

MINUTES
ROCK COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 13, 2011
Craig Center – Rock County 4-H Fairgrounds
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 7:15p.m.
Committee members present: Supervisors Bostwick, Supervisor Sweeney, Supervisor Combs and Supervisor Wiedenfeld.
Committee members absent: Supervisor Arnold.
Others present: Randy Thompson, Department Head; Sue Fredrich, 4-H Program Advisor; Bob Arndt, Fair Association President and Jon Quinn, Fair Board Member.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda as printed was made by Supervisor Combs and seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.
3. **Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** None.
4. **Tour of Fairgrounds:** Thompson led the committee for a walking tour of the Fairgrounds. Thompson discussed the numerous improvements completed during 2011 including: replacement of below ground water system, swine barn improvements, drainage system improvements, beef barn electrical update, and expansion of the beef barn wash rack. The improvements to the Beef Barn electrical project was cost shared between the Rock County Beef Producers and the Fair Association. (Total cost \$21,000). The Swine Barn improvements included the replacement of pens which was cost shared by the Rock County Pork Producers and the Fair Association (Total cost \$45,000). Thompson thanked the Fair Association and producer groups for their support. These projects would not have been possible without support of these organizations.

Committee members expressed their appreciation to Bob Arndt for the Fair Association's commitment to partnering with the County to maintain the Fairgrounds.
5. **Extension Bills, Transfers and Encumbrances:** Randy Thompson presented the Extension bills. A motion to approve the bills as presented was made by Supervisor Combs and seconded by Supervisor Sweeney.
6. **4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts:** Bob Arndt updated the committee on final preparations for the 2011 Rock County 4-H Fair. Thompson reported that there were no contracts for committee approval.

7. **Agent Report:** Sue Fredrich, 4-H Program Advisor.
Fredrich provided an update on 4-H Program activities and preparations for the Rock County 4-H Fair. Thompson indicated that this would likely be Fredrich's last formal report to the committee. Fredrich has announced her retirement effective December 31, 2011. Thompson expressed his appreciation for her hard work and efforts to make the Rock County 4-H Program the largest country program in the state.
8. **Fall District WACEC Meeting** - No information available.
9. **Department Update:** Thompson reported that Cristina Parente started July 1st as the .4 FTE backfill for Angela Flickinger, Family Living Educator. Flickinger began her .6 FTE appointment on July 1st. Cristina Parente will be focusing her educational programs in the area of family financial management and parenting education. Thompson reported that he has had preliminary discussions with Administrator Knutson relating to the future Fairgrounds administrative responsibilities. Further discussions will be included in the 2012 budget discussions. Thompson communicated the Ag Committee desires that the Fairgrounds operation remains under its authority.
10. **Comments from the Committee:**
11. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Wiedenfeld, second by Supervisor Combs. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Thompson
Department Head