

From the Wisconsin Statutes

59.56(3) UNIVERSITY EXTENSION WORK. (a) *Creation.* A board may establish and maintain an educational program in cooperation with the university of Wisconsin, referred to in this subsection as "University Extension Program".

(b) *Committee on agriculture and extension education.* If a board establishes a university extension program, it shall create a committee on agriculture and extension education. The board may select as a member of the committee any public school administrator resident in the county. The members of the committee shall receive such compensation and expenses as the board determines under s. 59.22 (2) (c) and (3). The committee shall meet at such intervals as are considered necessary to properly carry out its functions and responsibilities.

(c) *Staff.* 1. The committee on agriculture and extension education shall appoint professionally qualified persons to the university extension program staff in cooperation with the university extension. Vacancies and additions to the staff shall be filled in the same manner.

2. The committee on agriculture and extension education may enter into joint employment agreements with the university extension or with other counties and the university extension if the county funds that are committed in the agreements have been appropriated by the board. Persons so employed under cooperative agreements and approved by the board of regents shall be considered employees of both the county and the university of Wisconsin.

(d) *Finance.* For the practical maintenance of the work of the university extension program, including cooperative extension programs as provided for in an act of congress approved May 8, 1914 (38 Stat. 372) and all acts supplementary thereto, the board may appropriate moneys as requested by the committee on agriculture and extension education to provide the county's share in such work. The money appropriated by the board shall be disbursed by the treasurer upon orders of the clerk pursuant to the actions of the committee on agriculture and extension education and as adopted by the board.

(e) *State aids.* To supplement the funds provided by the county for the work of the university extension program, each county shall be entitled to a minimum state aid of \$1,500 per year if the board has made the required appropriation to maintain such a program, and such additional funds as are required to provide salary increases equal to those granted to state employees by the legislature.

(f) *Functions.* 1. A university extension program is authorized, under the direction and supervision of the county committee on agriculture and extension education, cooperating with the university extension of the university of Wisconsin, and within the limits of funds provided by the board and cooperating state and federal

agencies, to make available the necessary facilities and conduct programs in the following areas:

- a. Professional and liberal education.
- b. Human resource development.
- c. Economic and environmental development.
- d. Extension work provided for in an act of

congress that was approved on May 8, 1914 (38 Stat. 372) and all acts supplementary thereto.

e. Any other extension work that is authorized by local, state or federal legislation.

2. Such a program may consist of, but not be limited to, providing agents to conduct programs on energy conservation and renewable energy resource systems, conduct evaluations and provide planning, analysis and other technical support to community agencies and organizations, small businesses, individuals interested in energy conservation in local communities and primary and secondary school teachers.

3. Such program may take any action that will facilitate the accomplishment of any of the functions under this paragraph, including without limitation because of enumeration the following:

a. The training of group leaders and the directing of group activities.

b. Individual or group instruction or consultation.

c. Demonstration projects, exhibits and other instructional means.

d. Group workshops, institutes, and conferences.

e. The creation of citizens' advisory committees.

f. The dissemination of information by any appropriate means including press, radio and television.

g. The imposition of fees for certain desired educational services when sufficient public funds are not available to cover costs.

h. Cooperation with other local, state and federal agencies.

(g) *Department of government.* For the purposes of s. 59.22 (2) (d) the university extension program shall be a department of county government and the committee on agriculture and extension education shall be the committee which is delegated the authority to direct and supervise the department. In cooperation with the university extension of the university of Wisconsin, the committee on agriculture and extension education shall have the responsibility to formulate and execute the university extension program. The university extension shall annually report to the board its activities and accomplishments.

(h) *Cooperation.* The personnel of the university extension program shall, whenever feasible, cooperate with other educational programs of importance to the residents of the county. Such cooperative agreements may be made under s. 66.30.