



Grassroots

District 9 News

The Legacy We Carry and the Path We Ride



Katie Richartz

District 9 Coordinator

This year, I've been thinking a lot about what it means to succeed, not just as individuals, but as a community. On the farm, success is often measured in yields, market prices, acres worked or animals raised. Those are important. But there's another side to success that's harder to measure, and arguably even more meaningful.

The legacy of a farm is more than land or equipment. It's something that is passed down through generations, a symbol of pride and perseverance. A legacy isn't just inherited; it's fought for. It's something you protect and nurture because it tells a story about who you are and where you come from.

Farm Bureau's legacy is tied to that same spirit. It's a voice for farmers. A vision for agriculture. And a partner standing right by your side as you fight for your livelihood. Whether it's local, state or national issues, Farm Bureau is here with you. But that partnership only works if you're paying attention, if you're involved, if you speak up.

Every goal you achieve matters, not just for you, but for the people watching from the sidelines, wondering if they can do it too. Someone is paying attention to what you're doing, measuring your potential by your perseverance.

I've been reflecting on this personally as I recently re-entered the show pen after a long time away. Stepping back into the arena horseback was humbling. My heart pounded, nerves raced and I wondered if I even belonged. But with every ride, every practice, every small improvement, I am reminded that growth comes from showing up and trying, even when it's uncomfortable.

Your success is more than a personal victory. It's an open door. An invitation for others to step into what's possible.

The true measure of success isn't being the last one to succeed...It's making sure you're not the last. Asking yourself: Who am I paving the way for?

As we look ahead, I challenge all of you to consider who we are encouraging. Is it a young farmer starting out, a new member finding their voice or someone who feels burned out and needs reassurance they're not alone.

That's what Farm Bureau is all about: showing up, getting involved, fighting for what matters and making room for others to do the same.

So, let's celebrate this year's wins, but also recommit to the kind of success that spreads and multiplies. The legacy we carry isn't just about what we do on our farms; it's about how we lift each other up and build a future where agriculture thrives for generations to come.

Thank you for your dedication, your leadership and for being the kind of community that makes Wisconsin a great place to farm, live and grow.

I truly appreciate each and every one of you and I am thankful that you are a member of Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

Thank you for all you do for agriculture,
Katie Richartz | District 9 Coordinator

Connecting, Leading and Growing Wisconsin Agriculture



Brad Olson

WFBF President and District 9 Director

To all newly elected County Farm Bureau board members – Congratulations!

To those returning, thank you for your continued dedication. And to those serving for the first time, welcome, we are honored to

have your ideas, energy and vision shaping the future of your county Farm Bureau.

With Wisconsin Farm Bureau reaching membership levels not seen in over 30 years, now is the perfect time to build on that momentum. Each of our counties has powerful opportunities to strengthen relationships and make our presence known locally.

One of the simplest and most impactful ways to do this is to connect with your county board. Attend a meeting, speak during public comment and let them know that Farm Bureau is a resource on agricultural issues. You can also invite board members or state legislators to attend one of your Farm Bureau meetings for a conversation about shared priorities.

Another great opportunity lies with your Wisconsin Towns Association unit meetings, where all town board members from your county gather. These meetings are a perfect venue to introduce Farm Bureau, explain who we are and build connections with local leaders.

By establishing relationships with elected officials before an issue arises, we position Farm Bureau as a trusted voice; not just when there's a concern, but as a consistent, reliable partner in shaping thoughtful, local policy.

Now is our moment to strengthen those relationships, grow our influence and continue building a stronger voice for agriculture across Wisconsin.

Brad Olson

District 9 Director

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District 9 News

Pulling Together: Building Community Through Pride

Katie Richartz

District 9 Coordinator

In October, I attended an event in Chippewa Falls hosted by the authors of the book “Pulling Together – A Handbook for Community Change,” Mike Brieninger and Tom Mosgaller, along with Jeff Yost of the Nebraska Community Foundation. The discussion centered on how meaningful community change doesn't start with projects; it starts with people.

That simple but powerful message resonated deeply with me and our work here in Farm Bureau. So much of what we do, whether it's hosting local events, supporting youth programs or advocating for agriculture, depends on our relationships, our shared vision and our willingness to act together.

Brieninger and Mosgaller shared a formula for organizing community change that we can easily apply to our work within Farm Bureau:

Community Change = Desire × Vision × Power (Relationships + Action) > Resistance

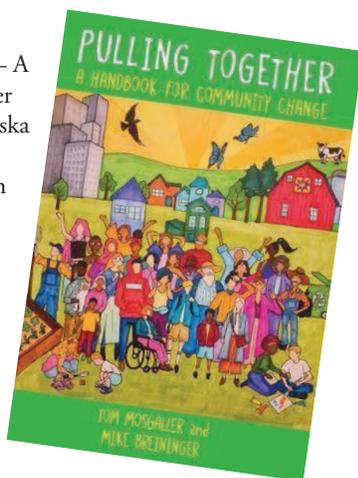
To make progress, our collective desire to do something must align with a shared vision of what we'd like to see happen. Then comes power, not power over others, but power with others. That kind of power comes from building strong, wide networks of relationships and putting those relationships into action.

It's a reminder that real success isn't measured by how many meetings we hold or how many projects we complete. It's measured by how deeply we connect with people, members, partners and our communities, and how well we invite others to take part in something bigger than themselves.

As we look toward the coming year, let's challenge ourselves to apply the “Pulling Together” philosophy within our county Farm Bureaus:

- Start with people. Ask what matters to them and where their passions lie.
- Build relationships that are both deep and wide.
- Create goals that are conceivable, believable and achievable.
- Take action together, and don't be afraid to start small.

When ordinary people with shared values and a common purpose come together, we create extraordinary results. That's the Farm Bureau way, and it's how we'll continue pulling together to strengthen agriculture and our rural communities across District 9.



Survey: We Want to Hear From You

Your Voice Matters: Help Shape the Future of Farm Bureau!

Wisconsin Farm Bureau is more than just an organization; it's a community of over **53,000 members** working together to strengthen agriculture and rural communities across our state.

As we continue to grow, we want to make sure the events, programs and resources we offer truly reflect what you care about. That's where you come in!

Take a few minutes to share your thoughts through a **short member survey** to help guide the direction of your **county, district and state Farm Bureau**. Tell us what matters most to you, from local involvement and leadership opportunities to advocacy, education and community outreach.

Your feedback helps shape the next chapter of Farm Bureau!

