



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**UW EDUCATION, EXTENSION & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2025**

A. Call to Order

Members Present: Steve Binder, Amber Lyn Gilbertson, Walt Ulbricht, and Tim Macho. Doug Zellmer was absent.

Extension Winnebago County Staff Present: Jayna Hintz, Dana Berger, Kevin Jarek, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: Jessica Wisneski (via Zoom).

Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Binder.

B. Comments from the Public Related to Items on the Agenda/Requests to Add Items to the Next Agenda

None.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. July 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Macho, seconded by Gilbertson to approve the July 16, 2025 meeting minutes.

Passed. Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0.

D. Committee Chair's Report

Binder shared his impressions of the 2025 Winnebago County Fair and 4-H activities there.

E. Reports and Updates

1. Safety Share

Binder called attention to increasing awareness and driving safely as school resumes.

2. UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates

- July 2025 Extension Winnebago County Review

Committee members commended the review and newsletter.

- 4-H Youth Development - Dana Berger

Berger reviewed the Winnebago County 4-H MAP 2025-2026, Plan of Work for Youth Experiential Learning 2025, and Plan of Work 2026 for Youth Empowerment. Berger is also mentoring a new 4-H Educator in Sheboygan county. Arianna Buehring has been executing a variety of programs/workshops in her summer Program Assistant position. Meghan Numrich has been executing a variety of programs/workshops in her summer AmeriCorps position.

Review Winnebago County 4-H Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/4hwinnebagocounty/>

Berger showed and encouraged everyone to follow the Winnebago County 4-H page.

- Agriculture: Crops & Soils - Kevin Jarek

Jarek distributed a flyer for the Field Day scheduled for August 21. He shared the PowerPoint presentation, Extension Education Committee Report Winnebago 8-20-25, reviewing crop and weather trends, outcomes, and predictions for this year. UW monitors crop pests and damage and shares that information with farmers. Jarek will be working with farmers on economics/budgeting in the fall. He is head of the World Forage Analysis Super Bowl. Discussion ensued regarding recommendations for the Winnebago County Park flowering arch.

August 2025 Field Day

Winnebago County Education Committee PowerPoint

3. UW Division of Extension Department Administrative Report

- James P. Coughlin Center Facility Updates

JPCC meeting room policies are being updated, pending feedback from the Department of Administration. Technology updates for meeting rooms have been transferred to I.S. and are awaiting proposals. Updating the A/B room dividing wall has been transferred to facilities.

- Extension Winnebago County Staff & Department Updates

Updates to JPCC technology and the dividing wall are not included in our budget request due to them being the fiscal responsibility of other departments. Extension had their budget meeting with the County Executive's team on August 18.

- UW-Madison Division of Extension Area/Region/State Updates

UW-Madison requested all academic divisions complete a 5% base budget reduction. As a result, Innovation Grants and the All-Colleague Conference have been canceled, and hiring and travel have been reduced for short-term reductions. A long-term plan is being developed; more details will be shared by January 1. Discussion ensued regarding adding funding for nutrition education after the FoodWise positions are phased out.

4. Announcing Upcoming Extension Events at County Board Meeting Discussion
None discussed.

F. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. UWO Fox Cities Closure Updates/Discussion

Ulbricht shared that a property condition report will be available soon to show property condition, maintenance/repairs needed, estimated costs, and prioritization. The childcare center is now operated by the Menasha School District. Executive Hintz is hiring a team to manage leases and activities at the campus after the building assessment is complete. The Barlow Planetarium is seeking a 501(c)(3) to start fundraising for their own updates.

G. Communications Shared by Committee Members

None.

H. Next Meeting Date

1. September 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Confirmed.

I. Adjourn

Binder entertained a motion to adjourn at 10:32 a.m.; seconded by Ulbricht. Passed. Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0.

[MIN_FOOT]