

Judicial and Legislative Committee
WCA Conference Resolutions Advisory Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 11, 2017
Wood County Courthouse, Room 114

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 p.m. by Supervisor Clendenning.

In attendance at the meeting were: Judicial and Legislative Committee members Clendenning, Leichtnam and Curry. Excused was Supervisors LaFontaine. Not present was Supervisor Wagner. Present also were Chairman Pliml, County Clerk Ceyress, WCA Deputy Director of Government Affairs, Sara Diedrick-Kasdorf .

Not every resolution was discussed or commented on, but was reviewed and are noted below along with the WCA's Resolution's Committee recommendation for action. Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf (SDK) commented and offered a synopsis of resolutions as questions were brought up and offered any background and insight from the WCA steering committees and the resolutions committee. SDK broke down the proposed action on the 61 resolutions into 3 categories; 44 recommended for adoption, 14 to indefinitely postpone and 3 to refer to the board of directors.

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

Res. #1– Supporting Full Funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. Supervisor Leichtnam questioned if the resolution covered tributaries also and how many years the \$300M is meant to cover. Discussion and clarification from SDK.

Res. #2 – Supporting an Increase in Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for County Forest Lands - Steering Committee recommends adoption. Resolutions Committee recommends indefinitely postponement. Short discussion as to the reasons for the varied recommendations.

Res. #3 – Responding to the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau Report “Wastewater Permitting and Enforcement, June 2016” - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt.

Res. # 4 – Opposing the Back Forty Mine – Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends refer to the Board of Directors. SDK explained that there are many open ended implications with this resolution that the WCA did not want to become obligated to.

Res. #5 - Supporting the Paris Climate Agreement - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends referring to the Board of Directors. Expecting a lot of discussion at the conference regarding this resolution. WCA's concern is the specific directives that are outlined that they would be obligated to.

Res. #6 – Supporting Reinstating the Forestation State Tax – Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends referring to the Board of Directors. SDK explained that it was referred to the board because at the time the steering committee met, it was an item in the

state budget. Another concern with the resolutions comes with the language ‘appropriate level’ when referring to funding.

Res. #7 – Adopting Public Participation Procedures for Updating the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Walworth County. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends indefinite postponement. SDK stated that Walworth County probably sent this in error.

Res. #8 – Recommending Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules; Res. #9 – Recommending Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules– Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK indicated that there were many varied opinions to the question based on whether you were from a highly tourism based county or not.

Res. #10 – Recommending Amendment to Wisconsin statute 59.22 - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends indefinite postponement. SDK explained that this subject has already been debated previously. WCA Supports and doesn’t need to add a third position on same subject.

Res. #11 - Supporting Proposed Legislation Allowing an Exception to Copy a Vital Record– Steering Committee recommends adoption as amended. Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. Due to timing, this is a moot point.

Res. #12 – Supporting a County Option Relating To Highway Committee/Commissioner Duties and Powers - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends indefinite postponement. Same resolution was presented in 2016 that was referred to the board. It is unclear what they want.

Res. #13-Res. #15

Res. #13 – Supporting Creation of a Nonpartisan Procedure for the Preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans – Steering Committee recommends indefinite postponement and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. **Res. #14 – Creating a Nonpartisan Procedure for the Preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans –** Steering Committee recommends indefinite postponement and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. **Res. #15 –Supporting Creation of a Nonpartisan Procedure the Preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans–** Steering Committee recommends indefinite postponement and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. Resolutions 13 – 15 all call for non-partisan redistricting. Staff recommends indefinite postponement. WCA feels it will hurt their lobbying position. Similar resolution was presented at 2014 conference and was indefinitely postponed. Probable amendments from the floor. WCA has current position already that the state uses the lines drawn by counties.

Res. # 16 – Advocating for Cooperative Extension Funding - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. This would mean more federal funding which is appealing to all.

Res. #17 and #18 Opposing the UW-Cooperative Extension Multi-County Reorganization Plan. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends indefinitely postpone. Due to timing, this is no longer an issue. Reorganization is taking place.

Res. #19 – Supporting the Governor’s budget Proposals to Lower the Lead Poisoning Definition and to Increase the Medicaid Reimbursement Available for Lead Investigations - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. Defines a lower lead poisoning level.

Res. #20 – Encouraging the United States Senate to Pass Senate Bill 2680 – Mental Health Reform Act of 2016 - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. Relates to federal strengthening of mental health services.