Plus, complete the survey by **January 31, 2026**, and you'll be entered to **win a Farm Bureau swag prize pack!**

Take the survey today by scanning the QR code or at this link: <https://bit.ly/2026FarmBureauSurvey>

Thank you for helping us grow stronger together. Your voice truly makes a difference.



YFA to YF&R

Haily Sand

When we first joined the national committee, we knew it would be an opportunity to represent Wisconsin's young agricultural leaders on a national level, but we never could have imagined the impact it would have personally and professionally. From collaborating with young farmers and ranchers across the country to helping shape the future of the YF&R program, this experience has been nothing short of inspiring.

Serving on the committee provided a front-row seat to how Farm Bureau truly works, from grassroots ideas at the county level to national discussions that influence agricultural policy. It reminded us that our voices, especially as young farmers and ranchers, matter in shaping the future of agriculture.

One of the most rewarding parts of this journey has been building

lifelong friendships with fellow committee members who share the same drive and commitment to agriculture. Each conversation, farm visit and meeting left me more motivated to return home and continue advocating for our industry.

We are incredibly grateful for the support from Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, Dunn County Farm Bureau, and the many mentors who encouraged us along the way. It's been an honor to represent Wisconsin and to play a small part in strengthening the future of Farm Bureau through the YF&R program.

As we transition out of this role, we are excited to stay involved, continuing to share the message of YF&R and encouraging others to take that next step in leadership. The opportunities within Farm Bureau are endless,

and we hope more young farmers and ranchers will raise their hands to get involved.



District 9 News

Thank You, Rural Mutual Insurance Agents!

As we wrap up another successful membership year, we want to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to our partners at Rural Mutual Insurance Company (RMIC).

RMIC agents continue to play a critical role in the strength of Wisconsin Farm Bureau. Their support, advocacy and dedication to connecting with farm families and rural businesses has made a meaningful difference in both member engagement and member growth. Each conversation, each referral, and each moment spent sharing the value of Farm Bureau contributes directly to our mission.

This year's membership results reflect the power of teamwork and shared purpose. RMIC agents not only help protect Wisconsin farms and rural communities, they also help invest in their future by encouraging involvement in Farm Bureau programs, events and grassroots policy work.

We appreciate your partnership, your professionalism and your ongoing commitment to building a stronger rural Wisconsin.

Thank you for helping make this membership year a great one!

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

A Unified Voice for Agriculture

As the leading voice for Wisconsin agriculture, WFBF ensures that farmers' concerns are heard and addressed, allowing you to focus on what you do best—feeding, clothing and fueling our communities.

Shaping Policy

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation champions policies that protect farmers' rights, making sure that agriculture remains a thriving industry through proactive engagement at all levels of government.

Developing Members

Members gain access to leadership development, business resources and networking opportunities designed to help farmers expand their businesses and influence.

Engaging Consumers

Through outreach and education, WFBF bridges the gap between farmers and consumers, promoting a deeper understanding of modern agriculture and its role in everyday life.

1241 John Q. Hammons Dr.
P.O. Box 5550
Madison, WI 53705
(608) 836-5575

**Join WFBF Today
or Pay Your Dues**

SAVE THE DATE

Ag Day at the Capitol will take place on Wednesday, January 21, 2026

For additional details visit wfbf.com/events/ag-day-at-the-capitol



RIDE TOGETHER TO AG DAY!

Carpooling options are available from Northwestern Wisconsin to make attending Ag Day at the Capitol easier and more fun!

Contact Katie Richartz
District 9 Coordinator
krichartz@wfbf.com | 715.418.0975

Or sign up for a carpool option at bit.ly/2026AgDayCarpool





The poster features the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation logo at the top. Below it, the text reads '-2026-' in yellow, followed by 'FFA FARM FORUM' in large white letters. Underneath, it says 'WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11' in yellow. A yellow banner at the bottom of the poster contains the text 'CENTRAL WISCONSIN CONVENTION & EXPO CENTER' and 'Rothschild, WI'. The bottom half of the poster is decorated with a pattern of black dots and four circular inset photos showing people at the event, including a young man in a FFA jacket and a woman in a leopard print top.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- 8:00-10:00am** - Registration and Chapter Photos
- 8:30-9:30am** - Early Riser with FFA Officers (*Optional*)
- 10:00am** - Program and Brunch
- 12:00-3:00pm** - Concurrent Workshops
- 3:00pm** - Closing Session
- 4:00pm** - Adjourn and Travel Home

REGISTRATION:

- > STUDENTS - \$80**
- > ADVISORS/CHAPERONES - \$40**

REGISTER AT:

bit.ly/FFAFarmForum2026


#FarmNeighborsCare

GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation will provide 10 - \$250 grants to support county Farm Bureau projects related to Farm Neighbors Care.

Application deadline is February 13, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Grant information and application can be found at <https://bit.ly/FNCgrant26>

Past grant recipient projects include:

- Community Meals & Gatherings – Hosting farmer appreciation breakfasts, grill-outs, or coffee socials where neighbors could gather, connect, and talk openly about farm stress and mental health.
- Training & Education – Providing mental health training for ag professionals, FFA advisors, and farm neighbors so they can better recognize and respond to stress warning signs.
- Resource Awareness – Printing and distributing pocket cards, flyers, or signage with farm stress resources (988, Farmer Wellness Helpline, Farm Center, etc.).
- Care Packages – Delivering small “neighbor care” boxes with snacks, wellness items, or gift cards to farmers facing difficult seasons.
- Youth Involvement – 4-H and FFA chapters creating service projects that show care for local farm families, such as freezer meals, thank-you cards, or stress-relief kits.

THESE PROJECTS AND GRANTS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE SUPPORT OF MCCAIDE’S JOYRIDE AND THE WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION

Simple Daily Practices to Ease Stress on the Farm and in Life

Leslie Svacina

St. Croix County Farm Bureau member

Fall can bring a lot in a short time: harvest, kids going back to school and preparing for winter. While we can anticipate challenges, there's a lot that is out of our control, not just on the farm, but in our personal lives, too.

This past year brought me extra challenges. My dad's health declined last fall, and for six months I was driving across the state to help my parents, while my husband Scott kept everything moving on the farm and with our family, including his own off-farm job.

Soon after my dad passed, my own health took an unexpected turn. It felt like life was spinning, so I decided to lean into what has worked for me in the past: meditation, yoga, journaling and counseling.

