

MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: July 5, 2019
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Room 115 Wood County Courthouse
TIME ADJOURNED: 12:12 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Clendenning, Bill Leichtnam,
Kenneth Curry, Brad Hamilton, Jake Hahn
OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Kastenholz. See attached list.

1. At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order.
2. Public comments. None at this time
3. The minutes for the June 7 and 18, 2019, meetings were reviewed. The Chair declared the meeting minutes for the June 7 and 18, 2019, meetings approved without objection. There were no objections.
4. The Committee reviewed monthly voucher and department reports of the departments it oversees. Moved by Hamilton, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the reports and payment of department vouchers. All ayes.
 - a. The Corporation Counsel's memorandum entitled "Sexual Harassment - Hostile Work Environment" was reviewed by the Committee and will be forwarded to the county board.
5. There were no claims and notices of injuries.
6. There were no new animal claims against the County.
7. The Committee reviewed correspondence and legislative issues.
 - a. Report of Citizens Groundwater Group. Supervisor Leichtnam gave an update on the Group's last meeting. Discussion was had on composting animal manure verses land spreading it. There are other processes with respect to dealing with animal waste that the Group will be looking into with regard to the impact on ground water. A copy of the minutes will be included in the packet. Moved by Hamilton, seconded by Hahn, to have Clendenning and Leichtnam attend Speaker Vos' Water Quality Task Force meeting in Stevens Point. All ayes.
8. Discussion on having local control of CAFO livestock siting. Portage County referred their resolution to Wood and other counties to consider supporting. The Committee decided to hold

- off discussion until input comes from Trempealeau County.
9. Courthouse security update. Van Tassel advised that the Sheriff's Department is on track to have the Courthouse security program implemented on October 1, 2019.
 10. Mentoring for new county board supervisors. Committee discussed who would select the mentor and if the process needs some structure or not. Will be discussed further at the next meeting.
 11. County Board rules.
 - a. County Board Committee restructuring commencing 2020. The Committee addressed the following proposals:
 - "The Wood County Board will elect every two years at its organizational meeting both a County Board Chair and Vice Chair. The County Board Chair will also serve as the County Administrative Coordinator. The County Board Vice Chair will also serve as the Chairperson of the Operations Committee." Moved by Hahn, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the provision but strike the third sentence which provides the Vice Chair will automatically chair the Operations Committee and put in its place: "The Operations Committee will elect its own chairperson." All ayes.
 - "The Executive Committee will no longer exist. The Executive Committee over time has come to serve as the Oversight Committee of the other standing committees thus giving members of the Executive Committee more formal and informal power. Good government cannot exist without a true balance of power. The Board will be comprised of six standing committees." Moved by Hamilton, seconded by Hahn, to strike all but the last sentence. 4 ayes, 1 nay. Curry voted no as he liked the explanatory language.
 - "Operations Committee. The Committee will oversee the County Treasurer, Finance Department, County Clerk, Information Technology Department, and the Human Resources Department."

The provision changes the name of the Executive Committee to the Operations Committee and removes its jurisdiction over Maintenance and Risk Management. There were no objections to the proposed changes to the Executive Committee.

- "Health and Human Services Committee. The Committee will oversee the Health Department, Human Services Department, and Veterans Department."

This provision proposes no changes to the current Health and Human Services Committee. There were no objections to this proposal.

- "Highway, Infrastructure and Recreation Committee. The Committee will oversee the Highway Department, Risk Management Department, Maintenance Department, Public Property, and Parks and Forestry Department."

This provision adds Risk Management, Maintenance, and Public Property to the Highway, Infrastructure, and Recreation Committee. Discussion had on what 'Public Property' means. The consensus was to accept the changes except to delete reference to Public Property.

- "Conservation, Planning and Zoning, and Education Committee. The Committee will oversee the Land and Water Conservation Department, UW Extension, Surveyor, the Planning and Zoning Department, and Economic Development."

There were no objections to the proposal to keep the Committee the same.

- "Judicial and Legislative Committee. The Committee will oversee Corporation Counsel, Child Support, Clerk of Courts, Register of Deeds, Victim Witness, District Attorney, Circuit Court Branches one, two, and three, the Family Court Commissioner, and Register in Probate."

There were no objections to the proposal which essentially maintains the current functions of the Judicial and Legislative Committee.

- "Public Safety Committee. The Committee will oversee the Sheriff's Department, Dispatch, Coroner, Humane Officer, Emergency Management, and Communications."

There were no objections to the proposal which essentially maintains the current Public Safety Committee.

- "All members of each committee will be appointed by the County Board Chair with confirmation by the County Board. The committees will elect their own committee chair. The County Board will be the governing authority over all oversight committees. All decisions made by the standing committees will go directly to the County Board for approval, no approval of another committee is necessary." Moved by Hamilton, seconded by Hahn, to add to the end of the first sentence: "... with the exception of the Operations Committee, which shall be elected directly by the County Board." All ayes.

 - "There will be no limit as to how many standing committees a supervisor can be appointed to, but all supervisors must have at least one appointment to a standing committee. A supervisor will only be allowed to chair one standing committee." Moved by Hamilton, seconded by Leichtnam, to change the first sentence to: "Provide that no supervisor shall be appointed to more than two standing committees unless an exception is approved by a 2/3 vote of the entire County Board." All ayes.

 - The Corporation Counsel was directed to bring back to the Committee at its regular August meeting a resolution implementing the above proposed changes.
- b. Resolution on Rule on the role of a Committee Chair. Will hold off until next month to discuss.
 - c. Per diems and salary of county board supervisors. Discussion had. No motions for changes at this time. [Salary \$150/month
Meetings are \$50
County Board Vice Chair also gets \$80/month
Administrative Coordinator gets added \$20,000/year]
 - d. Meal allowances. Discussion had. No changes.
 - e. Consideration of staggered terms. Brief discussion had. No changes.
 - f. Committee Secretary elimination. Current County Board Rule 29 requires that a committee member maintain minutes and approve them prior to being submitted to the County Board. Periodically this has proven problematic in getting minutes to the Board timely. The Committee supported the proposal and a resolution will be

presented at next month's meeting to have committee minutes sent to the County Board without requiring a secretary's approval.

12. Agenda items for the August 2019, meeting:
 - Mentoring of new County Board Supervisors.
 - County Board Restructuring Resolution.
 - Resolution on Role of Committee Chairs.
 - Committee Secretary Elimination
13. The next regular committee meeting will be August 2, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. The budget meeting will be August 13, 2019, at 2:15 p.m.
14. Meeting adjourned without objection by the Chairperson at 12:12 p.m.

Minutes taken by Peter Kastenholz and approved by Kenneth Curry.

Kenneth Curry

Kenneth Curry, Secretary (signed electronically)

