Fuentes Branas.
- Transported the roller crimper back from the Marshfield Agricultural Research Station to the forestry shed for storage.
- Communicated with partners regarding purple loosestrife beetle collection.
- Communicated, rescheduled, and executed a Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) training to a Nepco Lake District CBCW employee who could not attend the first training.
- Wrote a brief article on the background of the Wood County LWCD for the Nepco Lake District newsletter.
- Presented fundamental concepts of "The Watershed Game" to an entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. Was a station leader for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to their school forest students incorporated what they learned during the fundamental concepts presentation to play "The Watershed Game" and learned about the relationship between land uses within a watershed, water quality, and their community.

#### Activities Report for Rod Mayer – May 2025

- Completed 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Wildlife Damage and Abatement program reimbursement report: put all invoices together, completed DNR database and report, scanned and sent to DNR.
- Correspondence for Christmas Tree damage options to landowner.
- Wildlife damage program correspondence to three landowners for enrollments once crops up and damage occurs. Sent listing of needed info.
- Wrap up extra tree sales order pick ups.
- Reviewed Weichelt Hwy T DNR correspondence for temp. SWPPP in place prior to wetland identification process. File updates.
- Staff meeting 5/1/25
- Reviewed Bach Excavating take over of Mid-WI interim plan, wetland restoration, SWPPP approval in anticipation for new plan following DNR wetland review. File update
- Reviewed Earth Biron Plan and emails with DNR etc. Sent detailed email to Jared (DNR wetlands) for intent to dig/remove a wetland area withing quarry. Wetland removal research. Updated file with DNR response etc.
- Updated firms for reclamation plans listing for meeting.
- Vitort in office meeting went over procedure needed for Ladick Hedin site permit transfer.
  Explained issues possible concerns with site. Provided public record example reclamation plans as needed.
- Created/organized new 6 section mine site files for Earth Biron, Mathy Marshfield, and Earth Maple Ridge 2.
- Summary of meeting notes, updated summary, approved plan on MR2, and other requested documents copied and sent to Corp Counsel.
- Draft 1 review of Mathy Marshfield Joint Jurisdiction for NR135 portion (plan/maps). Printed copy, checklist NR135 review, Initial notes, index mark up, typed review for edits needed, correspondence (email/phone) with DNR for wetland concerns and storm water/erosion concerns, sent draft 1 review to Mathy.
- Bank contact for Sneider FA renewal. Received updated document spreadsheet, file, software.
- Met with landowner for pond exemption plans, info, copies, maps, process, etc.
- Info sent to Knott for pond exemption inquerry. Reviewed DNR wetland info sent.
- Phone meeting with Ron Bohn for Bohn/Kolo site. Sale of land, deadline to reclaim to avoid DNR CH 30 permitting, remain in Ron Bohn name until reclaimed, etc.
- Meeting with Corp Counsel and Shane for settlement discussion and mediation on Maple Ridge 2.
- Attended mediation for Earth Maple Ridge 2 violation settlement.
- Staff meeting 5/14/25
- Smalley pond exemption review and approval. Map acres, spreadsheet update, approval letter.
- Joling-Carr land transfer pond exemption not finished discussion for exemption issued to new landowner and process as such. Sent info packet to Carr.
- Received Vison Brad Brehm plan draft 1 -put plan in order, made copies for Brad, Put Vision file together. Email and phone meeting to DNR for different stormwater permitting than what I received. Completed Draft 1 review, notes taken, marked up check list, typed review document for all missing requirements, in office meeting with Brad to go over review and requirements of plan.