Along the way, I realized I could shift my mindset and adjust how my body and mind react to life through simple breathing exercises. This breathwork has helped in all aspects of my life, including navigating grief and health challenges. I've focused on what I can control, which has helped me feel calmer and more present.

While this isn't a substitute for counseling or a way to erase stress, breathwork can be a preventative tool or work alongside other mental health approaches. It has helped me immensely, and if it can help another farmer, that's still a big deal.

Creating an Intentional Mindset

Mindset is simply how we interpret what happens and how we respond when life doesn't look the way we hoped. Breathwork is one approach that can help shift mindset.

Yes, it sounds simple, just breathing, and maybe a bit "woo-woo," but there's research behind it. Studies have shown that even a few minutes of breathwork daily can lower stress, improve sleep and help us feel more resilient, even during serious illness or times of anxiety.

Getting started with Breathwork

Breathwork can be done as part of a daily routine or in stressful times. I've found the more time I make for it daily, the more it helps. Research suggests just 2–3 minutes can help, while 6–10 minutes can be more impactful.

Here are a few ideas for when to incorporate breathwork:

- **First thing in the morning:** Helps set the tone for the day.
- **During transitions:** A few intentional breaths between tasks can reset your mindset.
- **Before or after meals**
- **When stress hits:** It can make a big difference in handling what's next.
- **Before bed:** It can help settle your mind to get better sleep.

It can be done almost anywhere: in the cab of the tractor (idling or off), leaning against the barn or even on the porch while your morning coffee is brewing.

Techniques and Tips

The most basic version of breathwork is deep breathing. Take a deep breath, filling the base of your belly up to your lungs. Hold it for a second or two, then slowly exhale from the top of your lungs down to the bottom of your belly. Repeat.

Below are some additional ways to practice breathwork. Try different approaches and see what works best for you. It gets easier the more you do it.

• Counting Breaths

Box Breathing:

Inhale for 4 counts, hold for 4, exhale for 4, hold for 4.

• 4-7-8 Breathing:

Inhale for 4, hold for 7, exhale slowly for 8.

Other Approaches

- Repeat a phrase while breathing, such as "Breathe in, breathe out," "Here and now," or "I am calm."
- Use calming music as a timer, 2–3 songs, so you don't have to watch the clock.
- Listen to guided meditations. I use this often, especially when my mind is too busy. I like the Calm app.
- Do it outdoors. Sit on the porch or around the farm and let nature's sounds help you stay present.
- Walk slowly while focusing on your breath. Keep your eyes open and take in the world around you.
- If your mind wanders, and it will, just return your attention to your breathing. The goal isn't to clear your mind completely; it's to come back when you drift away.

Advanced Approaches

Once you're comfortable with the basics, you could try the following with your breathwork:

- **Meditation:** Guided or silent.
- **Restorative or yin yoga:** This approach focuses on relaxation and stretching, rather than complicated poses. You can find classes locally or on YouTube.
- **Gentle stretching:** Simple moves you might remember from sports growing up.

Next Steps

Make changes in your Mental Health by visiting <https://bit.ly/fbmindfulpractice>.



District 9 News

WESTconsin Credit Union Shares Appreciation for Local Farmers

In celebration of June Dairy Month, WESTconsin Credit Union launched a heartfelt campaign to recognize the farmers who work tirelessly to feed and strengthen our communities.

Throughout the month of June, WESTconsin members and employees came together to write personal thank-you cards expressing their gratitude for the dedication, resilience and hard work of local farmers. These notes were then shared with county Farm Bureaus across District 9 as part of a special outreach effort to honor and celebrate agriculture.

In addition to the thank you cards, WESTconsin Credit Union generously provided \$50 donations to each county Farm Bureau in WESTconsin Credit Union's coverage area to support ongoing agricultural efforts within their communities.

"WESTconsin Credit Union was created to support the agricultural community," their team shared. "We know how important farmers' efforts are, and we believe those efforts deserve to be celebrated, not only during June Dairy Month, but all year long."

County Farm Bureaus across District 9 found creative and meaningful ways to share the gratitude and funds.

Thank you to WESTconsin Credit Union for your continued support of local agriculture and for helping shine a light on the farmers who keep Wisconsin growing strong!



Lessons Learned



Lexi Cook

Outgoing District 9 YFA Chair

Some of the best lessons and memories begin with the phrase, "Why not?" That phrase led me to accepting a position on the WFBF YFA Committee. For the past three years, my husband and I have created new memories and made new friends on the committee while learning about Farm Bureau as a whole. As we come to a close on our term, I find that I am walking away with some key lessons I will carry with me through my Farm Bureau membership.

The number one lesson I have learned is just say yes. Don't worry about the what ifs, give it a try, whether it's stepping up to a leadership position, attending a state or national event or conference or just volunteering with your county events, you never know what doors will be opened from saying yes. I highly recommend every member attend at least one state conference and one national conference at some point; it is a great opportunity. National events are a great way to learn how Farm Bureau differs from state to state.

The second lesson I think is important to share is you never know what you will find. Being involved on the YFA Committee has helped me learn more about the other programs that make up Farm Bureau and helped me find what direction I would like to go once I age out of YFA. YFA introduces you to policy and promotion as well as the people who make up these programs.

Lastly, the friendships you will make through any kind of involvement will last a lifetime. There is something special about connecting with others who have similar interests, and experiences together make for easy friendships and great memories. We all know it can be hard to get farmers to socialize, so attending events geared towards agriculture helps everyone.

I know volunteer experiences can seem daunting and we all live busy lives, so we may be tempted to shy away from involvement, but the lessons you learn about yourself and the organization you are a part of are invaluable. I will forever be grateful for my time on the YFA Committee,

for the memories and the friendships I have made. So, if you are on the fence about getting involved, just say yes, take a chance and have fun!

Interested in serving on the WFBF YFA Committee? Complete the interest form at bit.ly/wifbcommitteeinterest and a WFBF staff person will reach out to you with additional information.



Step Up and Speak Out: Agriculture Needs You at the Table



Nate Zimdars

WFBF Director of Local Government

Two of the most important parts of life that affect every person in the world are agriculture and politics. Everyone needs to eat and agriculture is the source of almost all the food we eat. Everyone also lives in a country that has different levels of government and rules that affect our day-to-day lives. Many consider

agriculture to be the backbone of the United States. In Wisconsin, our identity as a strong agricultural state means that government, whether we like it or not, will have a role to play in how our food gets from field to table.

