



Minutes - February 4, 2026

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

Committee Members Absent: Mary Gut, Julie Grandeffo

Staff Members Present: Brad Meier

Others Present: (virtual attendee, name not captured)

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

Approval of Minutes:

January 7, 2025, Ad Hoc Youth in Governance Exploratory Committee Meeting Minutes::

Supervisor Sutterlin moved approval of the January 7, 2026 Ad-Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Program Exploratory Committee minutes, seconded by Mark Dykstra. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Review, Discussion and Possible Action revising and/or refining Youth in Governance Calendar:

Supervisor Wilson noted that the calendar included in the agenda packet has been updated, except for the necessary changes to the Madison Capitol Trip date, that has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2026.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on 2026-2027 YIG Recruitment Process and Progress to

Date: Supervisor Wilson provided an overview of the recruiting efforts to date, confirming that there have been three rounds of communications out to the local schools, charter schools, private schools, and home school associations. Supervisor Wilson shared that he's directly received several inquiries of interest from potential applicants throughout Rock County and the online form has had one completed application and several incomplete entries. Supervisor Wilson said he will attempt to reach out to the applicants with incomplete forms to answer any questions. Supervisor Wilson also shared that he plans to review the applications for completeness and ultimately redact the applications prior to committee

review. Committee discussion continued to include topics such as additional media options the committee could use to promote the program and recruit applicants.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Field Trip to the Wisconsin Capitol: Supervisor Wilson explained that despite some challenges along the way, they landed on February 12, 2026 for the date of the Wisconsin Capitol field trip. Committee discussion included topics such as the help from Senator Spreitzer's office to arrange for a couple of rooms to use, confirmation of 4 of the 5 students will be able to attend, and mentors will be invited to attend the trip. A rough trip agenda was discussed to include the following details: departure from Janesville at 8:30a, Capitol tour at 10a, 11am meeting with Senator Spreitzer, possibly attending the assembly meeting, box lunch followed by a presentation by the Wisconsin Counties Association, with plans to be back in Janesville by 3-3:30.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on 2026-2027 Orientation and Materials: Supervisor Wilson provided a handout of last year's orientation paperwork, in addition to the items in the packet. The committee reviewed the handout and the attachments on the agenda, and the topics included: the County Administrator's swearing in of the new program participants, the welcome binder content, the orientation agenda topics and activities, overall program management of communications between the committee and the program participants, making sure the county staff understands the program youth participant's role and involvement at the committee meetings, and the efforts being made to recruit returning supervisors to the program. Supervisor Wilson invited the committee to review the orientation information from last year and come to the next committee meeting prepared to discuss the upcoming orientation and any suggestions regarding the orientation activities, events, or paperwork. Supervisor Wilson added that the next meeting will be involved, as he expects to have the program applications redacted and ready for the committee to review.

Discussion and Possible Action on Requests for additional resources needed and next steps: Supervisor Wilson asked if anyone needed a copy of any of the packet documents, to let him know.

Determination of Next Meeting Date and Time – tentatively Wednesday, March 4, 2026 – 4:30 PM: The committee agreed that the next meeting would be Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 4:30pm.

Adjournment: Supervisor Towns moved to adjourn at 5:22 pm, seconded by Mark Dykstra. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Name of person who took the Minutes: Brad Meier

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.