

Executive Committee Minutes

Monday, March 6, 2006

9:01 a.m.

Present: Chair Susan Martin, Supervisor Harlan Baumgartner, Barry Pufahl, Robert Westby

Absent: Supervisor Boockmeier

Also Present: Health & Human Services Director Sandra Roberts, Veteran Service Officer Donna Chrzas, County Clerk Jeanne Miller, HR/Corporation Counsel Joseph Ruf and Paul Ferguson, Daily Register

Supervisor Westby made a motion, second by Supervisor Pufahl, to approve the Executive Committee agenda as noticed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Pufahl made a motion, second by Supervisor Baumgartner to approve the January 9, 2006 minutes. Motion carried.

Operational Reviews

Veterans Service Office

The VSO's annual report was reviewed. A motion to approve the Veteran Service Officer Annual Report was made by Supervisor Baumgartner, second by Supervisor Westby. Motion carried.

Veteran Service Office Vouchers were approved as submitted on motion by Supervisor Westby, second by Supervisor Pufahl. Motion carried.

Donna reviews her out of county travel for April: southwest district meeting combined with Spring Conference Apr. 24-28. The motion to approve Donna's participation in the meeting and conference was made by Supervisor Pufahl, with a second by Supervisor Baumgartner. Motion carried.

VSO Chrzas reminded the committee that Wednesday, April 26 is Youth Government Day.

County Clerk

Clerk Miller proposed out-sourcing election programming. Currently, the Clerk programs each election. A number of municipalities have indicated that they will not purchase the equipment and not require the \$2,500 contribution by the County. The Clerk suggested those funds be used to fund the out-sourcing of programming of new equipment. Estimated \$20,000 may be available for this use if approved and supported by Executive Committee and Finance Committee.

Motion was made by Supervisor Westby, second by Supervisor Pufahl to support the request of the Clerk to have the programming out sourced pending the availability of funds from the amount budgeted for precinct counters. Motion carried.

The County Clerk will meet with the Finance Committee to update it on equipment and to request its support and funding of out-sourcing programming costs.

County Clerk Vouchers: Motion to approve of vouchers was made by Supervisor Westby, second by Supervisor Baumgartner. Motion carried.

Personnel Requests:

Sheriff's Department

A request to replace a Jailer position, as a result of a resignation, was made. The motion to approve the replacement jailer request was made by Supervisor Westby, second by Supervisor Baumgartner. Motion carried.

A request to replace Deputy Sheriff, due to a retirement, was approved on motion by Supervisor Pufahl, second by Supervisor Westby. Motion carried.

H&HS Department

A request to replace a social worker position, vacated by a resignation, was approved on motion by Supervisor Pufahl, second by Supervisor Baumgartner. Motion carried.

Proclamation – Women Curlers

A suggestion had been made that a Resolution be drafted honoring the Olympic Women's Curling Team. After some discussion, Supervisor Baumgartner, second by Supervisor Westby, made a motion to not draft a proclamation resolution in view of the unfortunate timing of the request, and its limited scope. Motion carried.

Levee Management

Pat Beghin, Emergency Management Director, met with the committee to discuss long-term work on the levee. An organizational committee meeting was held on February 14, with approximately 30 people in attendance. DNR and Planning and Zoning representatives were also in attendance. Beghin asked for recommendations/appointment on behalf of the County board and other interested parties.

Suggestions were made by members of the Executive Committee for representation on this committee: Town Chairs or their representatives, Planning and Zoning members, Land Information (LI) members, Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD), with members from both Judiciary and Executive Committee. Pufahl felt the county needed to be well represented on these work groups. Beghin felt the smaller work group would meet every other month. A combined group meeting would be held quarterly. It was suggested that Beghin address this topic with the Judiciary, Planning and Zoning, LI and LWCD Committees. Pat Beghin was asked to attend the necessary meetings.

Appointments:

Supervisor Pufahl moved to approve Bernard Spink, 2nd Alternate, Board of Adjustment and Supervisor Baumgartner seconded it. Motion carried.

Supervisor Baumgartner moved that Doug Tessman be appointed to the Land and Water Conservation Committee as the FSA Representative. Second by Supervisor Pufahl. Motion carried.