It was noted that the Chairman will ask for a suspension of the rules to allow for voting on multiple resolutions with one vote.

Res. #21 – Supporting Retention and Expansion of Wisconsin’s Aging and Disability Resource Centers’ Dementia Care Specialist Program and Promoting the Work of the Dementia Coalition in Eau Claire County. Res. #22 – Requesting the legislature Restore funding in the 2017 – 2019 State budget for Dementia Care Specialist Positions - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt.

Res. #23 – Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends indefinite postponement. SDK explains that WCA has already taken positions on most of this.

Res. #24 – Res. #27

Res. #24 – Requesting Adequate Funding from the State and Federal Government for Medicare and Medicaid Reimbursement to Skilled Nursing Facilities. Res. #25 – Requesting the State Legislature Increase Nursing Home Medicaid funding. Res. #26 – Requesting an Increase in Medicaid Reimbursement Rates. Res. #27 – Urging the Wisconsin Legislature and governor to Enact Legislation to Increase Medicaid Reimbursement Rates. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK explains that 24-27 are very similar and are asking for increased reimbursements.

Res. #28 – Res. #33 Supporting Increased Funding in the Children and Family Aids Allocation. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK explains that Resolutions 28 – 33 are very similar and asking for increased funding to counties for service children and families.

Res. #34 – Supporting WCA’s Efforts to Establish a Statewide 9-1-1 ESInet. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK explained need to move forward to next generation 9-1-1.

Res. #35 – Supporting State Funding to Hire more Prosecutors for County-Based District Attorney’s Offices Without Counting County-Funded Positions when Assessing Need or Distributing Prosecutor Positions. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK explained briefly that some counties fund their own prosecutor positions and thus are damaged by the process used to determine allocations of positions by the state.

Res. #36 – Requesting that Circuit Judges be Given Discretion Regarding Adding the DNA Surcharge to Each and Every Count in Criminal Judgements of Conviction. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK explained the current practice and implications of charge fees for each DNA testing.

Res. #37 – Requesting the State Legislature Enact Legislation Authorizing Counties to Impose up to .1% Sales Tax Exclusively for Economic Development, Tourism and Infrastructure for the Same. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt.

Res. #38 – Res. #44 - Supporting Efforts to Close Commercial Property Assessment Loopholes. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. These resolutions all relate to ‘dark stores’.

Res. #45 – Supporting Continued Funding of the Essential Air Service (EAS) Program - Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to adopt. SDK related that the WCA will write a caption so that it applies to all airports.

Res. #46 – Supporting the Completion of the Environmental Impact Study for the USH 12 Extension Project and Urging the State of Wisconsin to Include this Project in the Transportation Improvement Program for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2017-2020. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. SDK explained that this is too local and specific to add to WCA platform.

Res. #47 – Urging Elected Officials to Direct the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to Complete the USH 12 Environmental Impact Study. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. SDK explained that this is too local and specific to add to WCA platform.

Res. #48 – Urging the Surface Transportation Board to Conduct a Thorough Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Great Lakes Basin Railroad. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. SDK explained that this is too local and specific to add to WCA platform.

Res. #49 – Supporting The Initiation Of Passenger Rail Service Between West Central Wisconsin And The Twin Cities. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. SDK explained that this is too local and specific to add to WCA platform.

Res. #50 – Supporting Proposed Plan for Salary Increases for all University of Wisconsin Employees. Steering Committee had no recommendation . Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. SDK explains that the WCA is not able or inclined to lobby on behalf of UW employees.

Res. #51 – Encouraging Financial Support by the State of Wisconsin for LaCrosse Center Expansion Project. Steering Committee had no recommendation. Resolutions Committee recommends to indefinitely postpone. SDK explained that this again is too local and specific to add to WCA platform. However did state that WCA sent a letter in support of the project as they utilize that facility for conferences.

Res. #52 – Res. 61 – These resolutions are reaffirming positions already maintained within the WCA’s adopted platform. Steering Committee and Resolutions Committee recommend adoption of all.

SDK brought the committee up to date on transportation issues within the state budget. Supervisor Leichtnam stated his wish for far sightedness in regard to water issues. SDK encouraged pursuing a seat on the Environment and Land Use Steering Committee as a good way to have voice heard.

At 11:10 a.m. Chair Clendenning declared the meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by County Clerk Cepass. Approved by Secretary Curry.