

Columbia County Executive Committee Minutes

April 9, 2007

Members Present: Harlan Baumgartner, Susan Martin, Barry Pufahl, Andy Ross, Debra Wopat

Also Present: John Bluemke, Kurt Dey, Sheriff Richards, Mike Babcock, Joseph Ruf, Dawn Marquardt, Kurt Calkins, Bob Hamele, Karen Nelson, Sue Moll

Meeting called to order by Chair Baumgartner at 9:30 am.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ross to approve the agenda as printed. Second by Wopat. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Martin to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2007 Executive Committee regular meeting and March 21, 2007 Executive Committee meeting prior to County Board. Second by Wopat. Motion carried.

Replacement Position Request

Motion by Ross to approve the request to replace the Administrative Secretary half-time position in the Planning & Zoning Department. Second by Martin. Motion carried.

Highway 60 Scenic Byway Update

Kurt Dey brought forward the Highway 60 Scenic Byway resolution that will be reviewed/approved at the May County Board meeting.

Richmond Memorial Park

Dawn Marquardt reported that Richmond Memorial Park Memo of Understanding between the Town of West Point, Columbia County and DNR is pending due to a road issue that needs to be resolved. The Town of West Point is considering approval of the road as a town road.

Upon approval of the MOU, the Executive, Highway, Land and Water Conservation Committees will review and approve the resolution prior to the County Board meeting in April. Corp. Council will draft the resolution.

Personnel Issues in UW-Extension

Karen Nelson and Bob Hamele discussed position changes in the UW-Extension office. Effective July 1, the CRD position will be reduced to 50% time due to the loss of the 30% Community Partner Advisory Group (CPAG) funding. They are asking that the position remain at 80% funding through the end of this year; the

additional cost to the county will be approximately \$4,300. The UW-Extension office has the funds in their budget to cover the additional cost.

The Family Living position will be vacant effective July 3, due to the retirement resignation of Cheryl Rew Stapleton.

Wopat suggested that UW-Extension put together a plan, including different options, for the position replacement requests. The requests are due by July 1.

Motion by Wopat to approve the additional \$4,300 funding from the UW-Extension budget allowing the CRD position to remain at 80% until the end of this year, based on approval by the Finance Committee verifying that funding is available. Second by Ross. Motion carried but not unanimously.

Jones Tower Lease

Motion by Martin to approve the addendum to the Jones Tower Lease. Second by Ross. Motion carried.

Fitness for Duty Standards Update

Joe Ruf gave an update on the Fitness for Duty Standards. He will continue to work with the Sheriff's Department on this issue. The committee will be updated on progress made at the May meeting.

Operational Review – Veterans Service Officer

Motion by Martin to approve payment of the March 2007 vouchers for the Veterans Service office. Second by Ross. Motion carried.

Operational Review – County Clerk

Motion by Ross to approve the payment of the March 2007 vouchers for the County Clerk's office. Second by Wopat. Motion carried.

Motion by Martin to approve registration and travel for Sue Moll to attend the WCCA Conference in Kimberly on June 24-27, 2007. Second by Wopat. Motion carried.

Clerk Moll reported that the 2007 Spring Election went smoothly. There were 11,599 votes cast, an increase of 4,007 from the 2005 Spring Election. Currently, there are approximately 29,000 voters registered in Columbia County. Based on 2000 Census information, there are approximately 38,000 total eligible voters in Columbia County. The Clerk's Office will be working with the municipalities to determine how to encourage the remaining 9,000 voters to register prior to the upcoming 2008 Presidential elections.

Committee Appointments

Motion by Martin to appoint Don DeYoung to the Railroad Consortium, replacing Andy Ross. Second by Wopat. Motion carried.

Motion by Pufahl to appoint John Stevenson to the Arlington TIF Board. Second by Ross. Motion carried.

District Appointment

The notice announcing the open District 13 County Board Supervisor position appeared in today's edition of the Portage Daily Register. The notice also includes the open District 5 position. A copy of the notice will be sent to the 3 individuals who have expressed an interest in the position. Interviews will be held on Monday, May 7th with appointment anticipated at the May 16 County Board meeting.

WCA Conference

The WCA Conference will be held in Wisconsin Dells this September. Baumgartner and Wopat plan to attend both days. Pufahl and Ross will attend Monday only. Ross stated that he would forego mileage and per diem if necessary, allowing additional board members to attend. Martin will not be attending.

Chair Baumgartner will extend this offer to all board members at the April County Board meeting. Approval will be given on a first come basis until funding is exhausted.

Columbia County, along with all the counties in Wisconsin, have been asked to consider hosting a future WCA conference. This item will be added to the May agenda for further consideration.

Chair's Comments

Chair Baumgartner shared correspondence that he has received.

Motion by Ross to adjourn at 11:30 am. Second by Pufahl. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Moll
Columbia County Clerk

Barry Pufahl
Secretary