

**Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday April 17, 2006
Room B30 West Square Building, Baraboo, Wisconsin**

Call to Order:

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

Attendance:

Jenny Erickson, Sauk County UW Extension; Halsey Sprecher, Sauk County; Bill Wenzel, Sauk County; Kathy Schauf, Sauk County; Corene Ederer-Sklar, Sauk County; Katie Crawley, Senator Feingold's Office; Dan Priske, Green Lake County; Orrin Helmer, Green Lake County; Dave Neuendorf, Dodge County UW Extension; Russell Kotthe, Dodge County; Jayme Sellen, WCA; John H. Trambung, Columbia County; Susan Martin, Columbia County; Representative J.A. Hines; Steve Nass, Jefferson County; Pat Beghin, Columbia County; Harlan Baumgartner, Columbia County; Jeff Hoffman, Green Lake County UW Extension; Sharon Schmeling, Jefferson County; Rick Kuhlman, Jefferson County; Gary Petne, Jefferson County; Donna Haugom, Jefferson County; Mark Fritsche, Dodge County; Ray Seaholm, Dodge County

The requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law were met.

The agenda was approved. (Sauk/Columbia)

The March 20, 2006 minutes were approved as amended.

Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials:

Update by State Representative J.A. Hines

- AB 881 – Public Health Issues was designed to provide direction to state and local public health departments in the case of a disease pandemic.
- It doesn't look as though Taxpayer Protection Amendment (TPA) or SB 1 will pass. An amendment was added to SB1 that would require local elected officials to disclose all their assets if they intend to run for public office.

Update by Katie Crowley, Senator Feingold's Office:

- Reported that Senator Feingold helped increase the federal funding for EMPG program.

Update of County Issues: – Jayme Sellen, WCA

- AB509 – Pothole liability bill would exempt counties from liability for damage due to potholes. County Board Supervisors should contact the Governor to support this bill.
- AB 152 Collections Bill. The county would receive a larger percentage of fines, fees and forfeitures collected.
- Price County failed to pass a County Board downsize referendum by 217 votes. The referendum would have reduced the County Board from 21 to 7 Supervisors.
- SB 1 – 66,000 local elected officials would have to disclose their assets if SB1 with amendment was passed. It has passed through the senate without amendments.
- TPA passed out of committee.
- AB675 – Passed out of Assembly. If this bill were to pass it would have a detrimental effect on zoning. Supervisors should try to convince the Governor to veto.

Program: Emergency Planning, Management, and Response

Each county asked their Emergency Management Director to address the following questions:

- Basic structure of their department (budget, staffing, etc)
- How terrorism has affected planning for natural disasters.
- Lessons learned from Katrina.
- Creative solutions/innovations developed to help their department become more effective and/or efficient.

The major themes that emerged were:

- Counties match 50% of EMPG grant money.
- Equipment and training purchased with Homeland Security funding must be tied to terrorism. Most counties try to look for opportunities where the equipment and training cover both terrorism and natural disasters by utilizing an all hazards training approach.
- It is important to build a trust-based relationship between employers and employees. If an employee is sick they should be encouraged to stay home.
- The most FEMA will reimburse a person who has lost everything is \$28,000.
- Public health has taken a bigger role in disaster because of the emerging concerns with disease pandemics.
- It is important to fully understand the roles and responsibilities of the National Guard.
- It is vital to have coordination on the local, state and federal levels. This was an issue during Katrina in Louisiana. FEMA will not bail counties out of local disaster issues. The county and state need to be prepared to handle disasters on their own.
- It is important to have family disaster plan and first responder disaster plans.
- Dodge County referenced the importance of refunding neighboring responders. Without some financial assistance other responders may not have the resources to help their neighboring county during a disaster.
- Many Emergency Management Directors serve on a variety of boards in order to better coordinate emergency management needs and services.

The ICC members tour the Sauk County Mobile Incident Command Post.

Open Discussion of County Issues Continued:

- Treasurer's report will need to be added to the May ICC agenda.
- The WCA is working to remove the sunset clause on the E911 cell phone tax.
- Waukesha's County Board was reduced from 35 to 25 Supervisors.
- Green Lake's County Board was reduced from 21 to 19 Supervisors.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jenny Erickson
Sauk County UW-Extension