

LEADERSHIP MATTERS

OUR MISSION

- **WE BELIEVE** that building a better future begins with creating the opportunities for emerging leaders to have the tools, information and resources to create positive change
- **WE OFFER** people unique opportunities to build their leadership experience
- **WE EQUIP** people with the skills and knowledge they need to lead effectively
- **WE CREATE** a community of leaders who will go on to deliver change in Rock County and the surrounding area

OUR VALUES

- **DIVERSITY:** we actively seek out and value a wide range of voices to ensure that the concept of leadership and the leaders we are supporting are reflective of the society they serve
- **DISCIPLINE AGNOSTIC:** the problems of tomorrow span multiple sectors and disciplines, so we actively curate leaders who are comfortable working across institutional or organizational boundaries
- **DIALOGUE:** we promote tolerance, debate and dialogue, because you only lead when you listen first
- **DEMAND FOR ACTION:** because to make the world a better place, once you've listened you've got to use your knowledge, skills and experience to actively change something for the better;
- **DEVELOPMENT:** we believe that every opportunity is a leadership opportunity so we take every chance we can to reflect and learn
- **DISRUPTION:** we are willing to speak out when we see something is wrong or could be done better; we always value honesty and integrity over the status quo



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Updated Schedule

FUTURE LEADER NETWORK SESSION SCHEDULE

SESSION 1: September 22, 2025 – Luverne Trailhead – 7 to 9 pm

ROCK COUNTY GOVERNMENT 1

- Department overview
- Annual budget
- Long term plan (5 year)
- Interaction with local city governments
- Interaction with State and Federal governments
- Review of SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)

SESSION 2: October 27, 2025 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

ROCK COUNTY GOVERNMENT 2

- Role of a county commissioner
- Volunteer opportunities
- Consequences of increasing or decreasing population
- Largest employers in the county
- Other demographic information

SESSION 3: November 24, 2025 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

LOCAL GOVERNMENT 1

- Beaver Creek, Hardwick, Hills, Magnolia, Steen, Kenneth
- Review of all departments
- Annual budget review
- Long term plan (5 year)
- Interaction with county government
- Review of SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)
- Volunteer opportunities

BONUS SESSION: December 22, 2025 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

GUEST SPEAKER - Be inspired to be involved and serve (30 minutes)

Holiday Social Time and Mingling

SESSION 4: January 26, 2026 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Law enforcement opportunities and challenges
- LE collaboration (State Patrol, BCA, School resource officer, task force)
- Prosecution and penalties
- Fire department operation and responsibilities
- Fire department collaboration
- Rock County Ambulance

SESSION 5: February 9, 2025 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2

- Luverne and Township Government
- Review of all departments
- Annual budget review
- Long term plan (5 year)
- Interaction with county government
- Review of SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)
- Volunteer opportunities

SESSION 6: February 23, 2026 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- County
- City
- Community: LACF, LIFT, Chamber, lenders
- Regional: SRDC, SWIF, SBDC
- State: MN DEED
- Federal: USDA
- Future jobs and careers
- What resources do we need to bring jobs here
- How do we market communities to prospective employers/employees

SESSION 7: March 23, 2026 – Take 16 Brewing Company – 7 to 9 pm

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Public school operation
- Long term plan
- Consequences of increasing and decreasing population
- Impact of private and home schools
- Parent groups

SESSION 8: April 27, 2026 – Time & Location to be Determined

GRADUATION & FUTURE TOPICS

- What are the core values of our community
- Engaging State and Federal representatives
- Engaging with leadership from surrounding counties
- Should we have a formal business leadership program
- Creation of marketing campaign for employers and employees
- Minnesota vs South Dakota vs Iowa
- Past initiatives that have failed
- Resources available from all colleges and universities within 2 hours
- Rock County is now part of the Sioux Falls metropolitan area;
What does that mean, and how can we take advantage of it?