



Minutes - October 1, 2025

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, Supervisor Towns, Mark Dykstra, Max Olson, Mary Gut

Committee Members Absent: Julie Grandeffo

Staff Members Present: Brad Meier

Others Present:

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

Approval of Minutes:

September 3, 2025, Ad Hoc Youth in Governance Exploratory Committee Meeting Minutes:

Mark Dykstra moved approval of the September 3, 2025 Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Program Exploratory Committee minutes, seconded by Mary Gut. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Update on Pilot Project Progress to Date: Supervisor Wilson shared that the County Administrator had included a budget for the YIG program for \$5,315, \$315 more than requested. Supervisor Wilson said that there will be a couple of additions to the appendix. Supervisor Wilson explained that he anticipates the process to be as follows; report to be given to the County Board October 9th; the resolution will go to a committee appointed by the County Board Chair; voted on; then to the October 23 County Board meeting for final approval.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Review, Discussion and Possible Action revising and/or refining Pilot Project calendar:

Supervisor Wilson said he's updated the calendar to include a possible State Capitol field trip in November or December. Another change includes adjusting the recruitment timeframe to now start in November 2025 and run through January 2026.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Recommendations to County Board Regarding the

Future of Youth in Governance Program: Mark Dykstra moved approval of the Recommendations as discussed to the County Board Regarding the Future of Youth in Governance Program, seconded by Supervisor Towns.

The committee reviewed the provided recommendation document and discussion ensued.

Recommendation topics include: budget for the Youth in Governance committee that would be approximately \$5,000; meeting frequency should be every other month and more frequently November through April; if possible, including at least one student on the Youth in Governance committee from the previous year's Youth in Governance program.

ADOPTED.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Draft Resolution for Continuation of Youth in

Governance Program: Supervisor Sutterlin moved approval of the Draft Resolution as provided to include the wording change from "not to exceed" to "should be approximately" \$5,000 per year for Continuation of Youth in Governance Program, seconded by Mary Gut.

The committee reviewed the provided draft resolution document and discussion ensued.

Recommendation topics include: Resolution sponsorship by Supervisors Towns and Sutterlin; changing the wording on line 30 of the resolution to match the wording of the report to read 'that funding "should be approximately" \$5,000 per year...';

ADOPTED

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on a Field Trip to the Wisconsin Capitol: The committee discussed the opportunity to include a field trip for the Youth in Governance program participants to the Wisconsin Capitol, which would be helped by the Wisconsin Counties Association. The association is asking that the committee provide some possible dates of the trip for planning purposes from November 2025 through January 2026. The committee discussed the merits and some relevant details of the opportunity and Supervisor Wilson said he'd send out a doodle poll/survey to all the program participants to narrow down some date options that work with most of the youth candidates, if not all are able to attend the same date.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on 2026-2027 YIG Recruitment Process and Materials:

Supervisor Wilson handed out last year's Program Application form for the committee to review and discuss any registration process or form changes. The committee discussed many topics for possible changes to the 2025–26 application form/process for the new 2026-27 class of Youth in Governance participants. Topics discussed include: Rock County Supervisor's election in April 2026 and the possible impact on the forms, getting committee assignments, determining participating mentors, orientation date and the program overall; participant attendance at the County Board organizational meeting; the number of program participants; whether to allow program participants to apply and participate another year; UW Extension's role with the Youth in Governance program needs to be determined, how will submissions and website updates be handled, etc.; and how to ensure a wider geographical representation of the county in future year programs. The committee also talked about alternative ways to make the community aware of the program, including CareerTech, Rock Internship, other county contacts and career development organizations. The committee agreed to each review the form and come back to the November meeting with any changes and suggestions for deadlines.

Discussion and Possible Action on Requests for additional resources needed and next steps:

There was no discussion about this item.

Determination of Next Meeting Date and Time – tentatively Wednesday, November 5, 2025 – 4:30 PM: The committee agreed that the next meeting will be at 4:30pm, Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

Adjournment: Max Olson moved to adjourn at 5:30 pm, seconded by Supervisor Sutterlin.
ADOPTED by acclamation.

Name of person who took the minutes: Brad Meier

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