

**MINUTES**  
**ROCK COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, May 13, 2009**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courthouse Conference Center**  
**Rock County Courthouse**  
**JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN**

1. **Call to Order:**

The meeting of the Rock County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order by Chair Richard Bostwick at 7:30 p.m. on May 13, 2009.

**Committee members present:** Supervisors Bostwick, Supervisor Arnold, Supervisor Combs, Supervisor Sweeney, and Supervisor Wiedenfeld.

**Committee members absent:** None

**Others present:** Randy Thompson, Rock County U W Extension Office Chair, Mike Maddox, UW Extension, and Rose Marie Barrette, T-Mobile Representative.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the agenda moving item 10c –Discussion of 4-H Fairground Cell Tower Request to following item 6 – Agent Report. Motion seconded by Supervisor Sweeney. Motion carried.

3. **Approval of Minutes of April 8, 2009:** Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved to approve the minutes as printed and seconded by Supervisor Arnold. Motion carried.

4. **Citizen Participation, Information and Announcements:** Supervisor Sweeney shared a letter from Vicki Elkin, American Farmland Trust. The joint Finance Committee for the State Legislature has recommended the Governor's Proposal for the Working Lands Initiative in the 2009-2011 State Budget. This is good news in regards to Rock County's ongoing efforts to establish a county PACE Program.

5. **Approval of Extension Bills and Transfers:** Randy Thompson reviewed the monthly bills. Supervisor Arnold moved to approve the bills and seconded by Supervisor Combs. Motion carried.

6. **Agent Report:** Mike Maddox, UW Extension Horticulture Educator provided an update on Horticulture Educational Programming. The Rock County Master Gardeners contribute over 8,000 hours for volunteer community service projects including expansion of County Community Garden Programs, RECAP Garden Programs, Consumer Horticulture Diagnostics Services and Rotary Botanical Gardens. A new initiative this year is the WIC and Senior Mobile Market Produce from the RECAP garden at the County Farm will be delivered to area WIC offices and Senior Centers to provide greater access for families utilizing Farm Market vouchers.

7. **Discussion of 4-H Fairgrounds Cell Tower Request:** Rose Marie Barrette, representing T-Mobile Central, LLC. presented site plans and information for the request to install a Monopole wireless communication tower at the 4-H Fairgrounds. The proposed tower would be 90 ft and be similar to the existing

tower constructed by Global Tower. T-Mobile would utilize 2 of the 3 co-locator sites. The proposed site is west of the existing light pole and would include dust to dawn lights. The committee had numerous questions concerning the height, diameter of the monopole and fencing proposed around the service area footprint.

Thompson indicated that a public meeting open to the general public and fair-grounds neighbors will be held in June prior to T-Mobile moving forward with the request to the City. The Committee and county would not take any action until the proposal had been approved by the City and Planning Commission.

8. **Discussion of State WACEC Conference:** The statewide WACEC Conference will be held on June 15-16, 2009 in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Supervisor Wiedenfeld and Supervisor Arnold have indicated their interest in attending to represent Rock County. Thompson will make the appropriate reservations.
9. **Information on the 2010 Alice In Dairyland Event:** Rock County has been selected to host the 2010 Alice In Dairyland Finals. The three day event will be held in May 2010. The Rock County Ag Business Council is providing the leadership. To date, the Council has raised \$20,000 for the event. This will be an excellent opportunity to showcase Rock County Agriculture.
10. **County Farm House Demolition:** Thompson reported that an environmental assessment will be conducted on the old Farm Manager's house in the next few weeks. Any hazardous material will be removed prior to the house being used by the Janesville Fire Department for a burn training exercise. Utilities have been disconnected. The house will be prepared for the controlled burn later this summer.
11. **4-H Fairgrounds Maintenance and Contracts:**
  - A. Approval of Fairgrounds Contracts: Wisconsin Distribution, Sun Prairie, WI would like to rent the Fairgrounds Multipurpose Barn to house the Budweiser Clydesdales during their appearance at Airfest. The horses would arrive on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and leave on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Wisconsin Distribution would be responsible for all expenses and overnight security (proposed fee \$2,400.) A motion to approve the contract for \$2,400 was made by Supervisor Sweeney and seconded by Supervisor Combs. Motion carried.
  - B. Approval of Paul George Memorial Project: A memorial in honor of Paul George is being proposed on the north side of the stock pavilion. The memorial will consist a plaque, benches and landscaping. The memorial will be paid by private contributions and the George Family. A motion to approve the memorial project was made by Supervisor Arnold and seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.
12. **Comments from the Committee – None.**
13. **Adjourn:** There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Combs and seconded by Supervisor Arnold. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Randy Thompson, Office Chair