

## MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: January 5, 2018  
 TIME: 1:30 p.m.  
 PLACE: Room 115, Wood County Courthouse  
 TIME ADJOURNED: 4:02 p.m.  
 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Clendenning, Ed Wagner, Bill  
 Leichtnam, Kenneth Curry, Dave LaFontaine  
 OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Kastenholz, see attached list

1. At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order.
2. Public comments. None at this time but quite a bit of commentary by attending supervisors and others took place during the course of the meeting.
3. Chairman Clendenning asked if there were any objections to the minutes for the December 1, 2017, meeting; there were none. The minutes were accepted as drafted.
4. The Committee reviewed monthly voucher and department reports of the departments they oversee. **Moved by Curry, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the reports and payment of department vouchers. All ayes.**  
 The Corporation Counsel gave an update on the Waite litigation in federal court, the financial risks to the county being low but the case proceeding to trial in federal court on 1/8/18.
5. The Committee reviewed the claims of Wanda Anderson, Peggy Sullivan, and David Krezinski. These claims will be provided to the county board.

There was some discussion on the Sullivan claim and if a response was necessary. Some supervisors expressed concern about culpability on the county's part and the number of employees leaving a relatively small department; others were satisfied with the changes. Ultimately the Committee accepted that this claim would be handled like any other, that being, left to the insurance company to address.

6. There were no new animal claims against the County.
7. The Committee reviewed correspondence and legislative issues.
  - a. Discussion on legislation that sunsets administrative code provisions after seven years unless renewed by legislature. Supervisor Leichtnam addressed AB 384 that forces the sunseting of administrative rules within seven years unless reapproved. Although unlikely to progress in the legislature this session, per Leichtnam's understanding, he wanted the Committee to weigh in because one representative could object to

the continued existence of a rule and force the review of the rule from scratch. Brent Vruwink advised that the WCA is monitoring this as it is a concern. Kulp and Spiros are co-sponsors. Moved by Wagner, seconded by LaFontaine to send a letter on behalf of the committee opposing the legislation. All ayes. Supervisor Wagner will prepare the letter.

- b. Sulfide mining bill. It was pointed out that the governor signed this bill but there is a seven month wait before its implementation. Discussion led into the conference later this month the Towns Association and the Counties Association are putting on, which is the next matter.
  - c. Mining 101 educational seminar. Chairman Clendenning expressed a desire to send Leichtnam and Curry to the conference. All ayes.
  - d. Resolution on LRB 3991. Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Clendenning, to approve the resolution to support LRB 3991, a DNR program to provide grants for testing of privately owned wells. 4 ayes, 1 no. Supervisor Wagner voted no as the changes he suggested to the legislation were not incorporated into it.
  - e. Corporation Counsel memorandum entitled "Intellectual Property Law" will be forwarded to the County Board.
8. Courthouse security committee report. Judge Brazeau explained the purpose of the committee which is mandated by the State Supreme Court, that being security of the courts. The first priority is securing Branch I as has been done with Branches II and III. Then, manned security posts likely at the front door. The group is also interested in securing the maintenance entrance and garage door. The Branch I updates are budgeted. The U.S. Marshall's Service is providing guidance. The Maintenance Department is looking into costs, including decommissioned metal detectors.
9. County Board rules.
- a. Terminating a position on county board floor. The Corporation Counsel opined that any rule prohibiting a budget modification at the county board meeting where the budget is reviewed is not in conformance with Wisconsin Statute section 65.90. Apparently Marshfield has a rule along these lines. Supervisor LaFontaine will bring a copy of the Marshfield rule to this Committee's attention as he feels Marshfield's rule is a good one. The Committee will further consider the issue next month.

- b. Establishment of a Public Property Committee. General discussion had on the functioning of the Public Property Subcommittee. Executive Committee Chairman Wagner expressed an intention to pursue adding two additional members to the ad hoc committee. Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by LaFontaine, to study the creation of a standing Public Property Committee. 4 ayes, 1 no. Supervisor Wagner opposed as he doesn't think there is a need for a standing Public Property Committee.
10. Attendance at WCA Legislative Exchange in Madison on February 6-7, 2018. Moved by Curry, seconded by Leichtnam, to send the Committee Chairman and another Committee member to the WCA Legislative Exchange in Madison. All ayes.
11. Educational reimbursement for employees. There is no opposition to continuing education and training. The issue is whether the county should fund employees pursuing advanced degrees (career advancement). Moved by LaFontaine, seconded by Curry, that the Committee does not support using county funds to pay for employees obtaining an advanced degree. All ayes.
12. Realignment of Human Resources Department/County Administrator or Coordinator. Wagner supports a full-time Administrator but not in conjunction with the Human Resources Department. Wagner supports professional management. Supervisor LaFontaine supports this as well. Leichtnam doesn't support it; the proposal would need more study and justification. Clendenning opposes paying a lot of money for someone else doing his job, so he adamantly opposes this. Curry has no position at this point. The Committee did agree that it would not be appropriate to consolidate the Human Resources Director position with an administrator or administrative coordinator position.
13. Discussion on resolution 17-2-14 regarding Social Media Policy. General discussion had on the Social Media Policy. The question seems to be whether too much authority is placed in the control of the Social Media Administrator, an employee within the IT Department. Explanation was given that the Administrator of the policy does not have the authority to discipline employees for violation of the policy. That information seemed to satisfy the Committee.
14. Discussion on resolution regarding communication tower placement on UW Marshfield/Wood County campus and distribution of revenues. Brief discussion had on the tower proposal. The city and county continue to work with the third party tower builder to finalize the contract terms.

15. Agenda items for the February 2018 meeting:
  - LRB 4305 Water Pollution Notification Act
  - Discussion of recruiting supervisors and interesting constituents.
  - Adding items under correspondence.
  - Terminating a position via board action at the budget meeting.
  - Electing committee chairs.
16. The next committee meeting will be February 2, 2018, at 1:30 p.m.
17. Moved by LaFontaine, seconded by Wagner, to adjourn. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Minutes taken by Peter Kastenholz and approved by Kenneth Curry.

Kenneth Curry

Kenneth Curry, Secretary (signed electronically)

# Judicial & Legislative Committee

JAN 5, 2018

Shane Wachter-Farnig

LCWD

Je Zupka

WCB-D17

Adam FISCHER

WC DOS

DENNIS POLACH

WCB-14

Brent Vinwiler

CSA

Brian Koenig

WCB-8

Nick Brazee

AMY KAUF

IT

Mark Cummins

Finance

Brian Vinwiler

LC HD

LANCE FINE

WCD

RVANTASSEL

WC

Ed Reed

Citizen