

	Health and Human Services Committee Wednesday, November 2, 2022 – 5:00 pm Conference Call 1.312-626-6799 Zoom Meeting ID # 818 1462 2973 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81814622973?pwd=cVFVczRmNkx1aGM5bjZZME93c0ZsQT09 Iowa County HHS Center – Community Room 303 W Chapel Street Dodgeville, Wisconsin	Iowa County Wisconsin
For information regarding access for the disabled please call 935-0399.		
<i>Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.</i>		
1	Call to order.	
2	Roll Call.	
3	Approve the meeting agenda for November 2, 2022.	
4	Approve the minutes of September 7, 2022 meeting.	
5	Reports from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the Committee. No action will be taken.	
6	Discussion on Third Quarter Financial statements	
7	Report on SWCAP activities from Rick Rolfsmeyer	
8	ADRC Department Update	
9	S.U.N. Program Department Update	
10	U W EXTENSION Department Update	
11	VETERAN’S DEPARTMENT Department Update	
12	Next meeting: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 5:00 PM	
13	Adjournment.	
Posting verified by Thomas C. Slaney: Date: 10.27.2022 Initials:		

You may attend via videoconference by downloading the free Zoom program to your computer at <https://zoom.us/download>. At the date and time of the meeting, you log on through the Zoom program and enter the Meeting ID from the above agenda. You may also attend via conference call by dialing the phone number listed on the agenda above.

	UNAPPROVED MINUTES Health and Human Services Committee WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. <i>Health and Human Services Community Room</i> 303 W. Chapel Street.; Dodgeville, Wisconsin	Iowa County Wisconsin
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Item	
1	Chairman Nankee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2	<u>Roll Call:</u> Members Present in Community Room: Chairperson Dan Nankee, Richard Rolfsmeyer, Joan Davis, Brenda Hlavac, Mel Masters (filling in for Justin O'Brien) Members Excused: Justin O'Brien Others Present in Community Room: Larry Bierke, Nikki Mumm, Tom Slaney, Steve Deal, Jeff Lindeman, Jeff Lockhart, Debbie Siegenthaler, Bruce Paull
3	<u>Approval of the September 7, 2022 Agenda:</u> Motion by Davis and seconded by Rolfsmeyer to accept the agenda. Aye: 5; Nay: 0. Motion carried.
4	<u>Approval of the August 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes:</u> Motion by Davis and seconded by Hlavac to accept the meeting minutes. Aye: 5; Nay: 0. Motion carried.
5	<u>Reports From Committee Members and an Opportunity for Members of the Audience to Address the Committee. No action will be taken.</u> <i>Davis</i> - The Opioid Taskforce met in the last month and is moving forward on hiring Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning (SWRP) to perform a needs assessment utilizing the criteria set forth by the lawsuit. They will wait to hear back on the assessment from SWRP before scheduling their next meeting. Rolfsmeyer inquired how many counties are also utilizing SWRP. Lockhart believes SWRP has received an agreement with all counties in our region except for Richland at this time. <i>Paull</i> - He appreciates the ability to comment after public comment.
6	<u>Presentation of Preliminary 2023 Budgets:</u> ADRC - Mumm provided a handout and presented. Overall budget increase due to receiving meal contract through GWAAR. Levy increase request of \$10,000 for additional funding to the SUN Program. Health Department - Siegenthaler provided a handout and presented. Levy increase request of \$2,970. There is an increase to the environmental health budget due to a decrease in current grant funding to pay for our portion of the regional Environmental Health Coordinator, Troy Moris. They are still receiving Covid-19 funding through 2024 to cover allowable expenses. SUN Program - Nankee provided a handout and presented on behalf of Cecile McManus. The numbers are very rough. Rolfsmeyer inquired about the grants. Davis also inquired about transportation. Masters inquired about how many staff. There are two administrative staff and roughly eight meal site managers. Social Services - Slaney provided a handout and presented. Overall budget decrease of \$2,635 due to reallocation of substitute care funding. He shared a contingency plan created by the County Board Administrator and himself due to the potential risk associated with decreasing substitute care funding. There has been a decrease in Energy Assistance funding through the Department of Administration. We have the ability to opt out of the program as many other counties have. The contract would then go to Energy Services, Inc., in Madison, but there are concerns with residents receiving adequate services. There is also an increase of around \$50,000 for Targeted Safety and Support Funds, which keep kids in the home and safe. Veterans Service Office - Lindeman presented. Very little change from last year. There is a \$2,500 increase in levy. Davis inquired if taking on the loan closet caused an increase in expenses. Lindeman stated no, it only takes a little bit of time. There is money in the maintenance budget if we need to buy new equipment. Nankee inquired about grants. Lindeman said one, and we received an increase. Unified Community Services – Lockhart presented. He provided an overview of their budget and requested an increase of \$12,000 from Iowa County. He shared that the wildcard in their budget is mandatory hospitalizations at Winnebago as they cannot predict when a resident will need to be hospitalized, and that Winnebago is increasing their daily rate by seven percent.

