

**Minutes**  
**Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee**  
**Tuesday, October 9, 2012**  
**Rm. 250, Rock County Courthouse**  
**Janesville, WI**

**Unapproved**

1. **Call to Order:** The October 9, 2012 meeting of the Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order by Chair Bostwick at 7:00 p.m.

**Committee members Present:** Supervisors Bostwick, Sweeney and Wiedenfeld.

**Committee members Absent:** Supervisors Arnold and Sanders.

**Staff Present:** Jim Stute, Angie Flickinger and Cristina Parente.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of September 12, 2012 were reviewed. Motion to approve as written by Wiedenfeld, second by Sweeney, motion carried.
4. **Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** None.
5. **SWAG Report:** John Morning provided an update of the Southeast Wisconsin Agricultural Group's (SWAG) efforts to develop a regional agricultural events/ educational center since their last report. They have completed the feasibility study, purchased a site on the eastern edge of Evansville and expect the business plan to be completed within 10 days. They are in conversation with Blackhawk Technical College who has committed to locating educational facilities on the site if the project proceeds. Several corporate sponsors have contributed to the process thus far.
6. **4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts:** None
7. **Approval of Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Stute reviewed the departmental bills. Motion to approve by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried.
8. **Educator Report:** Angie Flickinger and Cristina Parente, Family Living Program. Since May, Flickinger's group has trained more than 240 people in Strong Women locally and 190 statewide in advanced Strong Women and Healthy Hearts. They are also doing Dining with Diabetes locally in English and Spanish. Angie worked with the Rock County Health Department to earn a \$400,000 Transform Wisconsin grant. Her focus on the effort is the Healthy Food System component also known as "Farm to School" which seeks to get locally produced food into schools. This project will partner with local school districts, Blackhawk Technical College, local producers and the Farm Bureau.

Parente discussed Spanish language wellness programming in Rock County which includes Healthy Hearts in Janesville, Beloit and Evansville. Program evaluations indicate that language is a barrier for participation and these offerings are effective in improving quality of life for this population. She has worked with Community Action, Inc. and other community partners to develop financial education programs targeting youth, limited income and senior populations. These groups are target based on needs assessments. The group is looking at developing a coalition as coalitions exist for every issue in Rock County except financial education.

- 9. Approval of 2012-2013 Contract with University of Wisconsin-Extension for UW-Extension Educators Services:** Stute reviewed the contract for FY 2013. Motion to approve by Wiedenfeld, second by Sweeney, motion approved.
- 10. Department Update:** Stute provided a department update: bids for the 2013-2015 cropland lease for the Rock County Farm are due 10/15; County Administration is working on a utility line easement with Aliant Energy for a pole anchor on the farm; the Nutrition Education program will be experiencing some management changes in the future and he will be asking the committee to sponsor a resolution recognizing UW-Extensions Centennial.
- 11. Comments from the Committee:** None
- 12. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Sweeney, second by Wiedenfeld, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James K. Stute