



## **Minutes - January 6, 2026**

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Cullen called the hybrid Environmental Management Systems Committee meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. in the Courthouse Conference Rooms N1/N2, 5th Floor.

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisor Sutterlin, Cullen, and Gorman; Citizen Representative Jim Farrell

**Committee Members Absent:**

**Staff Members Present:** Brent Sutherland, Facilities Management Director; Mike Parille, Assistant Director of Facilities Management; Paul King, Conservation Specialist II; Andrea Wolf, Administrative Professional III.

**Others Present:**

**Approve Agenda:** Supervisor Gorman moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Sutterlin. ADOPTED.

**Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**November 4, 2025 Minutes:** Supervisor Sutterlin moved to approve November 4, 2025, minutes, second by Supervisor Gorman. ADOPTED.

**Review, Discussion and Possible Action:**

**Green Tier Legacy Community (GTLC) Changes:** Brent discussed updates on the Green Tier Legacy community, noting a single point of contact, Camille, was appointed for the city of Janesville, the city of Beloit, and Rock County to facilitate better coordination and collaboration. Brent explained the benefits of networking, sharing projects, and accessing grant opportunities, with a focus on sustainability initiatives beyond solar and wind energy. While grant emails have slowed due to administrative challenges, the county remains prepared to apply for opportunities. The committee discussed updating scorecards by March, acknowledging the time-intensive process and challenges with the software platform. They reviewed the value and time spent on the program, with an estimate of 8 hours spent on data input.

**2026 Alliant Renewable Energy Impact Partner Program:** Brent discussed a potential partnership with Alliant to install a solar field dedicated to the organization, which would increase utility costs by

approximately \$70,000 but allow for the purchase of 100% renewable energy. The project would be similar to the community solar program, where Alliant would handle installation and maintenance, but differs by having the solar project solely dedicated to the organization's use. If approved by the Public Service Commission, the group discussed the possibility of offsetting costs by exploring options such as installing the solar panels on their own rooftop or land, similar to the customer-hosted solar program previously implemented at Rockhaven.

**Sustainability Updates on Rock Haven and DWRC Retention Ponds:** Paul from Land Conservation gave updates regarding facility-owned lands and sustainability efforts. Paul discussed the Rock Haven stormwater basin, which was transformed into a monarch restoration site while meeting Janesville's stormwater requirements. Plans were outlined for future management of the basin and a nearby ditch area, including the removal of willows and the planting of native species. Updates were also provided on the DWCR trails, which received invasive species removal and will have 100 new trees planted as part of a pollinator-friendly initiative. The group discussed the importance of diversifying tree species to prevent future issues like the ash borer infestation.

**Director/Staff Reports:** The Committee discussed expanding their reach across county departments and introducing environmental considerations into daily operations. The committee decided to use the scorecard data as a foundation and planned to invite department representatives to their next meeting to discuss the scorecard implementation.

**Next meeting date and time-February 3, 2026, 10:00 AM:**

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Gorman moved adjournment at 10:45 AM, second by Supervisor Sutterlin. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wolf  
Executive Assistant, Facilities Management

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.