7	<u>Unified Community Services Update:</u> Lockhart provided a report and presented. He discussed the fentanyl problem, shared that Narcan saved 510 lives in Wisconsin during the second quarter of 2022, and that the 988 Emergency Line is now in effect for suicide. They have not seen an uptick in calls, and it seems like it is working as it is supposed to. 988 will take a majority of the calls and only forward calls to them that need intervention. They are receiving an increase in referrals for Birth to Three, Children's Long-Term Support and Comprehensive Community Services programs. The Rock & Roll Reunion donated \$2,629 to Unified for mental health purposes. Davis inquired about the timespan for the fentanyl deaths accounting for 91% of overdose fatalities in Wisconsin. Lockhart was unsure of the timeframe. Davis asked if they used the fentanyl test strips. Lockhart stated that they applied for a grant requesting funds to purchase the strips that begins on October 1, 2022. Residents will be able to request the strips once Unified gets some inventory. Masters inquired how many staff members they have for the Birth to Three program. Lockhart said they have added three additional staff in the past six months.
8	<u>Social Services Update:</u> Slaney provided a report and presented. Unified Community Services provided us with funding for a program called Drug Endangered Children, which is a collaboration between law enforcement, the drug taskforce and child protective services. We need to develop MOUs and agreements between participants. This will create a better collaboration to work with these children to keep them safe. Davis inquired if schools were also involved. Lockhart stated that there were about 12 stakeholders, so it was very likely. Managed Care Organizations are merging to create larger corporations as can be seen with Inlusa's recent merger with Humana. He is hopeful the Department will be at full staff soon and commended the board for offering a lucrative work environment. There is a crisis within child protective services as there is no place for kids with mental health needs to go within the State besides Winnebago. Masters shared that a lot of local oversight of Managed Care Organizations has been lost over the years.
9	<u>Wednesday, October 5, 2022:</u> Approved for the next HHS Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m., HHS Center, Community Room, Dodgeville.
10	Motion by Rolfsmeyer and seconded by Hlavac to adjourn. Aye: 5, Nay: 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: 9/30/2022 Financial Reports for the Health & Human Services Committee

☒ Original

☐ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

9/30/2022 Preliminary financial report with a comparison of budget to actual year-do-date for the departments that report to the Health & Human Services Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

For informational purposes only

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

Preliminary 9/30/2022 Financial Statements

FISCAL IMPACT:

Financial update of the 2022 budgetary balances as of 9/30/2022 - preliminary

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

STAFF PRESENTATION?:

☐ Yes

☒ No

How much time is needed? _____

COMPLETED BY: Jamie Gould

DEPT: Finance Department

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE:

AGENDA ITEM #

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Iowa County Health and Human Services Committee
Quarterly Report on Southwest CAP, October 5, 2022
Rick Rolfsmeyer, HHS Committee Member and Southwest CAP Treasurer

Programs

They're almost finished! "The Meadows" is the two, new sixteen unit (32-unit total) migrant housing buildings in Darlington. We're excited. To qualify to live there at least 40% of a family's income must be from farm labor.



