



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**UW EDUCATION, EXTENSION & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025**

A. Call to Order

Members present: Steve Binder, Walt Ulbricht, Tim Macho, Doug Zellmer, and Amber Gilbertson.

Extension Winnebago County staff present: Jayna Hintz, Sarah Thompson, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others present: Mike Domke (Winnebago County Fair Association); JW and WBAY News (Zoom).

Meeting called to order at 9:05 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. November 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Zellmer, seconded by Ulbricht to approve the November 19, 2025 meeting minutes.

Passed. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0.

D. Committee Chair's Report

Binder reviewed the hiring timeline for the new Area Extension Director. The position closes December 22. Screening will be conducted in early January, with interviews to follow. Pending candidate results, February would be the earliest start for the new AED.

E. Reports and Updates

1. Safety Share

Zellmer discussed carbon monoxide. Be aware of exposure symptoms. Get appliances and furnaces checked for gas leaks, keep chimneys clean, and install carbon monoxide detectors.

2. Winnebago County Fair Association - Mike Domke

Domke distributed a financial report for the 2025 fair. He reviewed the highlights of the schedule, participation, attendance, and funds. Saturday's attendance was 10,300, which is the largest they've had. Friday attendance was also high. "Country Roads Take Me Home" is the 2026 theme. Domke discussed updates for electrical, signage, barns, tent stabilization, website, etc. Binder expressed his appreciation for all the volunteers that run the fair.

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

- November 2025 Extension Winnebago County Review

Ulbricht commended the review and e-newsletter.

- Youth & Science - Sarah Thompson

Thompson presented some examples of 4-H Record Books. She distributed an overview of Cloverbud Camp, ChickQuest, and After-School Program participation. The 4-H Cookie Exchange was last weekend; youth exchanged cookies and made cards for Parkview Health Center residents. 4-H Summer Camp is moving to Camp Lakota, June 14-17, 2026. Camp counselor interviews and training start in January. ChickQuest continues being successful. Cloverbud Blast was November 9. Thompson recognized the volunteers who assist with 4-H programs. Discussion ensued regarding scholarship opportunities for 4-H youth.

- Health & Well-Being Seasonal/Holiday Report - Katie Jaegly
Hendrickson read a message from Jaegly and called attention to the handouts: Seasonal Affective Disorder and When the Season Doesn't Feel Calm or Bright.

4. UW Division of Extension Department Administrative Report

- James P. Coughlin Center Facility Updates
Awaiting feedback from the Dept. of Administration regarding meeting room policy updates.

- Extension Winnebago County Staff & Department Updates
Hintz has been working with the office administrative staff to update their position descriptions to more accurately reflect the work they do that has changed since they were last updated. Updates will be done in coordination with HR and may result in changing pay categorization as part of the 5-year labor plan. Todd Wenzel and Katie Gellings (Extension Outagamie County) won the Governor's Financial Literacy Award for the Reentry Ready program.

- UW-Madison Division of Extension Area/Region/State Updates
The Area 10 Extension Director position is open until December 22. Hintz will be part of the screening committee. Once a candidate has been identified and has accepted, Hintz will serve as their mentor as they begin their role. Discussion ensued regarding challenges and tools/processes for AEDs to oversee multiple counties and support multiple teams.

5. Announcing Upcoming Extension Events at County Board Meeting Discussion
Binder will share any updates on the AED hiring process.

F. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. UWO Fox Cities Closure Updates/Discussion

Ulbricht distributed and reviewed copies of the news article, Faith Technologies Considers Former UW Fox Cities Campus, that appeared in the Neenah News and Oshkosh Herald. Faith Technologies has 90 days to evaluate whether the campus could support their workforce training programs. More information expected to be shared around February 17.

2. Winnebago County Scholarship Updates/Discussion

Hintz shared that Sarah Thompson and Todd Wenzel agreed to co-chair a committee for reviewing Winnebago County scholarships. Ulbricht agreed to assist. Binder requested that Thompson coordinate with the clerk's office to get the applications for review.

G. Communications Shared by Committee Members

None.

H. Next Meeting Date

1. January 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

*Discussion to move meetings to 9:30 a.m. due to the evening county board meetings.
Committee members agreed. **The next meeting will be January 21, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.***

I. Adjourn

*Binder entertained a motion to adjourn at 10:34 a.m.; Zellmer moved and Gilbertson seconded.
Passed. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0.*

[MIN FOOT]