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#### Activities Report for Shane Wucherpfennig – May 2025

- Held May 1<sup>st</sup> staff meeting.
- Held meeting regarding next steps for nitrate testing with Chairman Leichtnam, Shane, Kendra, and Barb.
- Participated in DNR NPS Coordinator interviews in St. Point at the Annex Bldg.
- Met with Craig Viort and Rodney Mayer to discuss NMM permitting of the Hedin Site.
- Reviewed new contracts and processes/tracking with staff for new program funds.
- Discussed the potential of a shoreline restoration survey and plan with Kendra for Wazeecha and Lake Nepco.
- Reviewed the "High Nitrate Questionnaire" draft that will be used as part of the pre-application to determine eligibility with staff.
- Processed Nitrate samples as they came in the office & answered questions for residents.
- Had discussion with Nick Flannegan on the Earth, Inc. Mediation.
- Presented at the 14 Mile Watershed Alliance meeting on the implementation of 9-Key element plans.
- Attended North Central Land & Water Association meeting hosted by Wood County.
- Mediation for Earth Inc. with attorneys and mediation Judge all day.
- Staff Meeting to discuss summer intern starting & projects for the summer.
- Attended Golden Sands RC&D meetings in St. Point.
- Attended PACRS Meeting on Castle Rock.
- Intern's start and orientation.
- CSGCC Meeting in Hancock.
- Citizens Water Group Meeting at River Block.
- Department Head meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Met with Roger Lewis on streambank restoration project on the Wisconsin River South of Nekoosa.
- Staff Meting to discuss Nitrate testing effort and next steps.

May 2025 staff report, LWCD INTERN:

-Completed Wood County trainings

-Attended the central sands groundwater collaborative & shared information with the Citizens Water Group

-Attended the invasive species summit @ UWSP-Marshfield

-Surveyed for soil volume surrounding a manure pond to fill it in

-Attended the UW extension crop webinar

-Attended Clean Boats Clean Water training

-Resurveyed manure pond area to find additional sources of fill

-Picked up roller crimper

-Reviewed Land and Water Conservation department page to broaden my understanding of the operations that occur





#### OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director Emily Arndt, County Planner Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator Brad Cook, Code Administrator Kayla Rautio, Code Technician Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant Julie Mancl, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for June 2025

#### 1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)

**Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce** – On May 28<sup>th</sup> I participated in a Coffee with the Chamber event held in the Wood County Board room. Updates on economic development activities were provided by a panel of presenters, and the event was well attended with over 35 participants.

**Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids Preliminary Housing Assessments** – With a shortage of available housing stock and options in Wood County, the CEED Committee agree to fund preliminary Housing Assessments for Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids. Both studies are complete and included as attachments to this report. Both studies show the potential to developers for housing in both cities.

**Hub City Wind Energy Project** – In the past few weeks I have been getting updates from Nancy Esser, Superintendent of the UW – Marshfield Agricultural Research Station pertaining to the proposed Alliant Wind Energy project that the UW Board of Regents (BOR) and Wood County could participate in. Wood County owns 142.13 acres of land in Marathon County Town of Eau Plaine and leases that land to the BOR for agricultural research. The BOR and Wood County have expressed interest in considering participation in this project, and we are at a point now where project updates will be provided, and possible coordination of Wind Lease and Easement Agreements. Corporation Counsel Flanagan is now being included in the discussion and involved with possible next steps. A project update from Alliant Energy to the CEED Committee will be scheduled for July or August, with an outline of next steps if Wood County decides to participate in this project.

**Central Wisconsin Economic Development (CWED) Fund** – On May 25<sup>th</sup> I participated in the CWED Annual Board Meeting. At the meeting election of officers was held and I was elected as Treasurer for another term. As Treasurer I oversee the Finance Committee and serve on both the Executive Committee and the Loan Committee.

**Wisconsin Rapids Foundry** – Wood County owns the burned-out Foundry building in Wisconsin Rapids located at 330 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. South. This building was partially destroyed by fire in 2017 and has remained vacant since then. Wood County acquired ownership of the property through the tax deed process and has worked with the City to redevelop it. The Wisconsin Rapids City Council has approved purchase of the property and Wood County will consider approval of this purchase at the June County Board meeting. When the City of Wisconsin Rapids Owns the property, they will have access to a variety of grant funding opportunities to determine if there is any contamination, as well as possible funding for cleanup if needed.

**Wood County Annex Property** – I continue to meet weekly with the City if Wisconsin Rapids on redevelopment of the Triangle Property in front of the Courthouse. Recent progress includes the transfer of the Annex Building to Wood County in order to raze all of the buildings on the block at one time, commencing when the razing of the old jail is complete. This marks a significant milestone in redevelopment of the Triangle.