Emergency Management (EM) Director FT vs. PT

Chair Martin informed the Executive Committee that at the March Human Resources Committee meeting, Sheriff Rowe asked that consideration be given to changing the

status of the Emergency Management Director from parttime to full time. Chair Martin noted that funding by the state would increase, but would not cover the entire salary for a full-time position so that county funds would be involved. Several issues were discussed by the Executive Committee including workload levels, reporting relationships and the incumbent's present status as a protected status employee. The EM Department currently has two employees and reports directly to the Sheriff. Supervisor Pufahl requested more information on the number of hours spent on emergency plans and the duties of the Emergency Management Director.

Elected Coroner Position vs. Appointed Medical Examiner

Chair Martin explained that counties are required to have an elected coroner or an appointed medical examiner. This fall, the Coroner position will be elected to a four-year term; in the past this term has been for two years. Further, County Board could, by Resolution of the Board, make the change to a medical examiner, but this decision must be made prior to the deadline for filing nomination papers. Chair Martin asked Corporation Counsel Joseph Ruf to provide the committee with pros and cons and requirements for a medical examiner.

In coming to a decision on this, other questions that will need to be addressed include which committee the position would report to and what the hiring process would be. Chair Martin indicated those items needed to be determined before this went to the board floor for a decision. Ruf mentioned that twenty counties have medical examiners. Consideration could be given to sharing the position with another county.

Intellectual Property Policy Resolution

Chair Martin explained that this Resolution would be on the March County Board agenda. By establishing this policy, the investment in properties that the county owns and generates is protected. This policy gives departments guidelines for what can be shared and what requires prior governing/Finance committee approval.

Resolutions for Retiring Supervisors

Resolutions will be the last item on the March County Board Agenda. The Executive Committee felt that order by which these individuals are recognized should be by least number of term(s) of service to the longest term(s) of service.

Communications

Attendance at WCA Legislative Session: decrease in Child Support Incentive Payments

Foster care, no addition clients will be funded, only current cases. Counties will then fund any additional clients.

Medicaid will require proof of citizenship and will be cutting program management monies.

Chair Martin clarified when committees could legally be held at the conclusion of County Board. According to Open Meetings Law, committee meetings can be held during a county board recess or immediately after to discuss noticed subjects on the county board agenda. Chair Martin said that this clarification was included in the proposed standing rules. To accomplish this, the Chair of the governing committee must request permission, provide time/place and subject matter, so that the meeting can be publicly announced at the meeting. There is no issue with pre-board meetings

as long as they are scheduled with the County Clerk in a timely manner and are posted as necessary.

A previous agreement with the City of Portage for website maintenance will be officially discontinued effective April 6. Director Hartman has been working closely with City Administrator so that the transition from County support to private is accomplished.

Chair Martin discussed an unfortunate incident in the Courthouse. A gentleman waiting for a court hearing suffered cardiac arrest. Chair Martin commended staff members that assisted. In addition, City of Portage Lt. Kiefer, Officer Stenberg and Sheriff's Deputy Janacheck and Pulvermacher assisted. Communication received from Lt. Kiefer was read to the committee commending efforts of county employees.

County sales tax continues to decrease from previous year. Chair Martin reported \$19,000 less than a year ago. She noted that a number of counties are passing resolutions asking for an independent audit. Executive Committee members felt the relationship with the State was tenuous enough that any resolution pertaining to request for an independent audit, should come from the WCA.

The Taxpayer's Protection Amendment and its ramifications were discussed. More information is needed on the bill.

Minor changes have been made by Human Resources to the Hiring Analysis form to properly position granting approval for continuing hiring through the "bumping" process to the hiring department's governing committee.

Resolutions from other counties:

Brown County: Establish a rural enterprise zone; support AB790 providing legislative mandates include funding; request governor and legislators enact transportation user fee specifically for the transportation fund; require sharing of Federal IGT Funds with local governments that operate nursing homes; oppose classifying social workers as protected.

Wood County: opposing classifying social workers as protected.

Dunn County: Governor and Legislature to pass legislation which removes this cost from the property tax as it is clearly a state responsibility

Ozaukee County: allowing an elected county board the right to reimburse such lending libraries within a public library system.

The Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m. on a motion made by Supervisor Pufahl, second by Supervisor Westby. Motion carried.

Secretary of Record,

Recording Secretary

Barry Pufahl

Jeanne Miller