PHOTO CIRCA APRIL 2022

Affordable housing is a BIG need in southwest Wisconsin. Already some are discussing the need for more such housing in the area. For Darlington, there is a need for a community service facility near the Meadows.

The Meadows is funded primarily by tax credits. The building construction was not an easy project to plan or finance. Nonetheless, other communities are interested in replicating this project to alleviate the housing cost burden on households with lower incomes.

Southwest CAP received a contract through WISCAP, the community action agency state association, to help increase the number of nurses in the area. The program began in July and will go through June of 2025. It is funded by a WEDC grant for \$324,600. Each participant is eligible to receive up to \$24,000 in tuition expense reimbursement, \$1,000 for training and transportation, and \$55,000 to cover personal expense.

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is Southwest CAP's core grant. The agency received an additional \$6,078 in carryover funding to make the year's CSBG allocation \$205,718. In 2023 the primary use of CDBG funds by Southwest CAP will be match for the Job and Business Development Program, Housing and a new position of Community Outreach Coordinator. We expect a 2023 allocation of \$203,561.

In September the Southwest CAP Board reviewed and approved the agency's 990 annual report submission to the IRS. This is a detailed report that is published by the IRS and others so it is all public information. The three largest CAP programs are Community Services, Head Start and Weatherization.

The 990 showed how much Southwest CAP is growing. Cash on hand has increased over \$431,000 from last year. Grant revenue increased \$1,115,881 in the last year and there are many new grants to administer. Total revenue increased \$1,298,392 from the last year and the agency now has 143 employees. Five years ago, we had 83.

Like other businesses we are continuing to have a difficult time finding staff and recruitment continues.

In October the board approved the agency's 2023 annual budget. Like the 990 report, the annual budget showed continued rapid growth for Southwest CAP. At this time, we anticipate a budget of circa \$13 million but as time passes and more grants are received it will probably be higher.

Southwest CAP is intending to take ownership of Lancaster Senior Village, as we did a few years ago with Brodhead Senior Village. Again, housing is a huge need in southwest Wisconsin so we are working to directly address that problem.

We have received our Community Needs Assessment, which was prepared by Southwest Regional Planning and is a fairly lengthy document. Southwest CAP will gladly share this document with other organizations. If you like data, the report is fascinating. Information came from four primary sources: Quantitative Data, Community Surveys, Stakeholder Surveys, and interviews with SWCAP Board of Directors and Management Team members.

Finally, it is with great regret that I announce that Wally Orzechowski, long time Southwest CAP Director, is retiring early next year. In my opinion, he has been wildly successful, bringing a number of new services and opportunities for people with lower incomes throughout southwest Wisconsin. I once read that, "The purpose of leadership is to grow more leaders" and that's certainly the case with Wally. He has nurtured many excellent leaders within Southwest CAP ranks and they work together to make the agency more effective.

The executive director position has been posted. The Southwest CAP executive committee is facilitating the hiring process. I'm a former community action agency executive director myself, and I know that these are big shoes to fill.



ADRC Manager's Report

November 2022 Health and Human Service Committee Meeting

We are happy to share that the ADRC office in Iowa County is fully staffed!

Medicare Prescription Drug open enrollment started October 15 and runs through December 7. Our Elder Benefit Specialist will be focusing on this during the fall.

Our Elder Benefit Specialist held a Medicare 101 presentation at the Dodgeville Library on 8/30/22 and on 10/5/22 at the Barneveld Library. They were both well attended. This is great for people who are getting ready to retire. The next Medicare 101 will be held virtually on 12/19/22. We are also working with Upland Hills Health on ways to partner in order to provide community education about Medicare.

Senior Farmers Market Vouchers need to be used by October 31st. Participants who received these vouchers, can use it towards \$25 of local Wisconsin produce. This program is not only beneficial to the participants but to the local farmers as well.