#### 2. <u>Planning & Zoning</u> (Emily Arndt)

- 1. Attended the Town of Rock's presentation to the Town on their updated zoning ordinance.
- 2. Began creating the Town of Rock official zoning map
- 3. Updated Land Records with all recent zoning amendments.
- 4. Assisted multiple towns with zoning ordinance update questions.
- 5. Completed the City of Marshfield Type 1 sewer service amendment process.
- 6. Prepared agenda items for June and July CEED committee meetings.
- 7. Working through review and approval of CSMs.
- 8. Continued planning the organization of future Comprehensive Plans.
- 9. Continued working with staff to ensure that questions are answered in a proficient manner.

#### 3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- Parcel Mapping
- Address Mapping
- Submitting GIS data to GeoComm for use in NG911
- Permit GIS Data creation

#### 4. <u>Code Administrator</u> (Brad Cook)

5-1-2025- - (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep mound TN: 20, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-2-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 18, HP Plotter training, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-5-2025- (1) soil eval reviewed TN: 11, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

5-6-2025- (1) new conv inspection TN: 13, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-7-2025- Vacation

5-8-2025- (1) rep mound inspection TN: 20, (1) rep conv inspection TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-9-2025- (1) HS 25-014 reviewed and sent TN: 22, answer phone calls and inquires with

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POWTS, SL, FL.

5-12-2025-(2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 13,20, (1) SF-25-007 written and sent, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-13-2025- (1) SF 25-008 written and sent, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-14-2024- (1) HS 25-015 letter written and reviewed TN: 18, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv V: 27 (1) tank insp TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-15-2025- (1) SL permit reviewed and issued TN: 18, (1) OR-25-004 letter written and sent, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-16-2025-(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep mound TN: 03, (1) HS 25-016 letter written and sent, (1) conv DF inspection TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-19-2025- (1) FL permit reviewed and issued TN: 13, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 14, (2) SL inspections TN: 06, 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-20-2025- (1) HS-25-017 written and sent, (1) SF 25-009 letter written and sent, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-21-2025- (1) SL permit reviewed and issued TN: 06, (2) mound, drainfield, and tank inspections TN: 13,17, (1) conv tanks inspection TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

5-22-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for reconnect TN:11, Well Delegation Meeting, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-23-2025- (1) SF 25-010 letter written and sent TN: 18, (1) SL permit reviewed and issued TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5-26-2025- Holiday

5-27-2025- (1) soils onsite inspection TN: 15, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for reconnect TN: 11, (1) mound/tanks insp TN: 19, (2) SL & FP permits reviewed and issued TN: 13, 17, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

#### 5. <u>Code Technician</u> (Kayla Rautio)

- A. Continued floodplain education
- **B.** Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications
- **C.** Reviewed soil evaluations
- D. Researched well delegation information for inspections letter & brochure

- **E.** Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions
- F. Inspections/Investigations:
  - 5-8-25: Mound core inspection TN:20; Conventional inspection TN:18
  - 5-14-25: Conventional tanks inspection TN:07
  - 5-16-25: Conventional drainfield inspection TN:07
  - 5-19-25: Shoreland navigable waterway determinations TN:07 & 18
  - 5-21-25: Mound pre-inspection TN:13; Mound plow & tanks inspection TN:13; Final mound inspection TN:13 & 17; Conventional tanks inspection TN:18
  - 5-27-25: Sanitary on-site inspection TN:15; Mound tank replacement inspection TN:19
  - 5-28-25: Mound inspection TN:09; Well inspection TN:09
- **G.** Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.
  - 5-2-25: GIS plotter printing training
  - 5-7-25: Reviewed and edited 'Reminder Letter'
  - 5-12-25: Covered office mail, phone calls, issued sanitary permit
  - 5-13-25: DSPS POWTS Chat Update
  - 5-22-25: Well delegation discussion meeting; covered office in afternoon- issued sanitary permit

#### 6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie Mancl)

- a. <u>Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity</u> There were twenty sanitary, four shoreland, two floodplain and nine well permits issued in May 2025. Three certified survey maps were processed and eight recorded.
- <u>Economic Development Grants</u> Victoria is preparing to receive Economic Development grants for 2026. As of May 29, two applications have been received. The grant deadline this year is July 11, 2025.
- c. <u>Permit system</u> Staff is working with IT to improve permit information available to the public and the information input into the permit system. This includes septic, floodplain, shoreland, and well permits.

