



Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 16, 2013
Columbia County Annex, 120 W. Conant
Portage, Wisconsin

ICC Participants

Columbia County – Andy Ross; Vern Gove; Bob Westby, Nancy Elsing; Kristen Anderson; Kathleen Haas (scribe) **Dodge County** – Russell Kottke, Dave Frohling; Jeff Hoffman; **Green Lake County** – David Richter, Jack Meyers; **Jefferson County** -- John Molinaro ; Andy Erdman; Steve Grabow; **Marquette County** -- Paul Wade; **Sauk County** – Marty Krueger; Jenny Erickson; **WCA** – Jon Hochkammer; **Legislators** – Fred Clark; **Media** – Lyn Jerde/PDR; **Program Guest** – Matt Kures/UW-Extension Center for Community Economic Development

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by ICC Chair Russell Kottke at 9:30 a.m.

Certification of Wisconsin Open Meetings Law Notice

County host confirmed the requirements of the WI Open Meetings Law were met.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Columbia County, second by Dodge County to approve the agenda – Approved.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Marquette County, second by Jefferson County, to approve the minutes of the November 2013 meeting of the Intercounty Coordinating Committee -- Approved.

Legislative Report – Representative Fred Clark:

- Rural School Task Force – legislative group is touring the state to determine rural school related consensus issues that legislature may address in the upcoming session, such as, enrollment, funding; transportation; etc.
- Council of Forestry – reforming program, will make it easier to enroll; will reduce withdrawal penalty; will reroute fees back to counties and local units of government to help offset property taxes;
- Meeting with WI DoT and Town of West Point to discuss update public access at ferry landing. Columbia Co requested that DoT address better enforcement at site. DoT wants to continue to own property so that if a bridge is needed, it may proceed.

Wisconsin Counties Association Report -- Jon Hochkammer

- High priority regarding rural schools; Co. asked if there is a definition for, “what is a rural school” (no there is not); now definition is determined around density + # of free/reduced lunches + enrollment;
- WCA believes if WI's urban schools fail, the community fails, WI need to make sure our schools succeed; There is a positive correlation between economic development and the quality of life + quality schools + business expansion, etc.

- WCA continues to emphasize the importance of providing access to broadband thru out state
- TAD program – seeking bi-partisan support
- WCA Board meeting, approved budget without increases
- WCA had a strategic planning session, outcomes included:
 - to reorganize the internal structure of WCA, now,
 - Mike Blaska is now Chief of staff;
 - Josh will be planning and programming;
 - Jon will be in charge of member services; Jon would like to engage non-active counties;
 - Kyle will act as legislative liaison for WCA
 - Board Presid. Marty Krueger described the restructuring of WCA, some of the Strategic Planning outcomes include:
 - IT collaboration will be launch on 2/4 at 2:30 inviting Co. Exec/Chair and Co. IT directors to attend (WCA will pay for lodging);
 - 50 of 72 counties belong to state High Speed Association, WCA met with the high speed internet association to ensure all are in sync;
- Sauk Co. requested WCA's support for the Sauk Co. the rail line;
- WPPA law suit – WCA has to respond to the responses regarding the open records law;
- Frac Sand Bill – no position taken by WCA; WCA does have a seat at the table; police powers issues are the focus; WTA opposes the bill because of police power issues; WCA supports controlling police powers thru zoning measures
- Inclement weather – ICC chair had counties indicate contact information in case an ICC meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather.

Open Discussion and County issues:

- Co. levy limits must be addressed, Columbia Co asked how many other ICC counties had to use county reserve to pay for next year's operational expenses, half the counties said they had to use reserve dollars. WCA stated that other units of government are also digging into reserve funds to pay for operation expenses, this practice is not sustainable.
- Columbia County is doing an infrastructure study and the biggest demands/needs are coming from H&HS sector.
- Columbia Co. asked when the OWI courts grant would be awarded, WCA will get back to Vern Gove.
- What the role of counties should be is a mass casualty were to occur, WCA will report back at a later date.
- Discussion occurred regarding, what is the County's liability of a special district if it goes bankrupt or into foreclosure. Currently each county sets its own limit.

Program: *Using and Accessing County Related Data* by Matthew E. Kures, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) State Specialist with UW-Extension's Center for Community Economic Development. See attached presentation.

Next Meeting

Next meeting: Feb 17, 2014 – Topic: Legislative Meet & Greet in Sauk County/Baraboo

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by the Chair at 11:12 am

Respectfully Submitted,
 Kathleen Haas
 UW-Extension, Columbia County