The Drive Thru Health and Wellness Expo was held on Friday, 9/30/22. We partnered with Upland Hills Health. This year, Upland Hills Health will be offered a Chair Exercise Demonstration and a Meditation Exercise during the Expo. The Iowa County Health Department offered COVID vaccines. Over 200 people participated in the event. We hope to be able to offer an in-person Expo in 2023!

Recent offerings by the Dementia Care Specialists include:

- Caregiver Educational Series: Caregiver, Karen Stobbe spoke at an event in Dodgeville on September 8th at Hidden Valley Church. She led an interactive presentation about caregiving.
- A virtual Book Club, featuring a book called "Mom's Gone Missing," by Susan Marshall.
- Savvy Caregiver; a structured workshop for family caregivers of persons with dementia.
- On October 27th, the ADRC Dementia Care Specialists hosted a virtual Dementia Research Update.

Upcoming Dementia & Caregiver Programming:

- The ADRC Dementia Care Specialists have started a Brain Health Bulletin which is an email listserv that the community can join to get current information from the ADRC's Dementia Care Specialists. They have also started a podcast called, "The Resilient Caregiver." These new items are featured in the upcoming News and Views.

- The ADRC Dementia Care Specialists along with the local ADRC will be hosting a Dementia Live event at the Health and Human Services Building on November 15th. Please consider attending. It is an exercise that brings awareness to what a person with dementia may be experiencing.
- The ADRC Dementia Care Specialists are planning a very special, multi-generational event for early November. In each of the four counties, they will be hosting a play, called "Grandpa and Lucy." People of all ages are invited to attend. The goal is to promote awareness and reduce stigma of dementia. This is a great conversation starter for families and our community. **Please join us for the Iowa County event, which will be hosted by the ADRC at the Mineral Point Opera House on Tuesday, November 1 at 5:30pm.**

November is National Family Caregiver Month. Along with Grant and Lafayette Counties and the regional Dementia Care Specialists, we will be offering an in-person Caregiver Renewal Day on Friday, November 18th.

Advocacy:

Rural Older Adult Advisory Board: The Veterans Service Office and ADRC helped the UW School of Nursing to recruit 10 RURAL people who are over the age of 65 to be a part of this board. The group started meeting in September for Orientation and the group will start meeting with researchers in December. I will share more information as the group continues to meet.

Community Health Needs Assessment: The ADRC is participating in the Community Health Needs Assessment which is spearheaded by Upland Hills Health Hospital and the Iowa County Health Department. The focus areas have been determined as: Transportation, Aging Concerns, Mental Health/Addiction Services and Healthy Living (Obesity, Physical Activity). A full copy of this assessment will be posted on the Upland Hills Health website.

The ADRC is offering FREE rides to the polls on Tuesday, November, 8, 2022. Contact the ADRC to schedule a ride.

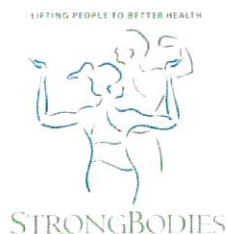
Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Hiltbrand, ADRC Manager
ADRC of Southwest Wisconsin
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Extension Iowa County Updates – For November 2, 2022 HHS Meeting