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- d. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
  - i. May 2<sup>nd</sup> Plotter training (VW & JM)
  - ii. May 7th CEED meeting virtually (VW & JM)
  - iii. May 22<sup>nd</sup> Well Delegation meeting (VW)

# **SNAP-Ed** IMPACTS

# IN WOOD COUNTY

### NUTRITION EDUCATION

#### Teaching About Healthy Eating and Active Living.

At Howe Elementary in Wood County, FoodWlse taught a fivelesson series in all 5th grade classrooms. Lessons focused on the MyPlate food groups, trying new foods, and how to read nutrition facts labels. Students tried rutabaga, apple cinnamoninfused water, and hummus with carrots. They read labels on drink bottles, measured the amount of added sugar in drinks, and discussed ways they can make healthier choices when eating away from home. They learned how to make healthy choices they can carry into their lives at school and at home.

#### COMMUNITY REACH

#### IN WOOD COUNTY

#### FOODWISE NUTRITION EDUCATION ANNUAL REACH:

- over 480 youth
- 45 adults

#### TOTAL LEARNING INTERACTIONS IN FY2024:

- 2,495 youth engagements
- 612 adult engagements

#### WHAT OUR PARTICIPANTS SAY

I've seen more kids willing to try our healthy snacks, which are provided by a grant at our school. Kids also will read labels and point things out to me. I've been so impressed with the lessons, they keep the students fully engaged. I love this program and I think the kids benefit a lot. These are life long lessons presented in a way that will stick with them.

- TEACHER OF CLASS AT HOWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN WOOD COUNTY

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

#### Working to Make Healthy Choices Easier and More Accessible.

In 2024, the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District and FoodWlse engaged 3 elementary schools and 1 alternative high school in a school meal assessment. These assessments identified ways to upgrade school meal appeal, encourage healthier choices, and increase meal redemption for students. Each school was awarded \$1,000 to spend on meal appeal strategies. With FoodWlse support, strategies included engaging students to create educational posters about fruits and vegetables to hang in the cafeteria, hosting taste tests as a way to introduce new foods on the school menu, and installing a cafe awning in one school's cafeteria to enhance the environment. Now, students are requesting more fruits and vegetables on the menu, starting their own Student Wellness Advisory Groups so students can lead healthier initiatives, and are planning other ways to make their schools healthier.



Extension UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON FoodWlse education is funded by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program – EFNEP. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities memployment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.



# Healthy Choices Healthy Lives

FoodWIse in **Wood County** is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed). With local strengths, we support healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for Wisconsin residents experiencing limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels.

Extension

WOOD COUNTY

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON





Whether people are healthy or not is affected by systems, policies, and environmental factors.

# **45**%

of children in schools were eligible for free or reduced price meals.^



# 14%



of county residents use SNAP benefits to purchase food for themselves and their families.\*

 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
 \* WI Dept of Administration and WI Dept of Health Services

# Achieving More **Together**

UW-Madison Division of Extension works alongside the people of Wisconsin throughout urban and rural communities to deliver practical educational programs where people live and work. In Wood County, FoodWIse partners with schools, after-school programs, Head Start programs, senior meal programs, and food pantries to help make the healthy choice the easy choice in our communities.

## Community

# Impacts in 2024

Engaged with **526 learners** around nutrition education topics in a variety of settings, including early care and education centers, K-12 school settings and food pantries.

Partnered with **4 schools** in the Wisconsin Rapids School District to support the Harvest of the Month campaign, reaching students, parents & caregivers with messages in English & Spanish to promote eating Wisconsin-grown fruits & vegetables.

