RESOLUTION No. 456-16
RESOLUTION OPPOSING REDUCED UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - EXTENSION PROGRAMMING IN MARINETTE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Extension has developed a Reorganization Plan which would likely change both the number of educators working with Marinette County residents and the percent of their time spent working with Marinette County residents; and

WHEREAS, the process used to develop the Reorganization Plan was neither transparent nor stakeholder-driven, raised many unanswered questions, and provided little opportunity for Marinette County concerns to be voiced or considered; and

WHEREAS, alternative funding partnership opportunities were not analyzed, offered, or discussed with municipalities within the state; and

WHEREAS, the reorganization plan currently presented imposes unilateral changes while decreasing local staff decision-making and accountability to the county partners, and

WHEREAS, Marinette County is not willing to maintain current tax levy funding while receiving reduced educational services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Marinette County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes the University of Wisconsin-Extension Reorganization Plan approved by Chancellor Sandeen on February 10, 2016 and its imposition onto the counties of Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of Wisconsin – Extension staff housed in Marinette County shall develop a listing of potential detrimental impacts of the Reorganization Plan to the residents of Marinette County and partner organizations in each of the program areas and submit same to all levels of University of Wisconsin – Extension administration, Marinette County municipalities, Marinette County Board members, and appropriate legislators.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk send a copy of this resolution to all 72 Wisconsin County Boards; Wisconsin Counties Association; University President Ray Cross and the Board of Regents; and the legislators representing Marinette County residents.

Hereby approved this 31st day of May, 2016 by a majority of a quorum of the Marinette County Board of Supervisors.

s/Mark Anderson s/Katherine K. Brandt
Mark Anderson, Chair Katherine K. Brandt, County Clerk

Recommended: Agriculture and Extension Education Committee - 05/10/2016