

County of Buffalo
Alma, Wisconsin
Notice of Public Meeting

Committee: Land Conservation & Ag and Extension Committee
Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 3rd Floor County Board Room – Buffalo County Courthouse

Remote Access:

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/94032941194?pwd=U1puUld3eDg3Ukl2YUNrVkvHVTZDZz09>

The meeting is open to the public, but portions of the meeting may be closed if this notice indicates that the committee may convene in closed session. The following matters may be considered and acted upon at the meeting, but deviation from the order shown may occur:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of Members
3. Public comment regarding any matters that will be taken up by the Committee at this meeting.
4. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Minutes of the April, 12 2021 Land Conservation & Ag and Extension Committee Meeting

Ag and Extension

5. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Resolution for Opposition to Changes in WI Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program
6. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Food Wise County Agreement
7. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Proposed Telecommuting Plan - Support Staff
8. Educator Report

Land Conservation

9. Review/Discussion ~ NRCS Programs Update - Dennis Reimers, District Conservationist
10. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Proposed Telecommuting Plan - Conservationist
11. Review/Discussion ~ Non-Metallic Mining Update – Milestone Materials
12. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Drone Presentation
13. Review/Discussion/Action ~ NRF Driftless Area Conservation Plan
14. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Bluff Prairie Summer Tour

15. Agency Reports
16. Chairperson Report
17. Conservationist Report
18. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Determine next committee meeting date
19. Public Comments
20. Adjournment.

Date: May 4, 2021

Committee Chair, Dwight Ruff

By:

Board Members: If unable to attend, please contact your Committee Chair, if unavailable contact the County Clerk's Office at 608-685-6209, if unavailable contact the Administration Office at 608-685-6234.

Persons with Disabilities: If you require special accommodations in order to attend this meeting, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 608-685-6209.

Public Access to the Courthouse: The South Entrance will be the only access to the building after 4:30 p.m.

Draft

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Land Conservation Committee

Date of Meeting: April 12, 2021

Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date: April 20, 2021

Call to order: Meeting called to order by Dwight Ruff, Chair, at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dwight Ruff, Bill Bruegger, Jon Sendelbach, Steven Nelson, Brad Schmidtkecht. Terry Sobotta excused.

Others present for all or parts of the meeting: Kristin Foehringer, Tim Wucherer

Public comments regarding agenda items: None

Review/Discussion/Action- Minutes of the February 2021 Meeting: Motion by Bill Bruegger to approve previous meeting minutes and seconded by Brad Schmidtkecht.

Review/Discussion/Action: Financial Update: Foehringer provided the Department's 2021 adopted budget. Foehringer explained that providing a comprehensive account balance update has been difficult, as last years accounts were recently closed and the Department does not have access to non-lapsing account balances until the audit is completed. The Department has begun internal tracking spreadsheets of all departmental expenses, revenues, and grant-funded activities to have real-time records going forward, so as to not rely on county audit timelines.

Review/Discussion/Action: 2021 Cost-Share Contracts: Foehringer provided overview of the DATCP SWRM and SEG cost-share grant programs, and requested committee approval for proposed 2021 cost-share agreement contracts. Foehringer reviewed the ranking criteria for projects to receive cost-share during annual funding cycles. Chair must sign contracts for DATCP to approve and reimburse. Foehringer overviewed projects and designs/estimates for cost-share. Motion to approve proposal for projects made by Steven Nelson and seconded by Brad Schmidtkecht. Include all proposed 2021 projects on the list.

Review/Discussion/Action- Segerstrom/Buffalo White Sands, LLC: Foehringer explained that the financial assurance bond for this site was re-instated after Corp Counsel letters were sent. Department visited site with DNR NMM coordinator and reviewed reclamation needs. There were three highwalls that need to be reclaimed on the portion of mine that is no longer active, and current reclamation needs would exceed the bonded amount.