One of the greatest challenges that we face when discussing government involvement in agriculture is that far too many of the people tasked with making decisions do not have a strong agricultural background. Just a few decades ago, it was commonplace for many of our state's rural residents to have grown up on a farm or at least had parents and grandparents who were raised on farms. This was reflected among the members of the Wisconsin legislature and our county or town boards.

That is not the current reality when looking at the backgrounds of our elected officials.

While that isn't the most surprising given the number of people actively farming in Wisconsin has dropped, agriculture is still very much the lifeblood of rural Wisconsin. So, you would think that our county and town boards are full of farmers and agricultural workers, right? My work in local government would suggest otherwise.

When Farm Bureau members reach out to me about local issues or I am made aware of an ordinance that will have a significant impact on agriculture, those are taking place in the rural parts of our state, not on the edge of our large urban centers like Madison or Milwaukee. A key reason for that is we do not have officials with the deepest knowledge of agriculture making those important decisions.

This is where YOU come in.

There is no one better than YOU to serve as a positive voice for agriculture on your county or town board. YOU know your community better than I ever will. YOU understand the challenges affecting agriculture in your backyard better than a town board member who isn't connected to agriculture.

Serving on a board is a time commitment and time is our most precious resource, especially when you are juggling responsibilities to your farm, family, or an off-farm job. But attending meetings to voice your concerns about a local issue and staying to listen to the board discussion is also a time commitment. The only difference is that you ultimately don't get to decide on the ordinance that will affect your farm or business when it comes time to vote. So why not get in the driver's seat and have some control over the direction your town or county is moving in?

We need more Farm Bureau members serving on our town and county boards. Our Farm Bureau vision states that we are "the trusted voice leading Wisconsin agriculture forward." The only way we remain that strong voice is by having members using their voices to shape local decisions that will ensure agriculture remains strong and valued in our state.

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter." You have a role to play in our political process. Don't remain silent. Use your voice to speak up for agriculture.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Members Advocate on Capitol Hill

Farm Bureau leaders from across Wisconsin traveled to Washington, D.C., September 15–17 to meet with members of the state's Congressional delegation. During the trip, attendees advocated for key issues including the delisting of the grey wolf, passage of a Farm Bill, labor reform, sustainable aviation fuel, year-round E15 and expanded pro-agriculture trade opportunities.

District 9 was proudly represented by Steve Mueller of Roberts, Tony Christopherson of Elk Mound and Tyrone "Ty" Tutland of Mason, who joined conversations on behalf of local farmers and rural communities in northwest Wisconsin. Their involvement helped bring the voices, priorities and firsthand experience of Wisconsin agriculture directly to the federal level.

In addition to congressional visits, participants also met with officials from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the America First Policy Institute.

Additional member leaders taking part included: Steven Earleywine, Brodhead; Doug Schulz, Iron Ridge; Nicholas Retzlaff, Ripon; Levi Bratt, Saint Nazianz; Cullen Schlewitz, Eau Claire; Dan Fremstead, Whitehall; Terrance Beck, Oshkosh; John Fischer, Plymouth; Jessica Gruetzmacher, Merrill; Don Lutz, Scandinavia; Melissa Yates, Merrill; Kent McClurg, Viroqua; and Tammy Wiedenbeck, Lancaster.

District 9 was well represented and we thank Steve, Tony, and Ty for stepping up to carry our voice to Washington.



Barron County Farm Bureau Holds Annual Meeting at Synergy Cooperative

Barron County Farm Bureau members gathered on August 19 at Synergy Cooperative in Alma for their annual meeting. The evening began with a tour of Synergy Cooperative and time for socializing before the business meeting. Members also received “Thank You Farmers” notes from WESTconsin Credit Union’s June Dairy Month celebration.

During the resolutions portion, members passed two proposals:

1. We support changing the eligibility to enter a 5-year-old kindergarten program in WI public school, to: a child must be 5 years old on or by April 1 of the school year.
2. We support Wisconsin Farm Bureau making an effort to establish a member discount benefit for inputs (cover crop seed, nitrogen stabilization products, proven biologicals) and or equipment (roller crimpers, no-till or strip-till equipment) in order to demonstrate our commitment to long-term farm sustainability.

Elections were held for the board of directors, with Kyle Zeman and Austin Maassen elected to fill open seats. Ryan Erickson was re-elected as Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair.

Delegates elected to represent Barron County at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December include Sam Olson, Craig Hamernik, Ryan Erickson and Austin Maassen. Alternates are Andy Bensend, Karyn Schauf and Brittany Olson. WFBF President Olson provided a recap of the year’s activities, and members heard a presentation from Andy Bensend and Jim Reul about their recent trip to Brazil.



Andy Bensend and Jim Reul shared pictures and stories about their recent trip to Brazil.



Get Involved with Barron County Farm Bureau

Are you interested in being more involved with Barron County Farm Bureau? The board meets the second Monday of the month at 7:45 p.m. Contact a member of the board of directors with any questions or if you are interested in attending a meeting. Their contact information can be found at: wfbf.com/about/counties/barron/

- President
 - Sam Olson
- Vice President
 - Craig Hamernik
- Secretary and Treasurer
 - Joe Braml
- Young Farmer and Agriculturist Chair
 - Ryan Erickson
- Board of Directors:
 - Austin Maassen
 - Mitch Hoff
 - Noah Voelker
 - Kyle Zeman



Chippewa County

Polish Delegation Visits Chippewa Valley

On November 1, Chippewa County had the unique honor of hosting an international delegation of Polish mayors and local leaders as part of the Open World Program, a U.S. Congressional initiative that fosters global cultural exchange and professional development.

The delegation, made up of mayors and deputy mayors from communities across Poland, spent time in Chippewa Falls and the greater Chippewa Valley region to learn firsthand about economic development approaches, small business mentorship and rural leadership rooted in sustainability.

Locally, the visit was coordinated by the Chippewa Falls Rotary Club, in partnership with Rotary International and the Congressional Office for International Leadership.

The mission of COIL is to inspire congressional and citizen diplomacy with global civic and political leaders. COIL achieves this through the Open World program, which connects delegates with their peers in U.S. communities to exchange best practices and strengthen mutual understanding.

As part of their tour, the group visited Wayne Geist’s Bushel and a Peck Apple Orchard on November 1. While there, members of the Chippewa County Farm Bureau board joined the group, along with Brad Olson, District 9 Director and Wisconsin Farm Bureau President. Together, they shared information about Wisconsin agriculture, grassroots policy work through Farm Bureau, and the role of farmers and agribusinesses in local economies.



