



Inter-county Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 15, 2012 @ Columbia County Annex, 120 W. Conant, Portage, Wisconsin

ICC Participants

Columbia County – Andy Ross; Vern Gove; Kathleen Haas (scribe) **Dodge County** – Russell Kottke, Dave Frohling; Jeff Hoffman; **Green Lake County** – Liz Otto, Jack Meyers, David Riehter; **Jefferson County** - John Molinaro ; Gary Petre; Steve Grabow; **Marquette County** - Paul Wade, Mike Raddatz; Dan Klawitter; Shirley Floeter; Gerald Hebert II; Marty Havlovic; **Sauk County** – Jen Erickson; Kerry Beghin; Marty Kueger; **WCA** – David Callender; Mark O’Connel; **Congressman** – none; **Media** – Lyn Jerde/PDR; **Program Guest** – Sarah Dietrick-Kasdorf & Kyle Christianson with WCA

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions to Agenda

Certification of Wisconsin Open Meetings Law Notice

The Secretary confirmed the requirements of the WI Open Meetings Law were met.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Jefferson County, second by Marquette County, to approve the minutes of the August 2012 meeting of the Inter-county Coordinating Committee -- Approved.

Review and Adopt of 2012-2013 ICC Program Schedule

Motion by Marquette County, second by Dodge County, to approve the 2012-2013 ICC Program Schedule -- Approved.

Legislative Report – no legislators present

Program – *County Budgets and How they have Changed Over the Years* Other County issues & Wisconsin Counties Association Report – see attached presentation

Presenters: Sarah Dietrick-Kasdorf, Senior Legislative Associate with WCA & Kyle Christianson, Research and Legislative Associate

Topics Covered:

- WI State and local administration relationship
- WI State and local finance relationship
- Relationship between State Mandated Services, State Aids and Levy Limits: Health and Human Service Example
- 2013-2015 WI State Budget Outlook

- Handed outs, maybe customized for each county by WCA: “Income Maintenance Funding”; “Youth Aids Funding”; “Child Support”; “Funding for Enhanced 911 Services”; “WRS Contributions from Public Safety Employees”; “County Tax Rate Limits”; “General Transportation Aids (GTA)”; “State Highway Maintenance”; “Mass Transit Operating Aids”; Co. Land Conservation Staffing and Cost Sharing Grants”; and, 2-013-2013 Legislative Agenda (emphasized “Investing in Child Support Yields Big Returns” graphic on p. 6);

County budgets, how have Co. budgets changed over the years

- Sauk Co: focus away from line items, focus on mandate review; noticed a call from public to look at overhead for county administration; we have seen a change to employee benefit structure that has reduced costs; more demand for public input thru holding public meetings and on-line survey, with little success;
- Green Lake Co: 0% increase for all departments, with no layoffs; reserves are going to be used to meet 2013-2015 budget expenses, including new facility costs. Have set aside some monies if Act 10 ruling is enforced. Last year the Sheriff’s dept. had some reserves that they had to use to meet 0% budget level.
- Columbia County: healthcare provider change helped decrease county’s overall costs; 0% increase by departments with 1% levy increase; County formed a committee to improve communication between county and employees because of Act 10; Finance put away money last year to meet increase of expenses;
- Dodge County: 0% increase for departments; Nursing home is coming in over; \$105,000 lower than levy limit; Contingency = \$275,000 set aside;
- Jefferson County: Budget process 0% increase, with a 0.45% levy increase, used for capital items (half million dollars); set aside 3 months of expenditures as mandated by state; County had an professional auditor audit each county department. (e.g., audit recommend cut to highway, now have 58 Hwy employees from 78 employees);
- Marquette County: 3.59% increase w/ many capital projects and adding three FTE;

How do Coto handle budget amendments on the floor?

- Dodge asks that amendment be matched w/ revenue source;
- Jefferson has supervisor fill out form which is reviewed by committee and administrator prior to floor hearing;
- Green Lake has any amendments go to finance committee prior to co. bd. meeting;

WCA Other Topics:

- Requesting that counties designate one person from each county to be part of WCA’s County Ambassador Program 2-4 times/year where supervisors go to Capitol and visit w/ legislator(s).
- How does regionalization of county services (e.g., income maintenance, etc.) affect efficiencies, are we reducing overall costs?

Next Meeting

Next meeting: November 19, 2012 – Topic: *Trust and Civility in Government* in Jefferson County

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by the Chair at noon

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Haas
UW-Extension, Columbia County