

**Minutes**  
**Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee**  
**Wednesday, April 10, 2013**  
**Rm. 250, Rock County Courthouse**  
**Janesville, WI**

**Unapproved**

1. **Call to Order:** The April 10, 2013 meeting of the Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order by Chair Bostwick at 7:01 p.m.

**Committee members present:** Supervisors Bostwick, Sweeney and Wiedenfeld.

**Committee members absent:** Supervisors Sanders, Arnold.

**Staff present:** Jim Stute, Angie Flickinger

**Also present:** Randy Thompson; Vanessa Cannasco and Jamer Hernandez, Beloit Memorial High School.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve as written by Wiedenfeld, second by Sweeney, motion carried.
4. **Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** None.
5. **4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts:** Thompson presented the 2013 Rock County 4-H Fairgrounds Mutual Working Agreement with the Rock County 4-H Fair Association. The contract spells out roles and responsibilities for each party related to operating the fairgrounds from July 1 to August 2, 2013 and remains unchanged from previous years. It has passed the county contract review process and has been approved by the Fair Board. Motion to approve by Sweeney, second by Bostwick, motion carried.

**Approval of Fairgrounds Rental Contracts:**

May 25, WI-IL Dairy Goat Association, Dairy Goat Show, \$290

May 24-26, Spa Shop of Wisconsin, Watertown, Tent Sale \$1,200

May 31-June 2, Spa Shop of Wisconsin, Watertown, Tent Sale \$1,200

Motion by Sweeney to approve all contracts, second by Bostwick, motion carried.

Total rental income to date \$19,720

6. **Approval of Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Stute reviewed the departmental bills and transfers. Motion to approve by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
7. **Educator Report- Angie Flickinger/ Cristina Parente:** Stute reported that Parente had a teaching conflict and could not report.

Flickinger reported on the Strong Women and Transform Rock County programs. She held a Strong Women volunteer appreciation event in March which drew 100 participants. The group was addressed by Dr. Miriam Nelson of Tufts University who founded the program. Program evaluations by participants indicated that health benefits are real and important but more importantly (and unintended) is the improvement of participants social/ mental health situations.

Transform Rock County is a community-based initiative with a mission to improve the health of all people in Rock County. The project is funded through a Transform Wisconsin grant, administered by the Health Department, focusing on: smoke-free housing and the reduction of tobacco use; farm to school efforts to increase access to local healthy foods in schools and childcare centers; and increased physical activity efforts through joint use agreements and increasing access and opportunity for physical activity. UW-Extension is working on the second and third goals and has funding for 6 Masters of Public Health students to work as interns, contributing a total of 2,400 hours to the project this summer.

- 8. Discussion and Approval of Committee Meeting Dates and Time:** Tabled
- 9. WACEC State Conference/ Legislative Visits Report:** The WACEC State Conference was April 8-10, with legislative visits on April 9. The Rock County contingency included Supervisors Sweeney and Wiedenfeld, staff members Stute and Rebout, and Kirk Leach, an Extension user and 4-H volunteer. The group met with Sen. Erpenbach and Rep. Jorgensen and staffers for Sen. Cullen, Rep. Ringhand and Rep. Loudonbeck. The group explained the value of UW-Extension programs at the local level and asked that they support the Governors proposed budget for the UW System.
- 10. Department Update:** Stute provided a staffing update: Sheila Deforest has been offered the WNEP Administrator position (interviews were held 4/5); final interviews for the Horticulture Educator position will be held May 14 and will involve the committee; the contract for interim 4-H Club Advisor will be extended for 6 months; Cristina Parente 0.4 FTE Family Living Educator has resigned and her last day is May 6; Gena McGuigan, Administrative Assistant has taken another position with the county and will be replaced by Sheila Jadoul who starts April 29.
- 11. Comments from the Committee:** None
- 12. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Stute