



Columbia County Executive Committee Minutes April 13, 2009

Members Present: Harlan Baumgartner, Richard Boockmeier, Tim O'Neil, Robert Westby, Debra Wopat

Also Present: Susan Moll, Donna Chrzas, Sheriff Richards, Mike Babcock, Pat Beghin

Meeting called to order by Chair Wopat at 9:00 am. The meeting was properly noticed as required by the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Boockmeier to approve the agenda as printed. Second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by O'Neil to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2009 Executive Committee regular meeting. Second by Boockmeier. Motion carried

Operational Review – Veterans Service Officer

Motion by Baumgartner to approve payment of the March 2009 expenditures for the Veterans Service office. Second by O'Neil. Motion carried.

Donna reported out of county travel for April 16-17th; May 4-8th; and June 6-13th. She will be on vacation during the May County Board meeting. Alternate arrangements will be made regarding the annual report.

Position Replacement Request

Motion by Boockmeier to approve Sheriff Richard's request to replace the jailer position in the Sheriff's Department. Second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve COPS Grant

Sheriff Richards explained that the COPS Grant is a federally funded program that allows local enforcement agencies to apply for funding to cover the salary and fringe benefits costs for hiring additional staff. The grant will pay 100% of salary/benefits the first year; the second and third year the county will cover the costs of wage/benefit increases only with the grant paying the balance; the county will be responsible for 100% of the salary/benefit costs on the fourth year. The deadline to apply for this grant is April 14th. The fund will not cover the costs for equipment, uniforms, training or vehicles.

Motion by O'Neil to encourage the Sheriff's Department to go forward with applying for the COPS grant requesting up to 5 additional staff. Second by Westby. Motion approved.

Operational Review – County Clerk

Motion by Boockmeier to approve payment of the March 2009 expenditures for the County Clerk's office. Second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

The Clerk gave an update on the Spring Election that was held last week. Columbia County voter turnout was approximately 20%. One petition for a recount has been filed in the Village of Wyocena. The Clerk informed the committee that there are some proposed bills currently being considered that may affect the election process. One bill is supporting weekend voting and another bill would eliminate the spring nonpartisan election and combine it with the general election in November. There was no out of county travel to report for May.

Crystal Lake Issue

Pat Beghin, Emergency Management Director, gave an update on the recent flooding issues and current status of the Crystal Lake area. Dave Padley, Lake District Commission Representative spoke on behalf of the Lake District, in which several people were in attendance at the meeting. He explained the potential benefits of drawing down the lake, however, the Lake District needs approximately \$100,000 to purchase piping to pump down the water. Dane County has agreed to purchase a pump at a cost of \$40,000 and \$5,000 fuel for operating. The DNR has approved a 1 year emergency permit to pump water into the Roxbury Creek. The funding is needed soon so that the drawdown can begin.

Motion by Baumgartner to take the Lake District's request for financial aid to the Finance Committee for consideration by the full county board. Second by O'Neil. Motion carried.

Appointments

Motion by Boockmeier to approve Mary Martin to the Commission on Aging Board for a 3 year term to end April 2012. Second by O'Neil. Motion carried.

Motion by Baumgartner to appoint Carol Ziehmke to the Ethics Inquiry Board for a 3 year term to end April 2012. Second by Boockmeier. Motion carried.

Motion by Westby to appoint Dr. Charles Boursier, Mary Cupery and J. Robert Curtis to the Health and Human Services Board to 3 year terms ending in April 2012. Second by O'Neil. Motion carried.

2010 Census

Wopat and Westby recently met with a representative from the U.S. Census Bureau regional office regarding the upcoming census and possibly forming a countywide committee to promote the census. There is no funding provided for a committee. It was decided that promotion will be conducted through existing networks, such as UW-Extension newsletters and the County Clerk's office through contact with local municipal clerks.

Motion by Westby to approve a resolution promoting the 2010 census. Second by O'Neil. Motion carried.

Resolution Opposing Proposed Insurance Changes

Motion by Boockmeier to approve the resolution opposing the Governor's proposed changes to the insurance laws and 2009 Senate Bill 20. Second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

The resolution will also be forwarded to the Property and Insurance Committee for consideration of their support.

Resolutions to be considered at WCA Annual Conference

All resolutions that the county would like considered for adoption at the WCA Annual Conference need to be approved by the full county board at the May meeting. The County Clerk will send an email to the Department Heads and Committee Chairs asking that this item be included on their May committee agendas for consideration. Resolutions recommended by committees will be considered at the May county board meeting.

Chair's Comments

The WCA Annual Conference will be held in La Crosse September 13-15, 2009. The budget allows for a limited number of members to attend. Mileage, hotel and registration will be paid. No per diem will be paid. Westby expressed an interest in attending. Baumgartner indicated he may attend and request payment of the registration only. Members interested in attending the conference should notify Chair Wopat or the County Clerk prior to May 1st so that hotel arrangements could be made.

Chair Wopat shared correspondence that she received. A resolution requesting that the State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections increase reimbursement payments for state probation and parole prisoners was referred to the Judiciary Committee; A thank you from the Poynette librarian; Sales and foreclosure information; NaCo conference; Treasurer correspondence; WCA training on working with the media; Letter from a resident regarding CTH V; Correspondence was distributed from WI County Executives and Administrators Assoc. regarding the proposed 2009-11 Biennial Budget. Information regarding a proposed joint resolution with the Health and Human Services Committee asking to restore funding for county human services was distributed.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Executive Committee has been set for Monday, May 11 at 9 am. The Executive Committee will meet prior to the county board meeting on April 21st for approval of a joint resolution with the Health and Human Services Committee.

Motion by Boockmeier to adjourn at 11:45 am. Second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Boockmeier
Executive Committee Secretary

These minutes were recorded by Susan M. Moll, Columbia County Clerk.