

Executive Committee

January 10, 2005

Present: Chair Martin, Supervisors Pufahl, Westby, Baumgartner and See

Also Present: Sheriff Rowe, John Hartman, Dennis Wittig
Donna Chrzas, Kristin Anderson, Jeanne Miller, Kurt Calkins

Meeting called to order at 8:03 a.m. by Chair Martin.

Motion was made by Supervisor Pufahl to approve December 6, 2004 Open and Closed Session Minutes, second by Supervisor Westby. Motion carried.

Vouchers

Vouchers for the Veterans' Service Office were reviewed. Motion was made by Supervisor Pufahl, second by Supervisor See to approve of vouchers as presented for payment. Motion carried.

Review was made of the County Clerk's vouchers. Motion was made by Supervisor Pufahl, second by Supervisor Baumgartner to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Motion carried.

Replacement Positions

Dennis Wittig appeared on behalf of Health and Human Services Director Roberts to answer questions pertaining to a replacement request for Economic Support Administrator. The current Administrator, Pam Waffle has resigned to move out of state. After reviewing the hiring analysis and job description, Wittig was asked to remove all reference to W-2 from the job description. Motion was made by Supervisor Pufahl with a second by Supervisor Westby to approve of the replacement request for Economic Support Administrator. Motion carried.

WCA Legislative Exchange

Chair Martin announced that the Annual WCA Meeting was being held February 8-9 at the Madison Concourse. Barry Pufahl indicated that he would be interested in attending the session, along with Finance Committee Chair Tramburg.

WCA 2005 Annual Conference

Wisconsin Counties Association was looking for ideas and suggestions for a theme and break out sessions. The committee made no suggestions.

Land and Water Conservation Project Position

Director Calkins made an informational-only presentation to the Executive Committee. Initially the request for a project position grew out of the current farm bill. This new program will target acreage abutting streams or natural bodies of water and remove it from production, in exchange for program payments. Very limited marketing has been done by the Land Conservation Department due to lack of

staff. In an effort to determine interest in the program, letters were sent to landowners. The response has been overwhelming. The question then became how a position could be funded to handle the obvious demand for this project. Current intern hours combined with additional hours would allow the county a one-year project position to implement the program. Position will work three days per week and receive \$12.00 per hour. Sunset date for this program would run concurrently with the farm bill, seven years; the county is currently in the third year of the program.

Sheriff Reclassification Request

Supervisor Pufahl excused himself from this discussion. Sheriff Rowe the reclassification of a made a request to reclassify a deputy position to the level of sergeant as a result of the current contractual agreement with the Village of Pardeeville. A motion to approve of reclassification request was made by Supervisor Baumgartner, second by Supervisor Westby. The motion carried with Supervisor Pufahl abstaining from the vote.

MIS Position Request

John Hartman requested that consideration be given to eliminate a position/job description currently approved for his department. The position as it is configured does not allow the incumbent any administrative authority, which limits the responsibilities that can be assigned to the incumbent. Mr. Hartman requested that the incumbent be promoted to the position of Infrastructure Support Specialist I. The addition cost of \$8,400 would be covered by using funds from the IT Consultant budget line. Supervisor Pufahl asked whether the current position would be needed to be filled in the future. Hartman indicated he would need to justify any future hiring of the lower position. Supervisor Westby made the motion to approve the request for this change in position, with a second by Supervisor Pufahl. Motion carried.

Re-Appointment County Surveyor

Kristen Anderson recommended that Jim Grothman, be reappointed as County Surveyor. The term of the contract is 2005 – 2007. Remonumentation contract would be for one year for the Towns of Leeds and Columbus. Additional language had been added to the contract to clarify the surveyor's responsibilities. Supervisor Westby made a motion to reappoint Mr. Grothman as the county's surveyor, second by Supervisor See. Motion carried.

Review – WCA Suggested Referenda Questions for April Election

WCA has submitted suggested advisory referenda questions for the April ballot. The matter was referred for further consideration to the County Board meeting without recommendation. A motion was made by Supervisor Pufahl, second by Supervisor See to include the two referenda questions, for consideration by the entire board, on the January County Board Agenda. Motion carried.

Board of Proceedings

As a result of reduced staff and in an effort to reduce publication costs, two formats would be completed. Originally, minutes were prepared in three formats: complete

minutes, publication minutes and mini minutes. Publication minutes and mini minutes would be continued. Supervisor Pufahl made a motion to continue minutes in the reduced format, second by Supervisor See. Motion carried.

Ballot Order Comparison

An updated spreadsheet listing ballot orders by election and by municipality was reviewed. Chair Martin suggested that it be communicated to municipalities the need to consider the number of ballots ordered by analyzing ballot usage for elections of similar stature.

Performance Criteria

Goals determined by the County Clerk will be used as a means of measuring performance. The suggestion was made that municipalities receive an evaluation form at future training sessions in order to gauge the effectiveness of the training and services provided them by the County Clerk's office.

Update Election Equipment

The State Elections Board had made no recommendation for type of equipment. Communication had been received from the Wisconsin County Clerks' President indicating central count systems do not comply with HAVA requirements and might not be allowed.

Absent vs. Excused

Chair Martin stated that she thought that "excused" absences from committee and board meetings should be granted only for health reasons, or a family situation. All others would be considered "absent". Supervisor Pufahl said that he felt no differentiation should be made, all should be considered "absent". The largest impact of absences is felt at committee meetings where there is occasionally a lack of a quorum. Supervisor Westby suggested that the Chair discuss this concern during her comments portion of the County Board meeting and tell the supervisors that anyone not in attendance will be considered to be absent, but that members should alert committee chairs/the Board chair when they will not be in attendance.

Brilliant Cities: Broadband Telecommunications

The Executive Committee had been contacted previously by a company wanting to partner with the county on a telecommunications system transmitted through radio frequency. At that time, the Executive Committee made the decision that such an arrangement would not be in the best interests of the county. Another proposal has been received, this time from Brilliant Cities. Supervisor Jack Sanderson, in his work with the State Department of Commerce, has been working with this organization on a project for Door County. After reviewing the most recent proposal, Supervisor Pufahl said he felt that this type of service should remain in private industry. The suggestion was made that the CCEDC be contacted to see if they were interested in promoting this service, but Chair Martin informed the committee that Supervisor Sanderson had already arranged a presentation for that group and the proposal was not greeted with any enthusiasm. The lack of support on the part of the Executive Committee eliminates any further consideration.

Chair Martin reported that the sales tax received in Columbia County, for 2004 was \$225,130.39 an increase over 2003.

Communications

Numerous counties sent resolutions on a variety of topics. It was noted that the McKenzie Center budget had been reinstated in the state budget. Chair Martin reported on the Teen Court demonstration held in December.

The upcoming NACO Conference will be held in Hawaii. Columbia County will not be attendance.

The Executive Committee, upon a unanimous roll call vote, went into closed session at 10:30 a.m. to complete the evaluation of the county's Veteran Service Officer, Donna Chrzas.

At 10:34 a.m., the committee returned to open session.

Names for the Annex meeting room have been chosen. First floor meeting rooms will be called the Wisconsin River and Fox River rooms, and the basement conference rooms are the Owen Park and Gibraltar rooms.

At 10:37 a.m., a motion was made by Supervisor Westby, seconded by Supervisor See, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Secretary of Record,

Recording Secretary,

Barry Pufahl

Jeanne Miller