

MINUTES
ROCK COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 11, 2009
2nd Floor Courthouse Conference Center
Rock County Courthouse
JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN

1. **Call to Order:**

The meeting of the Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order by Chair Richard Bostwick at 7:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Supervisors Bostwick, Supervisor Arnold, Supervisor Combs, Supervisor Sweeney, and Supervisor Wiedenfeld.

Committee members absent: None

Staff present: Sue Fredrich, 4-H Program Advisor; Randy Thompson, Rock County U W Extension Office Chair

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Supervisor Arnold. Motion carried.

3. **Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2009:** Supervisor Arnold moved to approve the minutes as written and seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

4. **Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** None

5. **Approval of Extension Bills and Transfers:** Randy Thompson reviewed the UWEX bills. Supervisor Sweeney made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion seconded by Supervisor Combs. Motion carried.

6. **Agent Report:** Sue Fredrich, 4-H Youth Development Educator, presented an update of youth programming. Fredrich presented survey results of 4-H Club Community Service Projects conducted in 2008. Service projects ranged from collecting food items for local pantries to community Clean Up projects including packets and recreation areas, cemeteries and roadside clean up. Youth have also served as volunteers for local community events, Habitat for Humanity, Ronald McDonald house and American Legion Poppies Sales.

Fredrich also discussed various programs designed to develop life skills among youth. Life skills included leadership development, serving the community and development of responsible behaviors. Efforts are also underway to develop a Youth in Governance Program in Rock County.

7. **Update on ANR Pipeline Easement on Rock County Farm:** Thompson provided information on the proposed easement with the ANR Pipeline Company. An easement currently exists but ANR is requesting an additional 6 month temporary easement totaling 5.441 acres for the construction of a new 30 inch pipeline. The county would be paid \$4,425 for the temporary easement and the County's tenant would receive payment for crop damages for the next two years. A resolution will be forthcoming from the County Board Staff Committee to the County Board.

8. **4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts:**
- A. **Block Building Roof Replacement Bid Process:** The county is currently accepting bids for the block building roof project. The deadline for bid submission is February 23, 2009. Bids will be submitted to the Ag Committee for approval at the March committee meeting. Final County Board approval is anticipated on March 26, 2009.
 - B. **Update on Cell Tower Construction:** Construction is proceeding on the Cell Tower. Cricket Communications will be operational within the next week. The additional two providers should be operational within the next month.
 - C. **Approval of Fairgrounds contracts** as follows: Golden Kiwanis Tree Sale – April (proposed fee \$50); Shriners Circus – June 14 (proposed fee \$450); Rock County Porkfest – June 14 (proposed fee \$245); YWCA Event – June 20 (proposed \$245); American Cancer Society – August 7 (proposed \$245); Rock River Valley Wood Carvers – Sept. 12 (proposed fee \$340); Rock Co. Rifle and Pistol Club Event – October 2-4 (proposed fee \$612.50). A motion was made by Supervisor Wiedenfeld, and seconded by Supervisor Arnold to approve the contracts. Motion carried. Contracts approved.
 - D. **4-H Fairgrounds Capital Improvement Projects:** The Committee will continue to prioritize capital improvement projects. The block building project is anticipated to be completed this spring. Committee members expressed interest in moving the Craig Center Replacement Lighting as the next priority project. Staff was instructed to obtain estimates on the cost of the project. The replacement and repair of the Stock Pavilion roof was designated as priority issue number 3.
9. **Comments from the Committee:** Committee members commented on the excellent Working Lands Workshop held on February 4th. Supervisor Sweeney commended Thompson for his involvement in the program. He suggested Thompson give a brief presentation to the County Board on the Economic Importance of Agriculture.
10. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Sweeney moved to adjourn the meeting and motion was seconded by Supervisor Arnold. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Randy Thompson, Office Chair