

**Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 15, 2007
Green Lake County Courthouse
Green Lake, Wisconsin**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven Nass at 9:34 a.m.

Attendance:

See attached attendance sheet

The requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law were met.

The agenda was approved (motion 1st Columbia - 2nd Green Lake)

The minutes were approved (motion 1st Dodge - 2nd Green Lake)

Legislative Report

Rep. Joan Ballweg talked with the group about the Homeland Security and Disaster Preparedness Committee. She mentioned that the biggest concerns for the committee are the communication problems between the Federal and State, County and Local Governments. Rep. Ballweg brought up the proposal to combine the Ethics and Election Boards and a short discussion ensued where she answered questions from the members.

Senator Luther Olsen talked about the changes in Madison because of the recent election. He mentioned that the budget and health care are top concerns for the Legislature in 2007. Senator Olsen also took questions from the members.

Wisconsin Counties Association, WCA Report

Jayne Sellen representative from the WCA, talked about preparing the WCA Legislative agenda. She mentioned that Senator Olsen and Representative Ballweg both received WCA Legislator of the Year awards in 2006. She also addressed questions from the members.

Program: Help America Vote Act - HAVA

Presented by Kevin Kennedy, Executive Director, Wisconsin State Elections Board
A handout was presented by Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy started with the history of HAVA. He said that since the issues in the 2000 Presidential election, people are more concerned with elections. Since that time, the Federal Government has taken a very active role in state and local elections. The Federal Government determined that there should be one single list of voters on record, by state.

The Help America Vote Act required by 2006 voters had to include verification of who they are, where they live, DOB, and a Drivers License number, if they have one. In Wisconsin, we are able to provide this information on the day of the election. HAVA also mandated changes in voting systems. The systems must be disabled person capable. The Federal Government

reimbursed polling places for the new systems. Problems with the touch screen systems caused mistrust in the system by the people.

Act 92 in 2005, stated that every voting system must include a paper trail. It also imposed a record keeping element to combat double voting. It also caused the new voting systems to need on going maintenance and up dating.

Act 451 in 2005, required the Department of Corrections to give counties a list of felons.
Act 333 in 2005, made polling place hours uniform.

Act 265 in 2003, implemented the HAVA Act.

Kevin continued with a discussion on the proposed legislation to combine the Elections and Ethics Boards. He discussed how the combined Board would be made up of a citizen group of six retired Judges. He talked about his concerns that the new Board removes the transparency in the process which leads to a loss of open public discussion. He is worried that the public will be less informed about issues than in the current system.

Kevin answered question about how to reduce human error in recounts. He commented on the validity of voting machines and he talked about how voting machines are tested.

There were comments by the three County Clerks who attended. Bostelmann, Green Lake, Moll, Columbia, and Frank, Jefferson. They all had concerns with the added requirements that HAVA has placed on their offices.

Open Discussion on County Issues:

There was a request that each county provide Jenny Erickson (Sauk UWEX) the contact information for newly elected Legislators. Jenny also asked that the members decide if there is going to be dues for 2007. They requested she provide an updated financial statement at the February ICC meeting. The membership also discussed the need for a meeting cancellation process. Each county will address how they will contact their members individually.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 (motion 1st Dodge 2nd Green Lake)

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Hoffman
UW-Extension, Green Lake County