Introductory Business
Call to Order – Chair Steve Nass called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Attendance: See attached sheet

Certification of Open Meeting Notice
The Secretary confirmed that the requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law were met.

Adoption of Agenda
Motion by Columbia County, second by Dodge County to approve the agenda. Approved.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Motion by Green Lake, second by Dodge County to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2006 meeting of the Intercounty Coordinating Committee. Approved.

Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials
Repr. Hahn:
- Sales tax
- Fund roads
- New power plants
- Quiet at the Capitol
- Impact fees

Repr. Dr. Hinz:
- Ethics
- TABOR
- Marcus Gumz passed away this past weekend

- Not much going on because legislature is not in session
- WCA will be sending a survey out to counties to get input
- Milwaukee Journal article about Red Prairie, WI business, considering moving from WI
- Tax exemption on pensions was another concern raised

Open Discussion of County Issues
Q: Gibraltar Rock Co. Park sale to DNR
A: Gibraltar Park cannot be sold to DNR because of deed restrictions
Q: Budget outlook for 2006-2007
A: Doesn’t look any better. Of great concern is funds to support WI’s seniors

Q: ICC dues and method of paying for meeting expenses – tabled until July’s meeting

PROGRAM: “Creating A Supportive County Economic Environment”
Creating and Supporting An Entrepreneurial Climate & Culture – Terry Wipple/Exec. Director of Juneau County Economic Development Corp.

- Today’s economy is based on the “Age of innovation and knowledge” and we are seeing more and more corporate down-sizing (producing more with less employees)
- During a Gov’r’s focus group, young working folks were asked several questions about how many of were interested in entrepreneurial start-ups, many of the participants did not express any interest. WI needs to work on nurturing its entr. Culture. WI is ranked 47th State ranked in ED.
- The entr’p’ial “culture and climate” supports failure. Most entrp. ventures fail and failure produces great lessons.
- The “network” of an entrp club is one of the best attributes
- At each Club meeting, every individual is asked: your name; what help do you need; what do you have to give
- Juneau’s Entrp. Club helps inventors explore ideas, find resources, establish a great network
- When the economy is bad there are more entrp. opportunities
- Entrp’ship is naturally contagious
- A person from a entrp’ial family is 50% more likely to have kids that become entrp
- An entrp. club is not about creating jobs or starting a business. It is place that is supportive and a place to get resources
- Inventors are passionate inventing but are not likely to be good business people. A club helps match partners (e.g., inventor w/ business manager)
- Growing entrp’ial ventures will help WI reduce the State’s “brain drain”
- A club helps people get excited and support their passion
- Many entrp’s are right brain thinkers
- The first two years of the Juneau Co. Club there was no club fees, last year there is a club fee
- Terry’s role w/ the Club is matching folks and bringing energy to the club
- Bringing various industry sectors together is a key to WI’s economic success (e.g., agriculture and tourism, etc.)
- WI is lacking IT services/support for home computers, a great chance for an entrp.
- Juneau Co. is becoming a hub of ED. Most of Terry’s board members don’t know 80% of what Terry does that’s OK. It is very difficult to gauge/measure the ED impacts of Entrp’ial efforts. No boundaries, gives Terry the freedom to be a successful ED director.
- Juneau Co.’s banks are now more interested in working w/ entrp’ers
- The business plan is not the important end product it is the process of putting a business plan together that is important

Columbia & Sauk County Entrepreneurial Club Barb Martin/Columbia Co. EDC
Barb Martin passed out a handout on the Columbia/Sauk Entrp. Club

- Successes are gauged in steps
- Club meetings are exciting and full of energetic
- Club meeting topics include: identity theft; patent development; WEN
- Wisconsin Entrepreneurial Network – Andy Ross/MATC
Andy showcased the WEN through the internet
- Entrp'ship is ED
- Jefferson Co. hosts an Entrp. Club. It has been up and going for 2 years. Club meeting topics include: gov’t contracting; business planning; patents; etc

Open Discussion of County Issues
Q: How long did it take for the Tri-county ED corp. to become a 501c (3)
A: One and a half years

Q: County union negotiations?
A: Jefferson: 2.5% COL (not to exceed 3%); new construction was 3.1%; wages will remain the same; cut longevity pay
   Dodge: are counties considering a two/three tier scale; no pension or healthcare upon retiring?; initiating long-term disability insurance
   Green Lake: wage 11/2%; Union wants living wage for employees

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 17th in Dodge County. The subject is “Get Out to Vote”.

Adjournment
The ICC meeting was adjourned by Chair Nass at 11:43 am

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Haas
Community Development Educator
UW-Extension, Columbia County