Third Annual Chili Cookoff and Harvest Market

Chippewa County Farm Bureau brought the community together for a perfect fall afternoon at Bushel and a Peck Apple Orchard on Saturday, November 1, as we hosted our biggest seasonal celebration yet, featuring the third annual Chili Cook-Off and an all-new Fall Market.

Guests shopped from local farmers, makers and small businesses while enjoying fall treats, and the sights and flavors of harvest season. The addition of the fall market was a big hit, shoppers browsed handmade goods, homegrown products and unique finds while getting to know the people behind them.

Of course, the highlight of the afternoon was the chili cook-off. Local

organizations and businesses brought their best recipes, each featuring a locally grown ingredient and attendees tasted their way through the lineup before casting their votes for this year's chili champion. The friendly competition, creativity and community pride were on full display in every bowl served.

Thank you to everyone who joined in; vendors, chili competitors, volunteers and community members, for making this year's event our largest yet.

Chippewa County Farm Bureau is proud to continue lifting up local agriculture, small business, and community connection through the Earth to Table Event Series.



Chippewa County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Highlights Local Agriculture at Bushel and a Peck

Chippewa County Farm Bureau held its annual meeting on September 18 at Bushel and a Peck Apple Orchard, where members gathered for an evening focused on local agriculture, connection and grassroots policy work.

A special feature of the night was a presentation from Vanessa Klemish and Jared Siverling of Siverling Centennial Farm. The Siverling family farm, a 100-year legacy farm in Chippewa County, continues to evolve and diversify while staying rooted in the values and history that helped shape rural agriculture in our region. Vanessa and Jared shared an inside look at their operation, their business model, and what it means to carry forward a century of stewardship, responsibility and innovation.

During the business meeting, members also debated and passed several resolutions, including:

1. Support sales of up to \$70,000 under the Pickle Bill. Marketing – Direct Marketing
2. Support eliminating the food manufacturing plant license when selling direct to consumer. Marketing – Direct Marketing
3. Support eliminating slaughter and processing inspection requirements for direct-to-consumer meat sales. Section 358/Inspection and Grading of Meat, Poultry and Seafood Products

The combination of a beautiful fall orchard setting, a generational farm story and strong member-driven policy discussion made for a meaningful and energizing evening.



Jared Siverling and Vanessa Klemish of Siverling Centennial Farm shared an inside look into their farm.

Join the Discussion: Help Shape Agriculture Locally

If you're looking for a simple way to stay plugged into what's happening in local agriculture, one of the best places to start is by attending a Chippewa County Farm Bureau board meeting. The board meets on the third Tuesday of each month, and members are always welcome to sit in, listen, and learn what issues are coming up around the county.

Often, the earliest signs of a local issue don't show up in a formal meeting, they start as conversations between neighbors, at the co-op, in a show barn at the fair or at a grain elevator scale. If you catch wind of something that could impact ag in Chippewa County, maybe a township discussing zoning, a school program shifting direction or a new road or utility project, please share it with a board member. Early awareness allows the board to explore options, take action sooner if appropriate, and connect with state staff from Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation if additional resources or policy guidance are needed.

There are many ways to be part of what's happening, whether you bring an idea for an event, help out with a committee or simply want to meet more folks rooted in agriculture. Chippewa County Farm Bureau continues to be a place where members can learn, lead and make an impact in their community.

Chippewa County Farm Bureau:

President: Gabriela Haack

Vice president: Maddie Woodward

Secretary/treasurer: Michael Ripplinger

Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair: Maddie Woodward

Promotion and Education chair: Gabriela Strobel

Board Members

- Jamie Bischel
- Wayne Geist
- Tim Hager
- Paulette Kressin
- Nicole Strojny

Find more information at wfbf.com/about/counties/chippewa



Dunn County Farm Bureau Helps Support Grain Bin Rescue Training

Farm safety is at the heart of what we do. In August, the Dunn County Farm Bureau helped support a critical Grain Bin Rescue Training for the Menomonie Fire Department and surrounding departments, ensuring first responders are prepared for emergencies that can occur on farms across our area. The training was led by Dan Neenan of the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety.

Using a realistic grain bin rescue prop, participants had the opportunity to practice life-saving techniques with rescue tubes and equipment, a rare and invaluable experience. This type of hands-on training helps emergency personnel respond more effectively when seconds matter most.

Supporting programs like this reinforces Farm Bureau's ongoing commitment to farm safety, community partnerships, and protecting rural life in Dunn County and our surrounding communities.



Join the Dunn County Farm Bureau Fundraising Committee!

Are you looking for a fun and rewarding way to get more involved with your local Farm Bureau? The Dunn County Farm Bureau is looking for volunteers to help with the food stand committee!

This committee plays a key role in organizing and running one of our biggest fundraisers of the year — the Farm Bureau food stand at the Dunn County Fair.

Committee Duties Include:

- Coordinating and attending food stand committee meetings
- Helping plan and organize the Dunn County Fair food stand, with monthly meetings beginning in April

- Scheduling volunteers to help staff the food stand during the Dunn County Fair
- Contacting vendors and suppliers for food, supplies, and other food stand needs

This is a great opportunity to connect with fellow members, give back to your community, and help make the fair a success! If you're interested in joining the committee or would like more information, please contact Haily, Dunn County Farm Bureau's fundraising chair at 608.397.0046 or hailyseina@gmail.com.

Dunn County Farm Bureau Celebrates the Year at Their Annual Meeting

Dunn County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on September 23 at Koyote's Den Bar and Grill in Menomonie.

During the meeting, Brandon Gilbertson of Elk Mound replaced Al Shannon, Stephanie Doane of Menomonie replaced Dale Quilling and Joe Creaser of Menomonie filled a vacant seat on the board of directors. Delegates were also elected to attend the 2025 Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting in December to represent Dunn County Farm Bureau. Delegates to the Annual Meeting will be Tony Christopherson, Larry Bjork, Anna Dalka, Doug Clark and Brandon Gilbertson.

Members also discussed a wide range of issues as potential resolutions. Resolutions passed during this meeting will be forwarded for consideration by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's policy development committee. As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members on the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization. The following resolutions passed during this meeting and will be forwarded for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual



Meeting in December:

1. We support a capital gains tax exemption on the sale of land intended for agricultural use or purchased by farmers.

2. We support municipalities contacting farmers before working on roads about putting improvements underneath the roads ie: drain tile, irrigation, manure hose, and sap lines.