Human Development and Relationships – Ruth Schriefer, HDR Educator

- Provided in-person financial coaching SWCAP's **Work-n-Wheels** participants as they learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to enable participants to be aware and take charge of their financial situations so they can be successful with their car loans. Also working with a team of UW-Madison students to develop a resource for WnW participants on budgeting for the costs of operating and maintaining a used vehicle.
- Coordinated & supported volunteers in Dodgeville (Donna Peterson) and Barneveld (Shari Sailing & Terri Liebmann) for the **StrongBodies** program. More than 20 women meet twice weekly to practice progressive resistance strength training, balance training, and flexibility exercises. The primary objective of the StrongBodies program is to help communities implement safe and effective strength training programs for midlife and older adults of all abilities. Physical strength is a critical factor in living healthier, more active lives.
- Co-facilitated a virtual 7-week series – **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** – with Laura Steiner from the Green County ADRC. Family caregivers learned to reduce stress, improve self-confidence, improve communication skills, increase their ability to make difficult decisions, and locate helpful resources while providing care for a loved one with a chronic illness.
- Co-facilitated a virtual 6-session training – **Encouraging Financial Conversations** - for social workers, home visitors and community agency staff across the state, including Iowa County, where they learned about financial competency skills. My session focused on “spending” (spending plans, how values affect financial decision-making). The goal of this effort is to help staff build their knowledge and confidence when engaging with clients in financial conversations.
- Co-hosted the **Back-to-School Bonanza** with the Family Resource Center of Iowa County. More than 125 children got new backpacks and school supplies thanks to a grant from the Wisconsin Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Board.
- **Planning AHEAD** – Advance directives, Handling finances, Estate planning, and Arriving at Decisions for the end of life - a 7-session course that helps adults of all ages to make end-of-life financial, healthcare, and final wishes decisions in order to reduce the stress experienced by survivors and to ensure that their wishes are honored.
 - Co-facilitated a virtual series for 60 participants across the state with my Extension colleagues in September-October.
 - Facilitating an in-person series at the Barneveld Public Library from October 6-November 17 with 20 participants.
 - Shared an overview of the series with HHS staff on October 20.
 - Plans underway for another in-person series in 2023.



4-H Youth Development – Sarah Weier, 4-H Educator

- Shooting Sports – It has been two years in the works, but we finally have the guns stored at the new Law Enforcement Center until use next April. Chief Deputy Austin Durst was instrumental in making this happen.
- 4-H Summer Intern – Completed the summer special project: a forensics morning where youth learned about fingerprinting, code breaking, DNA, and more.
- Iowa County Fair – Extension continues to support the Iowa County Fair with time, copies, and working with adult and youth volunteers during the fair. 4-H clubs washed exhibit cases before the fair, manned the information booth in the exhibit building, helped with judging day and fair house exhibit release. 4-H youth helped at judging by assisting superintendents with ribbons, displaying items in the fair house, Cloverbud judging, and Barnyard Olympics.

Upcoming 4-H Programs

- 4-H Week was October 2 to 8 – statewide marketing campaign ‘4-H Grows Here’, locally visits to schools by Ambassadors and radio promotions on WGLR.
- Annual Financial Reports – 4-H clubs’ and groups’ financial reports for the fiscal year ending June 30th were due September 1st. IRS non-profit 501c3 e-filing is due by November 15th. Each of the 16 clubs and 2 groups in Iowa County IRS filing will be completed by county Extension staff after reviewing documents. This is a total of 18 IRS filings!
- Charter Renewals – All 18 groups are required to renew their 4-H charter by November 1st. Renewing allows the use of the 4-H name and emblem and provides for reporting of planned activities, including any high-risk activities that may need approval. The 4-H Educator discusses high-risk activities with each club.
- Iowa County Livestock Team and Horse Demonstration Team – Both groups have been invited to travel to national competitions in the fall. Chaperoning youth on overnight experiences requires at least 1 adult be an approved 4-H leader and driver authorizations. Lot of paperwork!
- The new 4-H program year started on September 1st. Families are starting the enrollment process. Tom and I are busy answering questions, making sure youth who are participating in state events (dog show, horse expo, and art camp) are enrolled. One adult expressed interest in becoming Shooting Sports leaders by attending the state-wide training on September 20th. A new training required by ALL 4-H volunteers is Title IX: Reporting Sexual Misconduct.
- 4-H Record Books, Key Awards, State and National Experiences, and Scholarships – Youth and club leaders are busy completing the year end records books which are due to the Extension office in October. Members eligible for the Key Award (the highest award in 4-H), scholarships, and educational experiences financially supported by Iowa County 4-H Leaders need to submit application in October. A committee of youth and adults interview to determine amounts awarded.



