

ICC Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2009
Montello, WI

1. Call to order

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

2. Roll call

Roll call was taken and those in attendance were:

Orrin Helmer	County Board	Green Lake
Marge Bostelmann	Clerk/Admin Coordinator	Green Lake
Dan Priske	County Board	Green Lake
Bob Westby	County Board	Columbia
John Tramburg	County Board	Columbia
Debra Wopat	County Board	Columbia
Ray Seaholm	First Vice-Chair	Dodge
Russell Kottke	Chair	Dodge
Jeff Hoffman	UWEX	Dodge
Paul Endres	Vice-Chair	Sauk
Jen Erickson	UWEX	Sauk
Howard Zellmer	Chair	Marquette
Brent Miller	Admin Coordinator	Marquette
Marty Havlovic	UWEX	Marquette
Steven J. Nass	Vice Chair	Jefferson
Gary Petre	Administrator	Jefferson
Steve Grabow	UWEX	Jefferson
Fred Clark	State Representative	42 nd District
Joan Balweg	State Representative	41 st District
John Reinemann		WCA

3. Open meeting

Meeting agenda was posted according to state open meeting statutes

4. Adoption of agenda

Moved by Columbia County to approve agenda, second by Sauk County. Motion carries on voice vote.

5. Approval of minutes of April 20th meeting

Moved by Sauk County to approve minutes of previous meeting with correction of name of Marquette County Administrative Coordinator from Brian to Brent Miller, second by Marquette County. Motion carries on voice vote.

6. Visiting Legislative Reports

Joan Balweg, 41st Assembly District. No knew news on state budget. Each individual budget line item will be looked at and voted on. Smoking ban passed both houses and the

governor will sign it and it becomes effective July 2010. There are some provisions in the smoking ban bill that may be changed – primarily permitting smoking in a percentage of hotel rooms. Serves on the state preparedness committee. Wisconsin has most cases of H1N1 flu cases but this is because state can test samples in-state and they are very aggressive at doing so.

Concerns/questions from the group included:

1. Use of swine name for flu and its effect on the hog industry
2. Beer taxes
3. Status of state employee furlough
4. Impact of the auto industry and unions in the state
5. Prevailing wages as they apply locally
6. Oil company franchise tax and its impact on local pump prices

Fred Clark, 42nd Assembly District. Talked about the federal medical assistance programs and their impacts in rural areas when it comes to nursing homes and elderly care. He also talked about the joint and separate liability that the state is proposing in budget.

Concerns/questions from the group included:

1. Increase of 3% requested from ETF for Wisconsin State Employment retirement fund
2. Wisconsin is in bottom 10% of States providing incentives to attract business to state
3. Impact of proposal to reduce interest from 12% to 6% on delinquent property taxes
4. Incentive to reward those paying full property tax bill early
5. State needs to look at total cost of operations to run state

John Reinemann, WCA. Talked about the WCA lobbying efforts down in Madison primarily with the Joint Finance Committee. WCA is writing papers on every budget issue detailing the WCA position, etc. Tough to get audience/meeting with JFC members but WCA has been successful. WCA is neutral on wind energy bill. Looking at legislation by the state to regulate such permits rather than leaving it to local towns, counties. Question of who shares fees, etc. Group meeting in Madison to look at “revenues”. Not a tax increase group but more of a group to look at how the state should pay for what services/products it provides. Property taxes isn’t the best route to take.

7. Program

Marty Havlovic, CNRED Educator in Marquette County presented program on the budgeting process and what approaches local governments use to develop their budgets. He talked about the various types of budgets – line-item, performance-based, zero-based, and outcome-based budgeting and looked at the advantages and disadvantages of each type of budget. Marquette County Administrator Brent Miller and Jefferson County Administrator Gary Petre discussed how their respective counties conduct their budget process – the time frame, who’s responsible, how they handle capital purchases, etc.

Discussion followed and group talked about how each county was addressing the issues facing the projected upcoming budget shortfalls. Use of furloughs, unpaid holidays, employee health-care premium payments, long-range planning, needs identification, sale of county assets (nursing home), etc. were all discussed.

8. County issues

The state-wide smoking ban was discussed. While it was preferred to local government entities making their own ordinances, some wondered whether it was an intrusion on private business and ones rights to smoke.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Sauk County to adjourn, second by Green Lake County. Chairman Russell Kottke adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted on Friday, May 22, 2009 by recording secretary Marty Havlovic.