3. We support targeted investment in rural emergency services to ensure timely access to fire, EMS, and disaster response resources for agricultural operations and rural communities.

4. We support Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation evaluating how staff time is allocated and providing a report to the Board of Directors and county Farm Bureaus on the percentage of membership dues spent on operational expenses versus member services. We support county Farm Bureaus receiving this information annually to increase transparency and assist local leaders in communicating the value of membership.



Pierce County Farm Bureau Welcomes New Board Members at Their Annual Meeting

Pierce County Farm Bureau members gathered for their annual meeting on September 15 at the El Paso Bar and Grill. As a grassroots organization, it is the voices and votes of members at the county level that help set the direction for Wisconsin's leading farm organization. Members discussed and passed several resolutions, which will now advance for consideration at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting in December.

The highlight of the evening was the election of a new slate of county leaders. Mary Brand was elected president, Paul Tonsager will serve as vice president, and Paige Martin will serve as secretary-treasurer. Newly elected directors include: Ben Anderson, Tim Colbenson, Donna Larson, Paige Martin – Promotion & Education Chair and Logan Martin – Young Farmer & Agriculturist Chair. Representing Pierce County as delegates in December will be Mary Brand, Tim Colbenson and Ben Anderson.

The Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau award was presented to Peter Kimball in recognition of his many years of dedication and support to the Pierce County Farm Bureau.

Pierce County Farm Bureau closed out the meeting with optimism and momentum headed into the new membership year. With a strong new board and continued grassroots engagement, the county is well-positioned to keep advocating, educating and advancing the voice of agriculture.



Kevin Ballman presented the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau award to Peter Kimball.



Pierce County Farm Bureau board members for 2025-2026 are (Back, from left) Paul Tonsager, Dave Bechel, Ben Anderson, Tim Colbenson, Kevin Ballman. (Front, from left) Donna Larson, Logan Martin, Paige Martin, Mary Brand.

2025 Quad-County Soil Judging Competition

Retta Isaacson

Pierce County Land Conservation, Water Quality

You may have heard rumors of unusual pits being dug just south of the corner of Highway 10 and CC or seen for yourself the many school buses parked in the alfalfa field of Grange Hall the morning of October 8.

Albeit strange looking at first, this affair was part of a long running circuit of soil judging competition. For the first time in many years, Pierce County joined its neighbors Dunn County, Pepin County and Buffalo County to offer this opportunity to local students. Soil judging, sometimes also referred to as land judging, is a process where students evaluate four soil pits



based on composition, slope, land use and more and are scored based on how close they come to a soil scientist's evaluation. Not an easy feat, but the procedure showcases the hands-on observational skills soil professionals, agronomists, land use planners and many more professionals use in their careers.

Alma, Arcadia, Ellsworth, Menomonie, and Plum City high schools attended for a total of almost ninety students competing. With a combined top four score of 1097, Alma High School championed the day.

Pierce County Land Conservation would like to congratulate the dedicated students in attendance. Thank you to all of the volunteers and teachers who made the day run smoothly and to Fetzner Farms for hosting.

Now is the Time to Get Involved!

Mary Brand

Pierce County Farm Bureau President

There is no doubt that both the landscape and demographics of our rural communities have changed. When I was a kid, I knew that most of my classmates were spending their summers as I was, picking rocks, bailing hay and milking cows. My four kids grew up knowing their classmates were not spending their summers doing farm chores. This shift, in part, has created disconnect between those of us who farm and the rest of the population, including our neighbors.

As county Farm Bureaus, we have a lot of work to do to create an understanding of farming within our communities. Even though most of us would prefer working with our animals or operating equipment in the field, this disconnect will not go away unless we intentionally have a conversation with our non-farming neighbors or attend meetings to learn how to address the concerns of the people living near us.

When I think about all the innovation and creative thinking that has led to better ways of farming, I am extremely proud of our history and am confident that agriculture will continue to address needs far into the future. We need to share the advances we are making in our industry. A gallon of milk produced today requires 30% less water and 21% less land than in 2007. That's incredible and something we should be proud of!

Pierce County Farm Bureau is hosting a member meeting on December 2 to discuss the need for both livestock and crop farmers in our county to help bridge the gap between farmers and the general population. It is clear in our county that we need to show up and speak up at local township and county board meetings. Retaining a voice in local government is essential to protect our right to farm not only for us, but for future generations.

If you would like more information about this meeting, please reach out to me at brandmary6@gmail.com.

Neighbors, Food and Fellowship at the Polk Burnett Harvest Party

The Polk Burnett Farm Bureau hosted the third annual Harvest Party on October 18, with over 60 members and community members in attendance! This was a great chance for some of our farmers to take a break during the busy season, share a meal at no cost, and catch up with their family and friends. We also welcome any non-members to attend, providing them with an opportunity to learn more about Farm Bureau and interact with local farmers. We can't wait to see everyone next year!



Farm Bureau: Built to Last



Travis Senn
Polk Burnett Farm Bureau President

In a world of two-day shipping and “upgrade now” buttons, it feels like nothing’s really made to last anymore.

Toasters quit after a year. The coffee maker breaks right after the warranty runs out. Even our phones are built with a ticking clock in the

background. But out here, we still measure things differently.

We’ve got tractors that are older than the people driving them. Feed wagons that have seen more seasons than most ballplayers. Fence posts that have been leaning the same way since the Bush administration — H.W., that is. And you know what? They still get the job done.

Because when something’s built right — built with purpose, not convenience — it holds up. Farm Bureau was built that way too.

It wasn’t designed for quick fixes or easy answers. It was built like a good piece of equipment — solid, dependable and meant to serve the long haul. The bolts that hold it together are its people — the members who show up, volunteer, vote, debate and care enough to pass something better on to the next generation.

Grassroots isn’t just a slogan we print on letterhead. It’s our operating system.

The ideas that keep this organization running don’t come from the top down. They come from the tractor cabs, milking parlors and kitchen tables across our counties. Every motion, every policy, every new idea starts with someone who knows what it takes to get up before dawn and keep things running when it’s not easy.

Sure, agriculture has changed. The equipment’s smarter, the margins are tighter, and the rules get more complicated every year. But what hasn’t changed — and what won’t — is the way we stand together when it counts.

That’s what makes Farm Bureau different. We’re not disposable. We’re not trendy. We’re built to last.