Community Development – Barry Hottmann, Community and Economic Development Educator

Quality of Life and Place

DodgeFest: DodgeFest 2022 took place on Saturday, August 6, 2022. It took a great group of volunteers to make it all happen for the setup, as well as supportive city government and local organizations. The event included performances by 5 bands running from 11:00 AM – 11:00 PM. While the heat certainly deterred the crowd in the middle of the day, there was still a good crowd in the morning and the evening. This year's headliner was Madison County.



Built Environment and Sustainability

Broadband work: MHTC was awarded one of three broadband expansion grants in late June. Progress is being made, and publicity from the Wisconsin Farmers Union about the efforts in Iowa County is certainly a nice thing to see.

Iowa County was featured in two different stories for the Wisconsin Farmers Union website. As you already know, Iowa County isn't alone among Wisconsin communities struggling to connect to high-speed internet. The state's rural areas are especially in need of such connections, several studies have shown.

In the first article, (<https://www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com/post/craving-connection-broadband-struggles-continue-in-rural-wisconsin>) **Craving Connection: Broadband Struggles Continue in Rural Wisconsin**, Iowa County's Board of Supervisor Ricky Rolfsmeyer was interviewed along with his wife Marilyn. They talked about the struggles of internet in our rural areas.

"Eighteen months ago you could barely turn on a transistor radio in Hollandale," Rolfsmeyer said of the community of about 300. "Nobody cared about us. We're small. Today two companies (Mount Horeb Telephone Company and Bug Tussel) are offering broadband to Hollandale. So things are happening. When they're happening in Hollandale, you know they're happening everywhere."

Hottmann sees that potential in Dodgeville, the city where he resides. The Iowa County seat, a city of about 5,000, has a picturesque main street and is home to Wisconsin's oldest county courthouse.



Many people living in Iowa County and the surrounding community travel to and from Madison for their jobs, but some say they would prefer to live in rural communities and work remotely if they could connect to broadband, Hottmann said.

"With the pandemic, more people are looking to get out of heavily populated areas. They love the outdoor amenities," Hottmann said. "But they also need to have a job. And they'd better have a good internet connection. If we can offer that in Iowa County, I guarantee that we will see growth."

The second article (<https://www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com/post/finding-a-communications-solution>) **Finding a Communications Solution**, focused on how the Green Leaf Glen neighborhood members came together to overcome hurdles to get connected to broadband.

Almost two years after the effort began, an agreement to bring broadband to Green Leaf Glen was approved. Debra, Paul, and other neighbors could hardly believe it. Workers began burying the fiber optic cable that will transmit high-speed internet to Green Leaf Glen in mid-August, and neighbors have been told to expect to be connected to the service in October.



"Learning that we are going to be getting real internet service, it's like winning the lottery," Janean Marr said.

Barry Hottmann, Iowa County community development educator with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, praised the combined efforts of Green Leaf Glen residents, county, and town board members, and MHTC to find a broadband access solution. Such creative agreements will be necessary to bring broadband to many of the state's rural communities, he said.

"It's all about creating that collaboration and being proactive and thinking outside the box," Hottmann said. "It's not a one-size-fits-all approach. With broadband in these rural areas, you're dealing with many different situations, so we must be flexible in figuring out the best ways to solve the problems."

Iowa County continues to lead the way in finding creative solutions to our rural broadband challenges, and Extension is proud to be a part of that work.

Bloomfield Prairie: A group of county employees and other interested stakeholder groups and citizens are working on a comprehensive plan for utilization and preservation of our wonderful Bloomfield Prairie. As part of that, we are paying close attention to the transition with the current buildings and 10 acres that are for sale.

Building Social Capital and Leadership

- Youth Conservation Field Day – September 20, 2022: 159 6th graders from five area school districts
- Grandview discussion – capital improvement plan (building construction)
- Mineral Point High Street Conversation – rebuilding High Street and limiting business impact

FoodWise Nutrition Program – Kathy Lange, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Partnership with Head Start continues to grow. Each month families receive a family nutrition newsletter. Recipes, hints, tips, and family activities are included. The individual Head Start locations have been great about including FoodWise in their Family night out events. This has been an opportunity to increase awareness of the FoodWise program, provide education around feeding young children and answer questions.