Worked with **Healthy People Wood County** to hold deliberative inquiry dialogues with community members to inform Wood County Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

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# Inspiring Collaborations



The FoodWIse team has grown the StrongBodies program in Wood County, starting initially at the South Wood County YMCA, then moving to the Nekoosa Area Community Center, where participation grew significantly. Nutrition Educator, Hannah Scott, taught the strength-training program with a nutrition component to a class of 30 participants, and worked throughout 2024 to develop a sustainability plan. Recognizing the need for accessible physical activity, Hannah and the Human Development & Relationships Educator, Jackie, found interested individuals to be trained as StrongBodies Volunteer Leaders. As a result of their efforts, the first volunteer-led class began in October 2024.

StrongBodies offers numerous benefits, including reduced risk for chronic diseases, and increased strength, muscle mass, and bone density. Participants also value the social opportunities and new friendships formed. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Extension colleagues, StrongBodies will continue offering accessible health benefits and social connectedness into the future in Wood County!

"I have lost 10lbs and feel much better. Helped a lot to get out during winter." -Strong Bodies Participant

### Connect

# With Us

Wood.Extension.wisc.edu Wood County Courthouse 400 Market St, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



Mallory McGivern FoodWIse Program Administrator

# Multi-level Program **Efforts**

FoodWIse Nutrition Educator, Hannah Wendels Scott, provides educational programming at River Cities High School and works to promote healthy eating habits among students by meeting them where they are. Students learn about resource management, food safety, and healthy cooking.

To continue the conversation about food with River Cities students, Hannah and Healthy Communities Coordinator, Michelle Van Krey, collaborated with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to conduct a focus group. This conversation provided valuable insights into what makes students interested in school meals.



Building on these insights, FoodWIse is supporting River Cities as it participates in DPI's "Upgrade School Meal Appeal" initiative, where schools are awarded grants to implement strategies aimed at increasing meal utilization and ensuring students have access to nutritious and appealing meals.



Michelle Van Krey Healthy Communities Coordinator



Hannah Wendels Scott Nutrition Educator

FoodWlse education is funded by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistanc Program-SNAP and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program-EFNEP. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

#### **RESOLUTION#**



June 17, 2025

DATE Effective Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by

Motio	on: Adopted:			
1 <sup>st</sup>			Lost:	
2 <sup>nd</sup>			Tabled:	
No:	Yes:		Absent:	
Numb	per of votes r	equired	d:	
	Majority	Х	Two-thirc	ls
Review	ved			
by:	NF		, Corp Cou	Insel
Review	ved		-	
by:	PY		, Finance I	Dir.
1				

		NO	YES	Α
1	Schulz, W			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Buttke, T			
4	Perlock, R			
5	Hovendick, T			
6	Breu, A			
7	Voight, W			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Brehm, S			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

#### Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee and Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To seek County Board approval to amend the 2025 Wood County Land & Water Conservation budget for unanticipated State of Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Surface Water Grant monies and to appropriate those monies to the Land & Water Conservation budget for expenditures.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of the funding is unanticipated revenue from a DNR Surface Water Grant. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
56121	Land & Water Cons.		\$50,000.00
43586	State Grants Surf. Water	\$50,000.00	

**WHEREAS,** the Land & Water Conservation Department will receive additional grant funds in the amount of \$50,000.00 to disburse as cost share payments for participants implementing harvestable buffers, cover crops and/or residue management; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds were not expected to be obtained and therefore were not included in the 2025 budgeted amount; and,

WHEREAS, the \$50,000.00 will have no impact on the county tax levy; and,

**WHEREAS**, rule 26 of the Wood County Board of Supervisors states that "an amendment to the budget is required any time the actual costs will exceed the budget at the function level".

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** to amend the Wood County Land and Water Conservation budget (56121) by appropriating \$50,000.00 from unanticipated State of Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Grant funds (43586) for the purpose of disbursing as cost-share payments to participants; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that pursuant to \$65.90 (5), Wisconsin Statutes, the County Clerk is directed to post a notice of this budget change within fifteen (15) days.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, June 17, 2025



#### **RESOLUTION#**

June 17, 2025

Effective Date

DATE

June 17, 2025

Page 1 of 2

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

Motic	on:	Adopted:
1 <sup>st</sup>		Lost:
2 <sup>nd</sup>		Tabled:
No:	Yes:	Absent:
Numb	per of votes require	ed:
X	.,.,	Two-thirds
by:	NF	, Corp Counsel
Reviev by:	wed	, Finance Dir.

