

**Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday March 20, 2006
Columbia County Board Room, Portage, Wisconsin**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Orrin Helmer at 9:30am

Attendance:

Halsey Sprecher, Sauk County; Kathy Schamf, Sauk County; Dan Prisk, Green Lake County; Orrin Helmer, Green Lake County; Dave Neuendorf, Dodge County UW Extension; Russell Kottke, Dodge County; Ray Seaholm, Dodge County; John Tramburg, Columbia County; Harlan Baumgartner, Columbia County; Sue Martin, Columbia County; Paul Babcock, Jefferson County; Steve Grabow, Jefferson County UW Extension; John Molunaro, Jefferson County; Marvin Munyon, Jefferson County; Kathleen Haas, Columbia County UW Extension; Jamye Selk, WCA; Michael King, Dane County; Kurt Calkins, Columbia County

The requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law were met.

The agenda was approved. (Dodge/Columbia)

The February 20, 2006 minutes were approved. (Sauk/Dodge)

Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials: None present

Update of County Issues – Jamye Selk, WCA

- April 25th will be the last legislative floor session
- AB 129 This bill would have a \$8.5 million impact on local governments that not pay their property tax on time. WCA is asking that a 5 day grace period be put in place making the fiscal impact less.
- WTPA/TABOR bill is now being proposed as a revenue rather than a spending cap limit. The cap would be based on CPI and population. WCA would like to see the cap calculated by CPI and 100% of new construction. WCA would also like to see higher state aids according to the inflation rate. At this point Olson & Ballweg oppose TABOR; Elders, Hinz & Hahn are undecided; Fitzgerald Brothers support.
- Columbia County asked that WCA oppose the sales tax audit
- Green Lake announced that during its Feb. 2006 county board session they approved to lower the number of county board positions from 21 to 19 members. The resolution goes into effect in Nov. 2007.
- Jefferson County asked WCA what is being done to improve support for counties amongst the WI Legislature. Currently there are several legislative initiatives that do not support counties (e.g., spending/revenue caps, bonding limits; reducing co. bd. Positions, etc.)

Program: Empowering Your County Board Colleagues

- County overview: In pairs, participants shared with your partner your first day, week, month as a new county board supervisor:
 - Why did you run?
 - How did you figure out what your job was...roles and responsibilities?
 - What type of training/orientation materials have you found most useful
 - What do you think every new county board supervisor should know to help him or her with his or her new role?

Responses to Interview

Useful Training and Orientation Resources & Tips	What to share w/ other supervisors
Information and knowledge of long-term supervisors	Roberts rules; parliamentary procedure; open records and meetings; macro rather than micro view
Trail and error	Always look for ways to learn
Professional background & experience	Be professional; represent co and constituents
UW-Extension materials, workshops & wislines	Become familiar w/ gov't procedures, statutes, etc
Town board experience and workshops	Ethics, meeting management; rely on dept. heads; communication amongst supv. & dept hd.
WCA & UWEX WI's Co. Bd. Supv Hdbk.	Co. gov't basics; what are committee expectations
No formal or informal training or orientation	
WCA fact sheets & Conference (networking): History and Funding of Co. Gov't	

- **Roles and Responsibilities of Co. Bd. Supervisors** a PowerPoint was given by Alan Probst, UW-Extension Local Government Center
- **Each County will give an overview of how their training/orientating for new and existing county board supervisors:**
 - who/what is involved w/ designing the training/orientation?
 - is the T/O program formal or informal?
 - is the program only for new and/or experienced co. bd. supv.?
 - do your supv. go to external training/orientation session (e.g., WCA, LGC, etc.)?
 - ever tried any mentoring/shadowing program?
 - If you have done any evaluation, what do they find most valuable about the T/O?

County Training and Orientation Overview

County	Overview of Co. Bd. Training and Orientation (T/O) Program
Sauk	Tried a formal T/O program but did not deem it effective. Now Sauk Co. (Clerk, Corp. Council and CRD Educator) is working with the UW-Extension Local Government Center, UW-Oshkosh; WCA to create a new T/O template that focuses on improving communication amongst co. bd. Supv, committees and dept. heads. First one hour session will focus on roles/responsibilities, relationships and use applied learning methods. The second one hour session will focus on peer-to-peer learning. The third and final session will focus on policy-making.
Jefferson	Had an informal program in 2000. Developed a formal program see attached file for sample agenda.
Dodge	Informal T/O
Columbia	Formal program with training packet and tours
Green Lake	Orrin recapped that ICC created the first Co. Bd. T/O program was designed and hosted by ICC. In 1999 GL formalized it own T/O program for new supv.

- **Resources:** several resources were presented from UW-Extension, WCA and the WI Taxpayers Alliance. Jefferson Co. suggested that a brochure be designed outlining co. bd. Roles and responsibilities and distributed when potential candidates pick up their papers.

Open Discussion: Kurt Calkins of Col. Co. Land and Water Conservation Dept. highlighted the public participation process involved with the 2006 Land & Water Conservation Resource Plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. (Columbia/Dodge)

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Haas

Columbia County UW-Extension