Participating in a 12 week cohort that meets once weekly. This cohort is a learning community that began with an in person gathering for 2 days in September. Each week we complete suggested reading, videos, or podcasts and then come together as a group to discuss our takeaways and what we can apply in our local work. The focus topic is inclusiveness broken into small group "identifiers".

In the beginning stages of a project with Second Harvest Food Bank and local health providers. The food bank will provide healthier foods to a high risk audience identified by their health care providers. FoodWise's role will be to provide education around safely storing and preparing fresh, healthy foods.

Wrapping up teaching in 3 schools before Thanksgiving: River Ridge in Grant County, Black Hawk in Lafayette County and Albrecht Elementary in Green County.

Regional Natural Resources Education Program – Joe Bonnell, Natural Resource Educator

One of my priority goals for this year is to work with local partners, like the land conservation departments to build capacity of farmer-led watershed groups and promote land management practices that improve the water quality of Wisconsin's water resources. Some of the activities I've been involved in recently to advance this goal include...

- I'm working with colleagues at UW-Madison, Purdue University, University of Arkansas, and Iowa State University to develop a farmer leadership program to build capacity in the ag community to promote conservation practices. We have three pilot watersheds we're working in, including the Sinsinawa River watershed in Grant County. We are working on finalizing a curriculum for the leadership program and working with Trust In Food, a division of the Farm Journal, to identify potential participants for the program.
- I'm working with staff from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection to assess the status of farmer-led watershed groups around the state. We're specifically looking at what types of support they're getting from universities, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations and how the farmer-led groups are doing at fulfilling the goals of the Producer-led Watershed Protection grant program. I'm currently working on a survey that will go out to the partner organizations that work directly with farmer-led watershed groups around the state.
- I am working with Extension colleagues in the Agriculture and Water Quality and Nutrient and Pest Management programs to coordinate a meeting of the SW Region Farmer-Led Watershed Group Network on November 17. The meeting will include presentations on evaluating soil health and results of the SW Wisconsin Geological and Groundwater (SWIGG) study. There will also be lots of networking time for farmer leaders from around the region to share experiences and learn from each other.

Clean Sweep

Four Clean Sweep agricultural and household hazardous waste collection events were held in Grant (Sept.23-24), Iowa (Sept. 30), and Lafayette (Oct. 1) counties. I will have more detailed numbers regarding the amount of waste collected from which counties, but about 200 individuals registered, and there were several participants who showed up at each of the collection sites without registering. No one was turned away.



Regional Agriculture Educators

Crops and Soils – Josh Kamps



UW-Platteville Precisions Ag Presentation -October 6

A collegiate class lab course on precision ag concepts for nutrient management, pest management, and data collection at the UW-LARS for the UW-Platteville Precision Ag class by learning about the current field projects under evaluation at the research station and demonstrating technology tools.

BCC: “New Extension Specialists” - October 12

A virtual agronomy program highlighting new UW-Madison Division of Extension field crop specialists discussing their research accomplishments and future projects in planning to better understand the issues and identify solutions for WI production challenges for growers, agronomists, crop consultants, agency staff, and educators.

Tri-State Ag Lender’s Seminar—October 19

An in-person day-long educational workshop covering the current state of US agriculture for financial consultants from state and federal agencies, private industry, and Extension to discuss the current and upcoming financial challenges to the US agriculture sector and identify resources and methods to address the issues.

Soil Health at Southwest Tech College Ag Day– October 20

An educational day-long program learning the basic components of soil by hand texturing along with learning the principles of soil health through discussions, examples, and experiments for high school upper classmen considering a career in agriculture.

BCC: “Grain Marketing Outlook” - October 26

A virtual agronomy program for highlighting the current grain marketing outlook for the 2022 crop to assist with cost of production planning for growers, agronomists, crop consultants, agency staff, and educators.

