

Open meeting law complied with. Quorum verified.

Call to order:

The Legislative & Judicial Committee meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. in the Vilas County Courthouse conference rooms by Chairman Chris Mayer with the following committee members present: Jim Behling, Charles Hayes, Gary Peske and Linda Thorpe. Other persons present at various times during this meeting: Martha Milanowski, Janna Kahl, Joy Schmitz, Jason Hilger, George Diver, Ken Anderson and David Alleman.

Approve agenda to be discussed in any order by the Chair:

Motion by C. Hayes, 2nd by G. Peske to approve the agenda, with the agenda order to be presented at the Chair's discretion. All voted aye. Carried.

Approve February 7, 2013 meeting minutes:

Motion by L. Thorpe, 2nd by C. Hayes to approve the February 7, 2013 minutes as presented. All voted aye. Carried.

Travel permission requests:

The Clerk presented a written request from Child Support for participation in a conference and travel to Stevens Point, WI on April 25, 2013. Expenses will include mileage and meals. **Motion by G. Peske, 2nd by L. Thorpe to approve the travel request. All voted aye. Carried.**

Department reports:

J. Schmitz presented a February expenditure guideline and disbursement history report for the committee's review. G. Peske asked about current state funding levels. J. Schmitz replied that funding levels had stabilized. M. Milanowski presented the Corporation Counsel annual report. **Motion by G. Peske, 2nd by L. Thorpe to accept the report and to forward same to County Board for their action. All voted aye. Carried.** M. Milanowski reported her participation as a trainer, at a recent Chapter 51 training held in Oneida County. She also provided the committee with her office's February disbursement history report for review.

Standing Rules – resolution to County Board:

The committee reviewed and discussed the final draft of Standing Rule revisions. K. Anderson asked if provisions allowing for public comment at County Board meetings were included in the Standing Rules. M. Milanowski referenced the section in which that provision is contained. **Motion by G. Peske, 2nd by C. Hayes to forward the resolution to the County Board for adoption. All voted aye. Carried.** K. Anderson requested that Public Comment be made an agenda item on County Board agendas.

CDBG Consortium contract – resolution to County Board:

M. Milanowski explained the necessity of the contract and the resultant resolution. The Clerk explained that Vilas County participation in the consortium enables the county to take part in the disbursement of Community Development Block Grant funds. **Motion by**

G. Peske, 2nd by L. Thorpe to forward the resolution to the County Board for adoption. All voted aye. Carried.

Chapter 19 – Parks & Recreation – ordinance amendment to County Board:

M. Milanowski explained the reasons behind the proposed ordinance amendment. The amendment will strengthen animal control provisions as relates to county facilities used by the public. **Motion by L. Thorpe, 2nd by C. Hayes to forward the ordinance amendment to the County Board for adoption. All voted aye. Carried.**

Letters and Communications:

J. Behling reported on the selection process of a Veterans Services Officer.

Committee restructuring:

C. Mayer explained his vision of committee restructuring and led the committee in the discussion of the subject. Administration presented a document listing political hurdles that they believe need to be considered and overcome if restructuring is to proceed successfully. This list was discussed. L. Thorpe recommends a presentation to the County Board, outlining committee restructuring successes and savings, as experienced by other county governments. She also stated that the WCA can provide a presentation put on by Phillips & Borowski SC, which discusses the need to make county board operate in a more efficient manner. J. Behling prefers to lead by example; he recommends beginning the consolidation of the Highway, Forestry and Public Property Committees into a Public Works Committee, citing the immediate need and potential savings that could be realized. This concept was discussed. G. Peske is concerned about the lack of knowledge that his peers exhibit with regards to the need to restructure. Board members continue to micro-manage departments at the committee level; they need to transition over to policy makers. L. Thorpe stated that the WCA, in conjunction with the law firm Phillips Borowski SC, could provide a presentation on the proper role of Supervisors within county government. J. Behling agrees that educating Supervisors on the subject would be beneficial. C. Mayer asked for a committee consensus. **By consensus the committee agrees that efforts to further educate Supervisors with regards to their role as policy makers would be beneficial. They also agree that the County Board may benefit if presented with committee restructuring successes experienced by other counties.** L. Thorpe will communicate with other county contacts. The Clerk was instructed to contact Phillips Borowski. The committee hopes to provide these presentations at a future County Board meeting.

Future meeting date: The next regular meeting will be held at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, April 8, 2013.

Adjournment: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:22 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:
David R. Alleman
Vilas County Clerk.