Review/Discussion/Action- CAPX Bluff Prairie Operation and Maintenance: Foehringer described the original Bluff Prairie Restoration program requirements, which required the landowner to sign a 10-year operation and maintenance plan, and an agreement with the County to allow the Department to access the site as needed and to allow for scheduled public tours. Committee would like to see landowners who have received cost-share to retroactively sign operation and maintenance plan and agreement with county.

Review/Discussion/Action-Land and Water Resource Management Plan Update: Foehringer explained that there was one planning meeting and follow-up correspondences. Next step is to get the focus questions answered and public input. Responses are due May 24th. This will help to guide her writing of the land and water plan revision.

Review/Discussion/Action-Outdoor Recreation Plan Update: Foehringer explained that they had a meeting to go over survey reports. Another meeting tomorrow to review the draft. Planning process is going well. Kristin said she can send a revised draft around after Friday.

Review/Discussion/Action- LCRMD Position Description Revisions: Foehringer explained that they are updating departmental position descriptions to accurately reflect current job duties and program requirements. Kristin sent the revised versions to the committee. Kristin needs support and approval from the committee to update these positions. Motion to approve made by Bradley Schmidtkecht and seconded by Jon Sendelbach.

Review/Discussion/Action-Natural Resource Internship Update: The natural resource internship program sponsored by the Land Conservation and Resource Management Department, NRCS, and DNR hired Josh Steckmesser, a Senior at UW Stevens Point to start at the end of May 2021. He will give a final report at the end of the internship. Six applicants were interviewed.

Review/Discussion/Action-Agency Reports-USDA- NRCS/FSA: Dennis Reimers plans to come to the next meeting to give an update on NRCS programs.

Review/Discussion/Action-Committee Chair Report: Ruff explained that there was not much to report that has not already been discussed.

Review/Discussion/Action- Department Manager Report: Foehringer shared the 2021 workplan. Showed how they allocate time and cost share resources. Information is reported in the Buffalo County Annual Report. Administering more than nine programs this year, reaching over 30 farmers through these programs and over 10 collaborative organizations.

Next Meeting Date/Time: May 11, at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Dwight Ruff at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted By

Anissa Glaus

Administrative Assistant

Buffalo County Resolution



Drafted By:

Carl Duley, Ag Agent

Presented Month/Year:

May 2021

Involved Committees:

Land Conservation & Ag and Extension Committee

County Department: Ext

Fiscal Impact: YES / NO

AC Approved: YES / NO

RESOLUTION # _____

A RESOLUTION FOR OPPOSITION TO CHANGES IN WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT AND CLAIMS PROGRAM

WHEREAS the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims program, fully funded by a surcharge on hunting licenses, is a voluntary Department of Natural Resources program to assist producers with agricultural losses caused by deer, bears, geese, and cougars, as well as elk and sandhill cranes if hunting those animals is authorized; and,

WHEREAS Buffalo County has participated in the program since its inception in 1983 and has administered the program through the Ag and Extension Committee; and,

WHEREAS the Wisconsin State Legislature is proposing making changes to the Wildlife Damage and Claims program through Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 by eliminating the administration of these programs from the Ag and Extension Committee and changing the administration to these programs to the DNR instead; and,

WHEREAS by eliminating any local authority, when landowners have issues and appeals concerning harvest objectives or management of the program, they will no longer appear before the Ag and Extension Committee but would instead have to travel to Madison to appear before DNR officials who don't necessarily have local concerns in mind when rendering a decision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Buffalo County Board of Supervisors oppose the changes to the Wildlife Damage and Claims program through Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 which eliminates any local County control of the program and instead gives all authority to the State government officials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Evers, the members of the State Legislature, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the other counties of the State of Wisconsin.

