

Minutes
Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
Wednesday, June 12, 2013
Rm. 250, Rock County Courthouse
Janesville, WI

Unapproved

- 1. Call to Order:** The June 12, 2013 meeting of the Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order by Chair Bostwick at 7:28 p.m.

Committee members present: Supervisors Bostwick, Sweeney and Wiedenfeld.

Committee members absent: Supervisor Arnold.

Staff present: Jim Stute, Sheila De Forest.

Also present: Randy Thompson.

- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve as written by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
- 4. Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** None.
- 5. 4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts:** Stute presented the Fair Association report on behalf of President McConnell. All entertainment and security arrangements have been finalized. Thompson presented the contracts:

August 10, Jim Betz Wedding Reception, Craig Center, \$400 plus \$500 temp. liquor permit
Sept. 29- Oct. 5, American Jersey Cattle Association, Dairy Barns and Stock Pavilion, \$2,600
Oct. 4-7, Janesville Rifle and Pistol Club, Craig Center, \$825
Motion by Wiedenfeld to approve all contracts, second by Sweeney, motion carried.

Thompson discussed upcoming projects and repairs: the electric panel in the Stock Pavilion was replaced; the ceiling of the Sale Arena will be painted; RECAP is sprucing up the grounds and there will be spot blacktop repair. He is holding off on major repairs until the future of SWAG is known. Unspent repair funds carry over into the next year.

- 6. Discussion and Approval, Paint Bid for Fairgrounds Sale Arena:** Three bids were submitted:
Hallman-Lindsey, Janesville, \$9,362.00
E.R. Abernathy, Sussex, \$9,789.20
Grainger, Madison, \$10,254.70
Motion to approve the Hallman-Lindsey bid by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
- 7. Approval of Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Stute reviewed the departmental bills and transfers. Motion to approve by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.

- 8. Educator Report- Sheila De Forest:** WNEP Administrator Sheila De Forest introduced herself to the committee. Since beginning in May, she has been working to learn office function and WNEP administrative procedures. She is also involved in the Farm of School project and discussed her work with the Milton School District and local farmers to provide fresh produce in school lunches.
- 9. Rock County Farm Update:** Stute provided an update on farm activities: excessive rainfall has made it difficult to keep up with mowing and plot work although everything is now planted; the soybean variety trial was planted behind the Highway Department with the cooperation of Badgerland Grain Farms and 5 UW-Madison Graduate students have projects on the farm.
- 10. Department Update:** Stute provided a staffing update: the State 4-H Program Office has provided funding for a 3-year VISTA intern who will start in July; Christy Marsden, Horticulture Educator starts July 1 and the 0.4 FTE Family Living position is in the process of being posted. The annual Department Head budget meeting will be June 14. SWAG is requesting to be put on the July committee agenda.
- 11. Comments from the Committee:** Supervisor Sweeney stated that the committee needs to develop a plan for the fairgrounds if the SWAG effort succeeds and the fair locates on their grounds. Supervisor Wiedenfeld stated that the fairgrounds is a valuable asset to the county, not just UW-Extension because it's centrally located, and is used by multiple departments in addition to the public.
- 12. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Wiedenfeld, second by Sweeney, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Stute