



Minutes - June 10, 2026

Call to Order: Temporary Chair Bostwick called the hybrid Agriculture & Extension Education Committee to order at 7:15 pm.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Bostwick, Cantwell, O'Leary, and Welch.

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Schneider

Staff Members Present: Chrissy Wen, Brad Meier, Shana Leith, Brent Sutherland, Terry Carlson

Others Present: none

Election of Chair: Supervisor O'Leary nominated Supervisor Bostwick for Agriculture & Education Committee Chair. Supervisor Bostwick accepted the nomination. Supervisor Bostwick was elected to Agriculture & Education Committee Chair by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Vice Chair: Supervisor Bostwick nominated Supervisor Schneider for Agriculture & Education Committee Vice Chair. Supervisor Schneider accepted the nomination. Supervisor Schneider was elected to Agriculture & Education Committee Vice Chair by unanimous voice vote.

Adopt Agenda: Supervisor Welch moved approval of the updated June 10, 2026 agenda that strikes items 7f and 8g from the agenda, seconded by Supervisor O'Leary. Discussion ensued and included the removal of items 7f. Discussion and Possible Action on Drainage Board Vacancies and 8g. Friend of the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association Award

ADOPTED

Approval of Minutes:

April 8, 2026, Ag & Extension Committee Minutes: Supervisor O'Leary moved approval of the April 8, 2026 Ag and Extension minutes, seconded by Supervisor Welch. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Supervisor Bostwick welcomed the new committee members to the Ag & Extension Education Committee. Everyone introduced themselves to the committee.

Division of Extension::

Overview of the Division of Extension - Chrissy Wen, Area Director: Chrissy introduced herself to

the committee and provided a brief overview of Extension, Extension's role within the University of Wisconsin, her role as Area Director and the connection between each Extension office and Rock County. Chrissy, added an overview of the Division of Extension's Extension mission, community outreach, educational programs, regional educator model and state programming, and also highlighted how their work aligns with the county's strategic plan.

Review April/May Payments: Payments were reviewed.

Program Report: Shana Leith, FoodWise Program Administrator:

Shana Leith, the Foodwise program administrator, provided an overview of the various nutrition education programs offered to youth and adults in Rock County, including several 6 to 7 week series' on Eating Smart Being Active, Around the Table: Nourishing Families, and Walk with FoodWise programs. Shana also explained that the FoodWise program is funded by FNEP.

Monthly Impact Report: Chrissy introduced the April and May county reports, highlighting each program and their recent or upcoming programming efforts. Chrissy encouraged and invited all committee members to come see what the educators are doing in the community first-hand.

PYD Position Update: Chrissy shared that Brandon Springer has accepted the Positive Youth Development position, focusing on college and career readiness, and 4-H support, with a tentative start date of June 22.

Discussion and Possible Action on Drainage Board Vacancies: The item was removed from the agenda and will be added to the July 8, 2026 agenda.

Fairgrounds::

Review of April/May Payments: Brent walked through the report, highlighting the income on building and cell tower rental contracts, wages and the Alliant Energy entries that are related to the meters that are located throughout the fairgrounds and buildings. Brent also went on to explain the Facilities Management department's role with the fairgrounds building and grounds maintenance.

Approval of April/May Contracts: Supervisor Welch moved approval of the April and May Contracts, seconded by Supervisor Cantwell. APPROVED
Brent talked through the content of the report, rental waiving procedures, county rental contracts and policies and the committee's responsibility to approve all contracts.

Review of Yearly Contracts: Brent talked through the content of the report, highlighting the annual historical data that shows the overall total and paid rental contracts, contracts with rental fees waived and rental income. Brent also added that the county recently signed a 5-year contract with the Fair Board for the Rock County Fair event. Brent also shared the efforts by the committee and the Facilities department to be a good neighbor to the families that border the fairgrounds, by both monitoring and minimizing the noise from the events and renters of the fairgrounds.

Rental Fee Waiver Request — City of Janesville: Supervisor O'Leary moved approval of the waiving of rental fees for the City of Janesville to use the Craig Center as a temporary polling place, seconded by Supervisor Welch. The committee discussed the merits of the request. APPROVED

Policy Updates: Supervisor Cantwell moved approval of the Rental Policy Updates as presented, seconded by Supervisor Welch. Brent walked through each of the changes, the committee discussed the changes and the merits of the updates. APPROVED

Urban Forestry Tree Planting: Supervisor Bostwick shared with the committee about the tree planting effort that the JUFA (Janesville Urban Forest Alliance) group provided for the Rock County Fairgrounds. He explained that the fairgrounds had lost quite a few trees over the last several years, so the group decided to volunteer their Arbor Day to donate and plant several new trees, strategically around the fairground's property.

Friends of the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association Award: The item was removed from the agenda and will be added to the July 8, 2026 agenda.

Fair Board Report: Brent reported that the Fair Board and the County will be partnering to share the development costs on a larger, handicapped accessible bathroom in the Northeast corner of the grounds. The engineers are currently working on the design work for the project.

Comments from the Committee: Brent provided some county historical perspective and talked about the County's Master Plan, the smaller Fairgrounds Master Plan, city building policies, and some of the recent work done to upgrade and improve the fairgrounds.

The committee also discussed holding a future committee meeting at the Craig Center to provide a hands-on tour of the fairgrounds for the new committee members.

Set Next Meeting Date : The committee agreed that the next meeting will be July 8, 2026 at 7:15 pm at the UW Extension office.

Adjournment: Supervisor Welch moved to adjourn at 9:00 pm, seconded by Supervisor Cantwell. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Name of person who took the Minutes: Brad Meier

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.