Adopted at a duly called and noticed meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

Buffalo County Clerk

ATTEST:

Buffalo County Board Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:

Ag and Extension Committee

Dwight Ruff

Steve Nelson

John Sendelbach

Bradley Schmidtknecht

William Bruegger

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 Direct Links

Referencing the Changes in Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program

Senate Bill 63

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/related/proposals/sb63>

Assembly Bill 49

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/related/proposals/ab49.pdf>



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Agreement Letter - Buffalo County Extension Office FoodWise Federal Fiscal Year 2022

University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension FoodWise program has been offering nutrition education programming to the SNAP/FoodShare-eligible residents of Buffalo County since 2003. During the period of October 2019 to September 2020 five hundred sixty four (564) educational contacts were made in Buffalo County reaching 105 persons at locations such as Food Pantry, Gilmanton Elementary School and Head Start locations. Participants learn to make healthy food choices, to manage their food dollars, and handle their food safely. We also work with community partners to make the healthy choice, the easy choice where our participants live, learn, work, shop and play.

Much of the cost to provide FoodWise educational programming is paid with the \$25,000 in federal funds that FoodWise is bringing into Buffalo County during this current year. FoodWise federal dollars pay the salaries, fringe benefits and direct teaching expenses for FoodWise colleagues in the county office.

FoodWise relies upon our County partners to provide office space and related overhead costs, as well as basic operating costs and resources such as internet service, IT support and basic software, office telephones, shared supplies and equipment in the Extension Office. These contributions from the County are essential to FoodWise’s work and presence in the County Extension Offices.

We ask that a representative of Buffalo County confirm continued support of the work of FoodWise by signing below.

AGREEMENT STATEMENT:

During the period from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022, Buffalo County agrees to support the delivery of University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension FoodWise grant funded efforts within the County Extension Department by contributing the following:

- *Physical Space:* Offices and shared work spaces in the County Extension Office used by FoodWise colleagues and other Cooperative Extension colleagues when they are working on FoodWise efforts.
- *Shared Direct & Indirect Costs & Resources:* Resources such as overhead, supplies, equipment, information systems support and county administrative costs (categories and amounts vary by county) to be used by FoodWise colleagues in support of FoodWise work. These resources are supplied to FoodWise colleagues as they are to other Extension colleagues in the office.

County Official

Date

Area Extension Director

Date

Thank you for your continued support of the FoodWise program!

FoodWise education is funded by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program– SNAP and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program - EFNEP. An EEO/AA employer, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
BUFFALO COUNTY

March April 2021 Report

Positive Youth Development



Teen court violations range from alcohol and vaping, to theft and cyberbullying.

The Larson Family from Cheerful Workers 4-H tested their snowball launchers and had a family competition as part of the Winter STEAM program.

A winter science and art program for elementary youth where participants practiced critical thinking skills while engaging in activities led by high school and college students. The goal of this effort is to strengthen role model relationships and help participants make real-world connections between outdoor experiences and science careers.

A community behavioral and mental health survey where the data collected will provide decision-makers with evidence-based information to fund and conduct future prevention and intervention programming.

A prevention program for fifth and sixth graders where youth practiced using positive peer relationship strategies to reduce youth risk behaviors.

A visioning process with diverse statewide partners working in juvenile justice, where the planning committee developed a mission statement. This effort was designed to develop a strategic plan for the Restorative Justice Summit.

Teen court hearings for youth offenders where peers applied restorative justice practices to change risk behaviors.

Human Development and Relationships

Planning for a study focusing on experiences and issues faced by Veterans and Military Families around transitioning to civilian life and community/justice involvement. The goal of this effort is to develop resources for Veterans and their families, a professional development training for justice and community partners, and

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



a Veteran Buddy peer mentoring system in mid-late 2021.

Developing and planning a curriculum entitled "While They're Away" that supports children experiencing loss and grief and educates their parents and caregivers. This curriculum is being piloted with Literacy Link and Military-serving partners to help parents and caregivers in supporting children who are experiencing grief at the loss of a parent through incarceration or deployment, and to assist with healing reunification.

In process of planning with a UW Stout Human Development and Family Studies student intern for a summer internship that will assist with the MOVING FORWARD Reentry Program implementation, Veterans Special Project data analysis and development, and other family strengthening activities, so that capacity for family-serving programs can be increased in Pepin and Buffalo counties.

