



Minutes - June 12, 2024

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

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Bostwick, Towns, Ringhand, Schneider and Whitledge.

Committee Members Absent: none

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

Others Present: Ryan George, Sheila Williams, Max Olson, Sue Ryan, Mike Schwarz

Adopt Agenda: Supervisor Whitledge moved approval of the agenda of June 12, 2024, seconded by Supervisor Towns. ADOPTED

Approval of Minutes:

2024-05-08 Ag & Extension Committee Minutes: Supervisor Schneider moved approval of the May 8, 2024 Ag and Extension minutes, seconded by Supervisor Whitledge. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:

Division of Extension::

Review of Payments: May Payments were reviewed

Extension Introduction: Chrissy introduced herself to the committee and provided a brief overview of Extension, Extension's role within the University of Wisconsin and the connection between each Extension office and each county in Wisconsin. Topics discussed included Extension mission, community outreach, the state-wide programming that's available to all Wisconsin communities and the county funding and federal funding that support the Rock County Extension office community programming.

Division of Extension - County Partnership Guidance: Chrissy shared the working version, including proposed changes, to the Division of Extension - County Partnership Guidance document. Chrissy is sharing this document with the committee for feedback and suggestions. The guidelines, which are a separate document from the contract, are scheduled to go into effect July 1, 2024. The committee had a brief discussion and agreed to contact Chrissy with any feedback.

Program Report: Shana Leith, FoodWise Program Administrator: Administrator for the FoodWise program in Rock County. Shana also described the mission of the FoodWise program and explained that at least 50% of the student body needs to be eligible for free or reduced-cost meals for that school to be eligible for FoodWise programming. Shana also provided an overview of the dozens of Rock County partners throughout the county, with whom FoodWise provides programming.

Monthly Impact Report: Chrissy introduced the monthly report and explained how the report is a combination of activities provided by each of the Extension educators that are summarized each month into the report to provide transparency and access to the programming efforts. Chrissy pointed out each of the program areas and encouraged the committee to read the included testimonials from the partners and people we work with.

Extending the Deadline for the Report of the Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance

Program Exploratory Committee: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors that the Ad-Hoc Youth in Governance Exploratory Committee shall report back to Board of Supervisors with its recommendations no later than October 1, 2024.

Supervisor Whitledge moved with approval of the above resolution, seconded by Supervisor Towns. Supervisor Towns explained the resolution and the reason for the deadline extension, which was followed by a brief committee discussion. Motion PASSED unanimously by all present committee members.

Fairgrounds::

Review of May Payments: Brent explained the content of the report for the committee. The May payments were reviewed.

Approval of May Contracts: Supervisor Schneider moved approval of the May Contracts, seconded by Whitledge. Brent explained the content of the report, followed by a committee conversation. APPROVED

Approval of Alcohol Allowance: Supervisor Towns moved approval of the Alcohol Allowance, seconded by Supervisor Whitledge. Brent explained the report content and that according to ordinance, all alcohol allowance requests that have been submitted along with a fairground rental must be approved by the Ag & Ext Committee. The Alcohol Allowance allows alcohol to be on the grounds during the event/rental period. If the event is selling alcohol, they need to go to the city of Janesville for a permit to sell. This will be a monthly report that will record each alcohol request and the allowance approval date. APPROVED

Review of Year to Date Contracts: Year to Date contracts were reviewed.

Rental Fee Waiver Request - Project 16:49 : Supervisor Towns moved approval of the waiving of rental fees for Project 16:49, seconded by Supervisor Schneider. The committee discussed the merits of the request. APPROVED

Rental Fee Waiver Request - Beef Producers: Supervisor Towns moved approval of the waiving of rental fees for Beef Producers, seconded by Supervisor Schneider. The committee discussed the merits of the request. APPROVED

Rental Fee Waiver Request-AG Business Council/ Farm Bureau: Supervisor Whitledge moved approval of the waiving of rental fees for AG Business Council / Farm Bureau, seconded by Supervisor Schneider. The committee discussed the merits of the request. APPROVED

Alliant Easement Request: Brent explained that easements are approved by the General Services Committee but because this easement affects the Fairgrounds, he wanted to share his concerns about the original easement contract and the specific changes he requested to the original contract with the Ag & Extension committee.

Next Steps Approval on Noise Complaints with Neighbors: Brent Sutherland provided a list of next step options. To get it on the table, Supervisor Whitledge moved to approve taking action on the next steps to avoid noise complaints with neighbors, seconded by Supervisor Towns. Brent explained the history of county efforts towards minimizing the noise problems. The Committee discussed the known challenges, event time frame, trespassing on other fairground buildings, noise volume, security and enforcement options.

Supervisor Whitledge moved to change the Fairgrounds rental agreement for alcohol allowance from \$100 to \$250 to cover the cost to have security personnel at any event that has alcohol. seconded by Supervisor Towns. APPROVED

Fair Board Report: Ryan welcomed all the new committee members, introduced himself and provided an overview of the role of the Rock County Fair Association. Ryan went on to add that the preparation for the upcoming fair is going well, Includes a lot of hard work to beautify the grounds and looking forward to having an excellent fair this year. Ryan also invited all county board members to come to the fair office for their free week-long fair pass and encouraged them to come visit the fair.

Comments from the Committee: None.

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

Name of person who took the Minutes: Brad Meier

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.