



Minutes - July 1, 2026

Call to Order: Supervisor Bostwick called the Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Committee to order at 5:04 pm.

Roll Call: Committee Members Present: Supervisor Bostwick, Supervisor Schneider, Supervisor Woodman, Bill Wilson, Mark Dykstra, Max Olson

Committee Members Absent: Mary Gut

Staff Members Present: Brad Meier, Brandon Springer, Hailey Wagner

Others Present: Supervisor Mark Boszien

Approve Agenda: Mark Dykstra moved approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Woodman. ADOPTED

Approval of Minutes:

Meeting June 3, 2026, Ad Hoc Youth in Governance Program Committee Meeting Minutes: Max Olson moved approval of the June 3, 2026 Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Program Exploratory Committee minutes, seconded by Supervisor Woodman. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Supervisor Woodman asked Max Olson if he'd share a little bit with the committee about his successes this past week at the Badger Boys State in Eau Claire. Max explained that from June 14th through June 20th, he attended the Badger Boys State provided by the American Legion. He ran for State Senate and was elected to the State Senate. Then ran for Senate President, and got elected Senate President. Then proceeded to run for Lieutenant Governor, coming in third. Max said it was a great experience and is looking forward to potentially counseling at Badger Boys State in the future. The committee congratulated Max on his success.

Supervisor Bostwick apologized for being a few minutes late to the meeting.

Update on Youth Representative Committee Assignments:

Mentor and Mentee Assignments: Supervisor Bostwick asked the committee to review the table of Youth in Governance program representatives, committee assignments and mentors provided in the agenda packet. The committee brief discussed the list of participants, committees and mentor associations.

Update on Mentor and Mentee Assignments: Bill Wilson reiterated that all 10 students have mentors and committee assignments, based upon their interests, and many have already begun attending committee meetings. The expectation is that all mentor supervisors have connected with their assigned students. Bill also mentioned that he would be contacting the students to make them aware of the upcoming Joint Finance and County Board Staff meetings.

Update on UW-Extension – Rock County Positive Youth Development Educator: Supervisor Bostwick shared that Brandon Springer is the newly hired Positive Youth Development Educator, and invited Brandon to introduce himself to the committee. Brandon shared his experience at Green Lake Extension as 4-H Educator, working with youth, and his 4-H camp experience. He also shared that he has a Political Science degree, has a passion for politics, enjoys it and is excited about being part of the Rock County Youth in Governance program and working with the youth. The committee welcomed Brandon to the committee and Rock County Extension.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Discussion and Possible Action on YIG calendar: Supervisor Bostwick introduced the YIG calendar, located in the packet, explaining that the calendar is an ongoing, working document of YIG events and action items of note throughout the program year. Rich pointed out that the next meeting on the calendar would be September 2, 2026. Bill Wilson added that the August meeting wouldn't be necessary as the program student and mentor participants should have been in communication and the students should be attending their appointed committee meetings. Committee discussion ensued and Supervisor Bostwick confirmed that the committee will continue to meet the first Wednesday of the month, but will now meet at 5:00pm.

Bill Wilson also added that he's delighted that the PYD position has been filled and recently met with Brandon Springer and has passed on several program-related documents to Brandon and is encouraged that the committee is in a good place going forward.

Discussion and Possible Action on 2026-2027 YIG Field Trip: Supervisor Bostwick pointed out the program field trip is tentatively scheduled for sometime in February 2027. Bill Wilson added that any new legislators should be in place after the elections and perhaps the field trip participants will have an opportunity to make connections at that time. Bill added, that since the YIG program was set up as an ongoing program, he's hopeful, and expects that the funding for the program will be in place for the orientation event and the field trip transportation and lunch, similarly to the YIG program budget that is currently in place in the County Administrator's budget. Mark Dykstra added that the three major veteran service organizations will be present, some time in February as well. Bill Wilson also added that the Wisconsin Counties Association should be there too, along with a variety of citizens and organizations.

Discussion and Possible Action on Requests for Additional Resources Needed and Next Steps: Bill Wilson shared that the WCA has reached out to Rock County Administrator Light, asking if Rock County would like to submit an article to the WCA Magazine. Hailey Wagner, the Rock County Administrator Assistant, will be putting together the article with the assistance of the committee. Hailey shared her excitement about being involved in pulling this article together and spoke of the value in highlighting all the student participants, including Max Olson's participation in the program

and the committee.

Supervisor Schneider asked if the committee needed to talk about financial resources for the future. Bill Wilson pointed out the committee hasn't secured any donations for gas cards to offer to the students to help with transportation costs to and from committee meetings for this program year. The committee discussed contacting previous and potential donors and working towards being able to offer the gas cards to this year's participants. Committee discussion included determining possible donor contacts and whether the committee or the program participants should be involved with fundraising efforts. The committee agreed to continue to talk about formalizing and organizing the fundraising efforts and be sure to add it to future agendas. The committee discussed briefly and agreed that the Supervisors would not be offering transportation to the students. The committee also agreed to encourage the mentors to ask the students if transportation costs are a challenge, and to share any of that information with the committee for gas card consideration.

Determination of Next Meeting Date and Time – tentatively Wednesday, September 2, 2026

(Note that an August meeting is not anticipated): The committee agreed that the next meeting will be Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 5:00pm.

Adjournment: Max Olson moved to adjourn at 5:42 pm, seconded by Supervisor Woodman. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Name of person who took the Minutes: Brad Meier

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