Planning work is underway with the Treatment Alternative (to jail) Community Justice Services (CJS) office to share resources that support recovery in justice-involved participants of the CJS and MOVING FORWARD Reentry programs, for efficiency in serving participants and use of recovery resources. This will increase effectiveness of both programs and maximize use of funds and staff, resulting in greater program success and increased community safety in Buffalo and Pepin counties.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY:

"First, I would like to highlight the importance of the project that has been undertaken. With the important and thoughtful assessment from discussions and other partnerships she identified a problem and sought out community ideas and interest in further exploring this "problem statement". Specifically, I have been impressed with her insight, project management, and realistic timeline. Her written ability and communication has been excellent providing clear feedback, insightful questions, and great critical thinking. Another quality that I believe is highly important in partnerships and group projects is follow through and humility. She is exceptional with both of these areas. I certainly credit her for the entire project management and lead on this. Without (her) help and leadership, we would certainly be floundering."

Greg Quinn, Dunn County Veteran Service Office Director

Agriculture

No data reported.

What's Next

- Planning for a study focusing on experiences and issues faced by Veterans and Military Families around transitioning to civilian life and community/justice involvement. The goal of this effort is to develop resources for Veterans and their families, a professional development training for justice and community partners, and a Veteran Buddy peer mentoring system in mid-late 2021.
- Developing and planning a curriculum entitled "While They're Away" that supports children experiencing loss and grief and educates their parents and caregivers. This curriculum is being piloted with Literacy Link and Military-serving partners to help parents and caregivers in supporting children who are experiencing grief at the loss of a parent through incarceration or deployment, and to assist with healing reunification.



- Child Care Clinics will be held again for all BC youth, age 11 and up.
- Classes are beginning again for justice-involved participants via Zoom.
- A UW-Stout summer intern, Alexis Brunner, will be assisting with data analysis for the Veterans and Justice Systems special project, and other educational activities. alexisbrunner02@gmail.com.
- The summer programs at Cochrane-Fountain City 4-H Afterschool and the Mondovi Community Youth Center will be operating in summer 2021 following summer guidance from the university. Each program has multiple pods of students and staff registered and prepared to kick off summer on June 7th. The programs run throughout the summer until August 20th. Each site is planning on participation with local libraries' summer reading programs, outdoor guest speakers, Buffalo County Fair exhibits, STEAM critical thinking and problem-solving engagement, social-emotional learning activities, and supporting each school's district summer school courses.
- The Buffalo County 4-H community club program has a host of summer programming scheduled, too! Check out our web page for more information on upcoming 4-H Horse project clinics, weekly 4-H Dog project classes, 4-H Camp Kinnissippewa and 4-H Cloverbud Camp at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds, and the pre-fair events including the clothing revue, foods revue and speaking/music contest, youth livestock educational credit meetings, and more. YQCA (Youth for Quality Care of Animals) training for Youth having animal projects.
- Youth Tractor Safety - youth 12-16 years of age. Federal requirement to operate tractors on roadways (combination of live and virtual).
- Manage research/demonstration plots - hold field days along with recorded video.
 - Short season soybean and corn demonstration plots - in cooperation with BC LCD (5 sites).
 - Crimped/roller rye for weed control in soybeans - in cooperation with BC LCD (1 site).
 - Winter barley/wheat/rye replicated research trial.
 - Spring barley/wheat/oat replicated research trial.
 - Corn nitrogen management in corn replicated research trial.
 - Hemp essential oil replicated research trial (Oregon State University is lead).
 - Hemp fiber and grain replicated research trial (PI for Western Wisconsin Grant - 3 locations in Western Wisconsin).
 - Naked barley replicated research trial in cooperation with Oregon State University and New Glarus Brewing.
 - Dairyland Power DSI (scrubber material) replicated research trial (PI).
- Farm Technology Days Education Team member - focus on alternative crops.
- Continue Landowner Education website planning - main focuses are leases and soil conservation.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
BUFFALO COUNTY

March April 2021 Report

Contact Us:

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