Introduced by

		NO	YES	Α
1	Schulz, W			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Buttke, T			
4	Perlock, R			
5	Hovendick, T			
6	Breu, A			
7	Voight, W			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Brehm, S			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: Approve an amendment to the Town of Auburndale Official Zoning Ordinance.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County.

WHEREAS, the Town of Auburndale adopted and administers a zoning ordinance to promote the health, safety, aesthetics, prosperity, and general welfare of the town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 60.62(3)(a) Wis. Stats., in counties having a county zoning ordinance, no town zoning ordinance or amendment of a zoning ordinance may be adopted unless approved by the County Board of Supervisors; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 15, 2025 the Town of Auburndale submitted an ordinance amendment to the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning for review and approval pursuant to the Wis. Stats.; and

**WHEREAS**, county review and decision concerning approval or disapproval of a town zoning amendment is limited to cases of abuse of discretion, excess of power, or error of law; and

**WHEREAS,** the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning reviewed the information submitted by the Town of Auburndale and finds the Town adhered to the process for zoning amendments as outlined in the Wis. Stats.; and

**WHEREAS,** the Wood County Department of Planning and Zoning finds no conflict with any county planning and zoning programs

and ordinances; and

**WHEREAS,** on June 4, 2025 the Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee (CEED) reviewed the request and recommended approval; and

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, January 21, 2025

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Wood County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to § 60.62(3)(a) Wis. Stats., hereby approves the following amendments to the Town of Auburndale Official Zoning Ordinance:

- 1. Reformatting
- 2. Language clarification
- 3. Addition of regulation on how lots are measured in 4.04(3)
- 4. Addition of housing density to be set to 10 houses per one mile of road in 5.05(3)e
- 5. Addition of section 5.08 Solar and Wind
- 6. Addition of 6.04(3) Conditional uses are non-transferable



#### Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Application Instructions

**About:** The Wood County CEED (Conservation, Education, and Economic Development) Committee and the Board of Supervisors have made available a limited amount of economic development funds to be awarded each year to projects or proposals that seek to enhance the economic vitality of Wood County.

**Ongoing Funding:** The CEED Committee recognizes that the County's airports, chambers of commerce, and other entities provide a direct and ongoing contribution to economic development in Wood County. As such, these entities receive year after year ongoing funding for economic development.

This application is for those entities. Organizations with more limited program/project requests should submit an *annual* Economic Development Funding application.

**Process: All applications are due by 4:30pm on Friday, July 5, 2024.** Applications are reviewed in August, approved by the County Board in November and grantees will be notified following approval of the County budget. Note that funds will not be released until a project results report is presented to the CEED Committee.

**Questions/More Information:** Contact Jason or Victoria in Wood County Planning & Zoning with questions. 715-421-8446, jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov, victoria.wilson@woodcountywi.gov.

#### 2025 Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Request

#### **Contact Information**

Organiza	tion: Mar	shfield Municipal Airport, Roy Shwery Field	
Website:	https://d	uffysaircraft.com/marshfield.html	
Mailing /	Address:	400 West 29th Street Marshfield WI 54449	
Street A	ddress: (if	different)	
Contact	Name & T	itle: Mr. Jeffrey H. Gaier	
Phone:	ne: 715-613-6019 Jeff's Cell		
Email: j	eff@duffys	saircraft.com	



#### **Proposal Narrative**

# **1. Please provide a summary of your organization's actions related to economic development in Wood County.** Explain how these actions support the REDI plan.

Marshfield Municipal Airport and the South Wood County Airport are doorways into the County. They allow for the transfer of people and goods within the county to anywhere in the world. The airports are used by businesses, organizations and individuals for their activities. The airports are transportation tools that help benefit the communities they support and in turn the county. Marshfield along with South Wood County Airport is asking for your continued support of this economic tool for the county. Marshfield is asking for a \$15,000 contribution.