And like that reliable John Deere 4020 or that old gate latch that’s outlasted three generations, Farm Bureau endures because people keep maintaining it — tightening bolts, replacing worn parts and keeping the engine running for whoever comes next.

So as another year winds down and we look toward what’s ahead, take a little pride in that. In a world full of quick-turn solutions and short attention spans, we belong to something constant. Something proven. Something that still works, because the people behind it still care enough to keep it running right.

Farm Bureau was built to last — and it still is, because you’re still in the driver’s seat.

Community Gathers for Polk Burnett Annual Meeting

The Polk Burnett Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held on August 21 at Deer Lake Winery. Members gathered to reflect on a year of accomplishments, celebrate growing engagement and set direction for the year ahead. Excitement is already building for upcoming events, including the Harvest Party, which continues to be a highlight for members and the community.

Members discussed and passed several resolutions to advance to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting in December. These resolutions were passed on to the state policy development committee for consideration by the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting.

A 50/50 raffle and silent auction were held to support programming for the coming year.

The county also welcomed a newly elected

board member, Cameron Freisinger of Amery, whose energy and

passion for agriculture will help bring innovative leadership into the new program year.

Representing Polk Burnett as delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December will be Josh Roos, Isaac Christenson, Mikayla Peper and Jake Loen.

New to this year’s annual meeting was the inaugural Friend of Farm Bureau award. Dale Wester received this award for all of his years of service to Polk Burnett Farm Bureau.

With growing membership enthusiasm and fresh leadership at the table, Polk Burnett Farm Bureau is entering the new membership year with momentum, focus, and a renewed commitment to serving and strengthening agriculture in our local communities.



The inaugural Friend of Farm Bureau award was given to Dale Wester for all of his hard work and dedication to Polk Burnett Farm Bureau. Congratulations Dale!

Rusk County

wfbf.com/about/counties/rusk
RuskCountyFarmBureau

Rusk County Farm Bureau Holds Annual Meeting

Members of the Rusk County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on October 9 at the Chuck Wagon at the Rusk County Fairgrounds in Ladysmith.

Attendees heard from Kathy Halbur, the Manager of the Rusk County Farmers Market.

Delegates selected to represent Rusk County at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Annual Meeting in December are Terry DuSell and Paul Hetke.

Rusk County Farm Bureau members approved following resolution during this meeting and will forward it on for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

We support streamlining the process for replacement of 6-20 foot bridges to culverts.

Be Part of What's Next for Rusk County Farm Bureau

Rusk County Farm Bureau is looking for members who want to help shape the future of agriculture in our county. Whether you're just curious to learn more, want to share ideas or are ready to step into leadership, there's a place for you.

The Rusk County Farm Bureau board meets on the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to any member who wants to listen, share input, or simply get connected to what's happening locally.

Big ideas don't always start in conference rooms, sometimes they start in a shop after chores, at a show barn, at the fuel pump, or on the phone with a neighbor. If you hear a conversation about something that could affect agriculture — road access, zoning changes, recreation impacts, infrastructure upgrades or anything else coming down the pipeline, this is exactly the kind of awareness we need.

Sharing concerns early gives the board time to look into it and, when necessary, pull in support from Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation.

Rusk County Farm Bureau is ready to grow, but we can't do it alone.

This is an opportunity to bring a new idea to the table, help launch an event, serve on a committee, connect with other farmers and ag supporters, make sure agriculture stays visible in Rusk County. Every voice matters and even one new person can make a difference.

Rusk County Farm Bureau: president Terry DuSell (president), Paul Hetke (vice president), Betsy DuSell (secretary/treasurer), Samantha DuSell (Promotion and Education chair), Serenity Palmer (Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair), Howard Carter (board member) and Dan Weiss (board member). Find more information at wfbf.com/about/counties/rusk.



Sawyer County

wfbf.com/about/counties/sawyer
SawyerCountyFarmBureau

Sawyer County Farm Bureau Gathers at Pasanen Dairy for Annual Meeting and New Facility Tour

Sawyer County Farm Bureau members gathered on September 11 at Pasanen Dairy Farm for this year's annual meeting — and it was an evening packed with insight, industry perspective and a look at modern dairy innovation right here in our own backyard.

Members heard from a strong lineup of guest speakers, including:

- Brady Zuck, Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association
- Rocky Olson, Premier Livestock
- Nate Zimdars, WFBF Director of Local Affairs

From beef markets to local policy to livestock trends, each speaker brought valuable updates impacting producers in northern Wisconsin.

During the business portion, members passed the following resolutions:

1. Amend Page 5, Line 22-23 to clarify that all new solar projects should prioritize brownfields, rooftops, parking lots, degraded lands or low-yield, underutilized or marginalized farmland — not tillable land.
2. Support increasing the number of bear tags issued in Zone A and D.
3. Support bonding for any commercial solar project.
4. Support terminating government funding on solar panels and wind turbines.

After the meeting adjourned, attendees capped off the evening with a tour of the farm's newly constructed rotary parlor, a highlight for many, offering a firsthand look at new technology in action.



Standing Up for St. Croix County Agriculture

Are you interested in becoming more engaged with St. Croix County Farm Bureau?

The St. Croix County board meets on the first Monday of each month and members are always welcome to attend. These meetings provide a place to hear local updates, bring ideas forward, and help shape the direction of agriculture in our county.

Many issues that impact farms begin as conversations at the co-op, the feed store or with a neighbor over the fence. Early awareness matters — whether it's township planning, road access, permitting, school ag program changes or land-use discussions. If you hear something developing, please share it with a board member so Farm Bureau can begin working proactively. Some issues may also benefit from Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation support.

Current Local Issue: Town of St. Joseph CAFO Ordinance Discussion

At the October 1, 2025 meeting of the Town of St. Joseph Plan Commission, and again on November 5, discussion took place regarding a potential Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Moratorium and Ordinance. The direction of this proposed ordinance is extremely concerning for agriculture in St. Croix County.

Some items being referenced from the ordinance, that is modeled after the Town of Trade Lake, Burnett County, would include:

- CAFO threshold of 500 animal units (well below state statute)
- Equipment limited to 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Vehicles required to be sanitized before leaving the farm
- Mandatory transportation logs for all farm traffic
- Farmers paying all legal, consultant and review costs incurred by the town

Although St. Joseph has not yet released its own draft ordinance, the referenced model ordinance can be viewed here:

<https://bit.ly/TownofStJoseph>

We encourage you to contact residents of the Town of St. Joseph and urge them to stand with farmers and oppose an overly restrictive ordinance. Farmers support clean water, safe food and responsible natural resource stewardship but this proposal goes far beyond what is reasonable and threatens the ability of farms to operate in St. Croix County.