Southwest WI Cover Crop Cruise - October 27

An education field day displaying cover crop practices implemented across southwest WI to reduce soil erosion, limit nutrient leaching, and aid in pest management for growers, agronomists, crop consultants, agency staff, and educators.



Johnsongrass



NCGA Test Plot



Cover Crop



Palmer Amaranth

Dairy Production – Jackie McCarville

World Dairy Expo:

Extension had a booth at World Dairy Expo. Dairy educators helped work the booth, which promoted careers in Extension, our Dairy Topic Hub, the Midwest Manure Summit and our new e-newsletter. I was able to work the booth for one morning and it was great to connect with farmers visiting the show.

Dairy e-Newsletter:

Our first e-newsletter went out the last week of September to around 1,000 email addresses. Our first newsletter hit a glitch with the “from” email address and went to many spam folders, however, we now have a new programmed email address that will post the newsletter directly into the inbox of our subscriber email list. Our next one is going out any day and our distribution email list continues to grow.

Badger Dairy Insight:

Topics have been confirmed along with primary speakers. I’m currently finalizing the registration platform to allow promoting the winter webinar series.

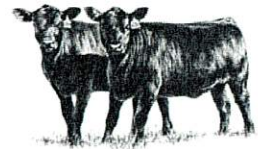
Tri-State Ag Lender’s Seminar:

Each fall, Iowa State Extension and Outreach, University of Illinois Extension, University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension, and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville School of Agriculture sponsor an agriculture lender’s seminar in Dubuque, IA. This year, we had 184 lenders attend the event. I helped with promotion, registration, and speaker introductions. The topics this year featured were: milk market and dairy risk management updates, economics of livestock automation, economics of autonomous field equipment, strengths and risks of ag land values, cyber security, and a livestock and crop market update.

Livestock Production – Amanda Cauffman

Cattle Feeder Enterprise Projection

A decision-making tool for beef producers to review feeder calf projections to calculate and determine potential calf value to better manage market vulnerability. These projections are intended to serve as an initial guide. They are based on regional averages; therefore, the prices and scenarios will not apply to every feedlot. The fall 2022 cattle feeder enterprise projection can be found on the Division of Extension Livestock Topic Hub under the beef tab: <https://livestock.extension.wisc.edu/article-topic/beef/>



Cow-Calf Cost of Production Project

A multi-state beef cow-calf cost of production project to collect cow-calf bench marking data. We are in the beginning stages of finalizing the data collection tool and will be looking for farms to be a part of the project. The final product will look like the Minnesota FINBIN data and serve as a source for cow-calf producers to compare their enterprises to regional averages.

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Trainings

A Beef Quality Assurance meeting was held with 26 potential producers attending. They learned about the BQA program and how to ensure food safety, animal well-being, worker safety, and environmental stewardship.

Future BQA dates include:

- November 15: BQA @ Bloomington Livestock Exchange - Bloomington, WI
- November 17: BQA @ Belmont Sale Barn - Belmont, WI
- December 7: BQA @ Equity Sale Barn - Monroe, WI



IOWA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
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DEPARTMENT UPDATE TO HHS COMMITTEE
2 Nov 2022

1. The summer edition of the newsletter was sent to 906 recipients.
2. Iowa County Healthcare Equipment Loan Program administration remains with the Veteran's Office. There have been 36 completed requests for equipment since the last department update in Aug. I have heard great appreciation for this program from numerous people during equipment pick-up.
3. Iowa County Veteran's Office and ADRC worked with UW-Madison School of Nursing to recruit local citizens 65 or over to be part of a research board titled "Board of Older Adult Advisors". The project is looking at ways to improve healthcare services for rural, older individuals. The seated board is utilizing a conference room at the Health and Human Services building for in-person meetings.
4. The volunteer driver escort program for veterans has provided 1372 miles of transportation for county veteran's medical appointments.
5. In October, I was able to attend the fall County Veteran's Service Officer training conference in Wisconsin Rapids. Numerous subjects were discussed, particularly training sessions regarding the PACT Act which was recently passed.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey T. Lindeman
Veterans Service Officer