



Minutes - April 1, 2026

Call to Order: Supervisor Wilson called the hybrid Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Program Exploratory Committee to order at 4:30 pm.

Roll Call: Committee Members Present: Supervisor Wilson, Supervisor Sutterlin, Mark Dykstra, Max Olson

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Towns, Mary Gut, Julie Grandeffo

Staff Members Present: Brad Meier

Others Present: None

Approve Agenda: Supervisor Sutterlin moved approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Max Olson. ADOPTED

Approval of Minutes:

March 4, 2026, Ad Hoc Youth in Governance Exploratory Committee Meeting Minutes:

Supervisor Sutterlin moved approval of the March 4, 2026 Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Program Exploratory Committee minutes, seconded by Mark Dykstra. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Review, Discussion and Possible Action revising and/or refining Youth in Governance calendar:

Supervisor Wilson shared that not much has changed on the calendar. Supervisor Wilson also talked about his conversation with Rock County Administrator Light about the current committee being in place until June 2026 to provide some committee member crossover while getting the new committee in place.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Potential Mentors for 2026 - 2027: Supervisor Wilson talked through the potential pool of candidates, as shown in the agenda packet, who have committed to being a mentor in the upcoming Youth in Governance program year. As of now, there are seven committed potential supervisor mentors running unopposed in the upcoming election, and a majority of them have already been mentors, so the program has a good starting place going into the elections. Supervisor Wilson added that a general announcement was shared with the whole county board, letting them know that the program is looking for mentors.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Youth in Governance Committee Assignments:

Supervisor Wilson said he's sent letters out to the participants confirming their appointment to the program and an email to the parents or guardians, asking for them to sign the permission/release forms and reply with their preferred methods of communication. All but one have responded, and Supervisor Wilson has reached out to the guidance counselor to follow up with the parents to find out why the committee hasn't heard back. Supervisor Wilson provided a list of participants and committee choices, as found in the agenda packet, then the committee discussed various criteria to consider and different ways to go about assigning the participants to the committees and mentors. Supervisor Wilson pointed out that the YIG program committee won't be able to assign anything until late April, once the supervisors are assigned to the committees.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on 2026-2027 Orientation and Materials: The committee reviewed plans for an upcoming orientation session on May 16th, including gathering materials and organizing the icebreaker and the quiz and the breakout sessions. Supervisor Wilson said he'd follow up with Mary Gut about the quiz software access. Supervisor Wilson confirmed that Rock County Administrator Light will be available for the May 16 Youth in Governance Orientation, including the swearing-in of the candidates, and that the event will be held at the DWRC building. Supervisor Wilson also talked about the participant's 'swag bag' contents, thanks to the Human Resources department, which will also include a copy of the US Constitution, some documents from Wisconsin Counties Association, and the State Blue Book. The group also discussed the importance of including efforts during the year to help foster relationships between both the youth representatives and youth representatives and mentors throughout the year. Conversation included a suggestion to plan a social activity to help the program participants get to know each other better.

Discussion and Possible Action on Requests for additional resources needed and next steps: This item was not discussed.

Determination of Next Meeting Date and Time - tentatively Wednesday, May 6, 2026 - 4:30pm:

The committee agreed that the next meeting would be at 4:30pm, Wednesday, May 6, 2026.

Adjournment: Max Olson moved to adjourn at 5:25 pm, seconded by Supervisor Sutterlin. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Name of person who took the Minutes: Brad Meier

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