EXTENSION-LCC COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 1, 2026 | 10:30 a.m.
Room 2151

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Members present: Jim Gores, Randy Cook, Fran Langman, Carsten Ellison, Gary Nelson and Audrey Kusilek.
Staff present: Tyler Gruetzmacher, Ben Cole, Jeff French, Pat Brown, Becky Melton and Michelle Drury.
Staff Virtually: Lori Baltrusis
Others present: David Ruid-USDA
Absent: Kirsten Huth

Cook called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and French confirmed proper posting of the meeting. No public comment was received.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes
Motion: (Ellison/Langman) to approve the agenda; carried.
Motion: (Nelson/Kusilek) to approve the minutes of 07/07/2026 meeting; carried.

Edit list: No questions
Announcements: There were no announcements.

2027 Soil & Water Conservation Department Budget
Gruetzmacher presented the 2027 SWCD budget; Gruetzmacher, Cole and Drury then addressed questions from the committee.
Motion: (Kusilek/Ellison) to approve the 2027 SWCD budget; carried.

2027 UW Extension Budget
Baltrusis presented the 2027 UWEX Budget and answered committee questions.
Motion: (Nelson/Langman) to approve the 2027 UWEX Budget; carried.

Note: Baltrusis departed the virtual meeting at 10:50 am.

2027 Healthy Rivers & Lakes Grant Resolution
Brown presented the Healthy Rivers & Lakes Grant from the Wisconsin DNR for the purpose of continuing efforts to implement and install conservation practices related to Healthy Lakes and Rivers. Brown and Gruetzmacher answered committee questions.
Motion: (Kusilek/Gores) to approve the Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grant Application Resolution; carried.

2027 USDA APHIS WDP Program Budget
David Ruid presented the WildLife Damage Program budget and answered questions from the committee.
Motion: (Kusilek/Langman) to approve the 2027 WDP budget; carried.

2027 Deer Donation Agreement
Ruid presented the increased expenses with the WDNR WDACP Venison donation program and answered committee questions.
Motion: (Kusilek/Ellison) to approve the agreement for Wisconsin Deer Donation 2027; carried

UWSP Groundwater Testing Budget-discussion only
Gruetzmacher presented the expenses for the groundwater program adopted at the previous meeting and explained the testing process. This was followed by discussion and questions from staff and committee members.

Certificate of Compliance: Duncan Family Living Trust
A Certificate of Compliance for the Duncan Family Living Trust was presented for approval.
Motion: (Kusilek/Nelson) to approve the certificate; carried.

Staff & Committee Reports

- **UWEX:** No report
- **NRCS/FSA:** Gruetzmacher spoke of the challenges facing the NRCS/FSA surrounding earthen manure pit closures and provided an update on several ongoing projects.
- **Executive Committee:** French stated the Executive Committees main focus right now is the budget.
- **Fair Board:** French shares updates with the committee as he receives them.

Next Meeting Date
The next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment
Motion: By unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 11:36 a.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Melton
Administrative Secretary, Land Services