#### 2. Explain how your organization provides a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.

Please be as specific as possible. E.g. County funding will allow us to conduct 25 business prospects leading to the establishment of 2 new local businesses creating 10 full time jobs; County funding contributed to funding an entrepreneurial boot camp that led to the development of 12 business plans and the creation of 2 businesses employing 6 people

The airport provides a trickle effect. When someone flies into the community, they are spending money in the community. This may be from fuel sales at the airport, restaurants in the communities, hotels in the communities, car rental agencies, etc. They may be visiting a business and purchasing products from that business. At Marshfield donor parts go out. Those aircraft purchase fuel, require transportation to the hospital. By aircraft coming into the communities, it supports the businesses and employees they visit. There is a further trickle effect as the businesses and employees spend money in the community at shopping locations, grocery stores, recreational activities, events and schools. Aviation is a valuable tool for economic development

# 3. Please describe any new programming you are planning for in 2025 related to economic development that you have not previously reported on.

The Marshfield Airport is still in development of the Airport Master Plan. The airport will be beginning engineering and environmental assessment with the assistance of the Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics for a Runway reconstruction and expansion project for 2027. The airport is planned to expand the runway 500 additional feet. This has been justified in the airport master plan as a safety factor for aircraft that will be using and based at the airport in the future.



#### **Budget / Requested Funds**

Please attach an organizational budget.

#### **Project Reporting Requirement**

As a reporting requirement of receiving economic development funding from Wood County, a summary report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

#### Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

#### Applicant

Jeffrey gaies	Jeffrey Gaier, Airport Management	6-24-2024
Signature	Printed Name	Date

#### Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

AMuga	DANIEL F Maurer	6-24-2024
Signature	Printed Name	Date

#### City of Marshfield - General Airport Budget 2024

Object#	Description	2024 Amount Approved
52100	Professional Services	57505.00
52210	Electric	15633.00
52210	Electric	13033.00
52220	Water	678.00
52230	Sewer	497.00
52240	Fire Protection Charge	4272.00
52260	Heating - Gas	2950.00
52300	Telephone	2250.00
52400	Repair / Maintenance Services Streets (Snow Removal)	18000.00
52500	Repair / Maintenance Services (Grass Mowing and general Maint.	48000.00
53100	Office Supplies & Exp	800.00
53200	Publications & Dues	200.00
53400	Operating Supplies	1900.00
53500	Repair / Maintenance Supplies	4800.00
55110	Building & Contents	4232.00
55150	Airport Liability	6500.00
53510	Airport Grand Totals	168217.00



The Central Wisconsin State Junior Fair is a key component of our fair. Last year we had 1,087 exhibitors and 3,663 exhibits. These exhibitors must be affiliated with a Wood County organization, must live in Wood County or an adjoining county, and be in grades K-13 and under 20 years of age as of January 1 of the current year. The goal of the Junior Fair is to allow kids to show off their projects and all the hard work they put into them.





We have many other activities happening throughout the week for youth at the fair. This includes our Pedal Tractor races which is a big hit for kids ages 4-8. We also have some grounds entertainment throughout the week including Kenny Ahern, Pig & Duck Races, and more!



One contest that we invite all Wood County youth organizations to compete in is the Flowerbed Folly Contest. This contest consists of having a flowerbed assigned to your organization to plant and maintain until the 2025 Fair. We have around 7 organizations participate in this contest.



During the fair, Junior Fair has its annual market animal sale. This auction is a result of months of hard work for Wood County 4-H and FFA members. This offers a unique opportunity for youth to market their animals and to then expand their future livestock projects or assist with future endeavors. This is a great opportunity to support the youth in our community.





From Junior Fair activities and entertainment in the day to carnival rides at night, there is always something going on during the Central Wisconsin State Fair.

"The Central Wisconsin State Fair has given me laughter, life skills, and lasting memories. It's helped me grow not only as a 4-H member, but as a person rooted in tradition and driven to learn. I hope it continues to grow and inspire future generations, just like it has inspired me – and I believe with a little creativity and effort, we can help more youth find their place, their pride, and their passion at the fair." – Youth Exhibitor at the Central WI State Fair



### Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Application Instructions

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Questions/More Information: Contact Jason or Victoria in Wood County Planning & Zoning with questions. 715-421-8446, jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov, victoria.wilson@woodcountywi.gov.