Please watch your local town agendas, similar conversations may be happening in other areas. Agriculture needs to be in the room before decisions are made.

If you have questions, please reach out to any St. Croix County Farm Bureau Board Member. Contact information can be found at: wfbf.com/about/counties/st-croix.

St. Croix County Farm Bureau: Steve Mueller (president), Jenna Grulke (vice president), Vanessa Gunderson (secretary/treasurer), Melanie Peterson (Women's chair) and Lexi Cook (YFA chair).
Board of Directors: Lynn Brosi, David Kruschke, Jim Lund, Dean Mueller, Gary Peterson, Randy Roquette, Leslie Svacina and Greg Zwald.



St. Croix County Annual Meeting Pours Community, Celebration and Policy into One Night

St. Croix County Farm Bureau tried something new this year, hosting its annual meeting on September 25 at 45th Parallel in New Richmond. Members enjoyed a guided tour of the distillery and a tasting experience before the meeting began.

To officially kick off the evening, board member Lynn Brosi showcased his musical talent with a trombone performance of America the Beautiful, which was a fun and unique way to bring everyone together.

The county also recognized and thanked Amy Shafer for her years of service as she retired from the St. Croix County Farm Bureau board.

This year's Distinguished Service to Agriculture award was presented to Sandy Reischel for her countless hours of volunteer leadership, especially her dedication to the food stand and her ongoing support for county activities and events.

The following resolutions were passed during the business session:

1. Support the creation of tax incentives for landowners who sell or lease land for active agricultural use.
2. Support striking Page 2, Line 1: "We support the implementation of the dairy revitalization plan."
3. Support UW-Extension Agents being afforded training, resources and the ability to work outside specialized areas to better serve their counties or regions.
4. Support the creation of federal tax incentives for landowners who sell or lease land for active agricultural use.



Captions:

1. Attendees to the annual meeting enjoyed a tour of 45th Parallel Distillery and enjoyed a tasting of their grain to glass craft spirits.
2. Lynn Brosi shared his talents on the trombone with his rendition of America the Beautiful.
3. Sandy Reischel was awarded the St. Croix County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service to Agriculture award.
4. Attendees enjoyed a spread of woodfired pizzas.

Tutland Joins WFBF's WisGO Team

Tyrone "Ty" Tutland of Mason has been selected to join Wisconsin Farm Bureau's WisGO Team.

The WisGO Team is WFBF's first line of contact when speaking on agricultural issues. Members of this year's team will develop a skillset to effectively interact with media representatives as well as educate and influence others on prominent issues impacting agriculture. Members will learn effective strategies to share their stories to a broad audience through multiple media platforms.

"Since its inception, advocates on the WisGO Team have been among the best champions for Wisconsin agriculture," said WFBF President Brad Olson. "These members are tightly in tune to rural issues and we look forward to seeing them grow as agriculture advocates in the coming year."

Members of the WisGO Team include: Andrew Dal Santo, Grant County; Sydney Flick, Columbia County; Mary Fronek, Langlade County;

Mitch Giebel, Juneau County; Libby Hafften, Jefferson County; Devani Hinkelmann, UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau; Ben Huber, Green County; Lynn Leahy, Waushara County; Kyle Nilsestuen, Trempealeau County; Derek Orth, Grant County; Travis Senn, Polk-Burnett Farm Bureau; Luke Trapp, Jackson County; Brooke Trustem, Rock County; Sally Turpin, Juneau County; Tyrone Tutland, Superior Shores Farm Bureau; Kelly Wilfert, Manitowoc County; and Eric Wuthrich, Green County.

WisGO Team members serve as official spokespersons for Farm Bureau and agriculture issues. These members will serve as influential and authoritative individuals to be called upon for media interviews, legislative testimony and social media advocacy.

Throughout the program, participants will gain a deeper understanding of agricultural issues, expand their network with fellow farmers and agriculturists across the state and be a voice for Wisconsin agriculture.



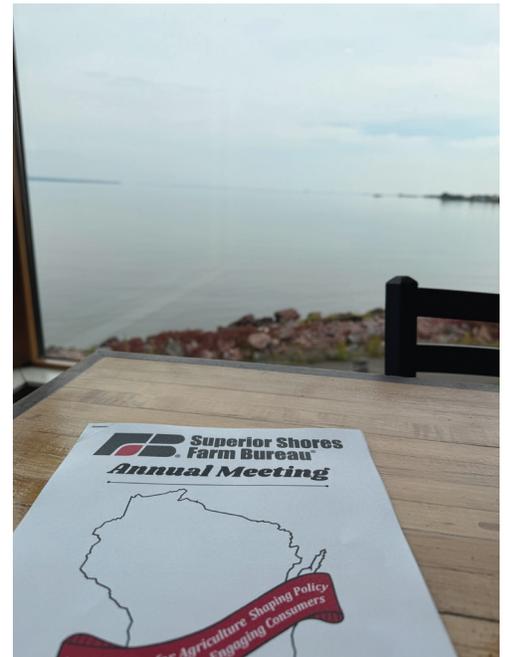
Members Attend Superior Shores Annual Meeting

Superior Shores Farm Bureau held their Annual Meeting on September 12 at The Sandbar in Ashland.

Members enjoyed coffee and pastries. Following coffee, the business meeting was held where members voted on resolutions, board of directors and delegates to the 2025 WFBF Annual Meeting.

1. We support increased accountability for funds allocated for forest road maintenance.
2. We support increased accountability for the County Forest Road Aids program.
3. We support municipalities being held accountable for how state and federal funds are being spent.
4. We support increasing the minimum for new Managed Forest Land contracts from 20 to 40 contiguous acres.
5. We support capping the Clam Lake elk herd at not more than 600 head.
6. We support, in case of eminent domain, the purchaser paying 20% over fair market value.

Thank you to those members that took the time to join us for the annual meeting. We look forward to doing great things in the upcoming year.



WFBF Promotion & Education Event

CULTIVATE & Connect

February 21st, 2026 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Neenah, WI

Keynote Speakers:

Marlene Eick, Ohio Farm Bureau

Annaliese Wegner, Modern Day Farm Chick

Optional pre-conference activity:

February 20th from 5 - 8 p.m.

Fox Valley Technical College



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Rusk County
Sawyer County
St. Croix County
Superior Shores



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