

Minutes
Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
Wednesday, March 14, 2012
2nd Floor Courthouse Conference Room
Rock County Courthouse
Janesville, WI

Unapproved

- 1. Call to Order:** The March 14, 2012 meeting of the Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Eva Arnold at 4:01 p.m.

Committee members Present: Supervisors Arnold, Combs, Sweeney and Wiedenfeld.

Staff Present: Jim Stute, Mike Maddox and Gena McGuigan.

Others Present: Randy Thompson, on behalf of the Fairgrounds; Rob McConnell, President of Fairground Board and Matt Hanson, UW- Extension Southern Region Director.

- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Item 8A, departmental update added. Motion to approve the agenda as revised by Combs, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
- 3. Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** Mike Maddox stopped in to touch base with everyone and say "Hi." Matt Hanson expressed his appreciation of Mike on the state-side Master Gardner program. Matt explained that Extension is 100 years old this year and that a Resolution of Support recognizing Extension's 100 year celebration was approved in the House and the Senate and on March 1st the Governor's Proclamation was approved recognizing Extension.
- 4. 4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts**
 - A. 4-H Fair Association Report:** Rob McConnell reported that they have booked Josh Turner to perform at the 4-H Fair at a cost of about \$75K. A company out of Rockford Illinois will handle selling pre-seating tickets and take care of putting chairs on the track. He noted that the tickets will be sponsored by Cracker Barrel. State Statutes with regards to emergency exits for the event will need to be followed. Wiedenfeld suggested that any extra costs of bringing in bigger acts be passed along to the public in the ticket prices. Rob also advised that there would be no rodeo this year, however; there would be a draft horse pull. Rob presented a letter to the Ag & Extension Committee for their donation of \$1500 to the fair for printing costs.
 - B. Approval of Rental Contracts:** May 11-12, Ted Zinder \$800/2 days; May 6 Dee Goldberg - Horse Rescue, \$290 non-profit rate, beef barn area; December 29, Wisconsin-Illinois Rabbits, Craig Center \$290 plus \$65 heat surcharge. Tentative June 21-23, WJVL/WCLO - used car event \$1165 Craig Center & blacktop area, if successful possibly an annual event. Motion to approve as presented by Wiedenfeld, second by Combs, motion carried.
- 5. Rock County Farm Land Use Policy** Stute said he had met with Randy Terronez, Admin. And Erik Chellevoid from the Sheiff's Department to work on the rules, and that at Stute's request, Randy Thompson met with Randy Terronez to bring him up to speed on the history of the Community Gardens and the liability concerns and guidelines.

6. **Approval of Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Stute reviewed the department bills, there were no encumbrances. Motion to approve as presented by Sweeney, second by Combs, motion carried.
7. **4:24 p.m. Executive Session per Wisconsin Statutes 1985(1)(c):** Performance Reviews of Agent Staff with UW Extension District Director and County Department Head. A motion was made by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld to move to Executive Session, motion carried. Roll Call: Eva Arnold, Ron Combs, Alan Sweeney, Larry Wiedenfeld, Jim Stute, Matt Hanson.
8. **5:30 p.m.** A motion to return to open session by Combs, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.

Motion to affirm that the committee met in Executive Session to review the performance of UW Extension Educators and all educators have successful ratings by Wiedenfeld, second by Combs, motion carried.

A. Department Update: Stute discussed the interview process for the Interim 4-H Club Advisor position. The interviews will be held on Friday, March 23rd at 8:00 a.m. and four candidates have been invited. Stute also discussed personnel changes in the office. Gena McGuigan is Administrative Assistant effective March 5, and Kim Mork is Clerk Typist III effective March 12.
9. **Comments from the Committee:** The Committee thanked Supervisor Combs for his dedicated service.
13. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Combs, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gena McGuigan