#### 2025 Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Request

#### **Contact Information**

Organization: Central Wisconsin State Fair
Website: Centralwisconsinstatefair.com
Mailing Address: 513 E. 17th Street, Marshfield, WI. 54449
Street Address: (if different)
Contact Name & Title: Dale Christiansen, Clusf Executive Director
Phone: 715-387-1261
Email: CWSFexecdir@gmail.com



#### **Proposal Narrative**

1. Please provide a summary of your organization's actions related to economic development in Wood County. Explain how these actions support the REDI plan.

For the last 121 years, the Central Wisconsin State Fair has been Wood County's showcase to promote our communities; traditions, talents, diversity, vision, and agricultural heritage. Also, our fair strives to provide educational exhibits and entertainment for all visitors in a pleasant, family-friendly environment. Through advertising, our website, and social media pages, the fair draws in people from Chicago, the Twin Cities, and throughout the Midwest, making the CWSF a significant tourist attraction each year.

**2. Explain how your organization provides a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.** Please be as specific as possible. E.g. County funding will allow us to conduct 25 business prospects leading to the establishment of 2 new local businesses creating 10 full time jobs; County funding contributed to funding an entrepreneurial boot camp that led to the development of 12 business plans and the creation of 2 businesses employing 6 people

The primary purpose and driving force behind this event is the CWSF Junior Fair. The Junior Fair is the highlight of the year for our 4H, FFA, and other youth organization members throughout Wood County. This event provides our youth with educational opportunities to develop their skills. Nurture their passions, and form life lesson experiences that will be with them forever. By working with skilled volunteers and certified judges, youth receive the training they need and are challenged to get the most out of their experiences. They are encouraged to get involved in our community and work with our business leaders. This helps them to develop strong communication skills and establishes and grows self-confidence. In the end, we hope to help develop responsible, community-minded individuals that will grow into tomorrow's leaders.

3. Please describe any new programming you are planning for in 2025 related to economic development that you have not previously reported on.

This year, we are excited to announce significant improvements to our Wonders of Wisconsin (WOW) Exhibit at the Central Wisconsin State Fair. Designed to promote and celebrate the diverse array of small businesses in our state, the WOW Exhibit offers owners the opportunity to showcase their products and services through presentations, live demonstrations, and interactive activities, which dynamically engage fairgoers. By elevating the WOW Exhibit, we aim to create an enriching experience that fosters a deeper appreciation for the entrepreneurial spirit driving Wisconsin's economy, providing invaluable exposure and networking opportunities for our local businesses.

#### JUNIOR FAIR YEARLY EXPENSES:

Item	2023	2022	2021	2019
Premiums	\$9595	\$9010.75	\$8100	\$10,793
Judges	\$8562 (with milage)	\$4950	\$4578	\$5103
Mileage Paid	\$^^^^	\$2542.55	\$2267	\$2133
Manure Removal	\$3650	\$3376.77	\$3176	\$3125
Ribbons	\$3500	\$3376.77	\$3125	\$3552
Fair Entry Program	\$2500	\$2500	\$2500	\$2500
Advertising	\$6500	\$4150	\$3650	\$2500
Insurance	\$7000	\$6100	\$5700	\$4500
Fire/Police Protection	\$1779			
Utilities (Water/Sewer)	\$4520	\$4200	\$3985	\$3543
Free/Discounted Tickets	\$2700	\$2600	\$2500	\$2500
Labor	\$9264	\$4975	\$4255	\$3775
PA System	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750
Equipment Rental	\$3600	\$3100	\$2800	\$1900
Total:	\$63920	\$52840.40	\$48509	\$47470

There were 1095 exhibitors and 3675 entries at the 2023 fair. There were 971 exhibitors and 2900 entries at the 2022 fair. There were 1064 exhibitors and 3107 exhibits at the 2021 fair.

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### **Budget / Requested Funds**

Please attach an organizational budget.

#### **Project Reporting Requirement**

As a reporting requirement of receiving economic development funding from Wood County, a summary report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

#### Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

#### Applicant

Del Cht	Dala Christiansen	5/29/24
Signature	Printed Name	Date

#### Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

Scencly Leonhard	Sandy Leonhard	5129/24
Signature	Printed Name	Date