



**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024**

A. Call to Order

Chairman Farrey called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: 11 - Chuck Farrey, Steven Binder, John Hinz, Morris Cox, David Albrecht, Nate Gustafson, Ralph Harrison, Robert Keller, Douglas Nelson, Thomas Snider and Tom Egan (arrived at 8:40 am).

Absent: 6 - Maribeth Gabert, Andy Buck, Bryan Stafford, Karen Powers, Koby Schellenger and Larry Lautenschlager.

Also Present at the Meeting:

Ethan Hollenberger, Assistant to the County Executive

Chad Casper, Land & Water Conservation Dept Director

Eric Sparr, District Attorney

State Representative Nate Gustafson

State Representative Michael Schraa (arrived at 8:34 am)

Via Zoom:

Paul Kaiser, Finance Director

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Farrey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Committee

There were no public comments.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. Action Item: January 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Gustafson to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2024, meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

E. Update from State Legislators

1. Invited Legislators: Sen. Dan Feyen – District 18; Sen. Rachael Cabral-Guervara – District 19; Rep. Michael Schraa – District 53; Rep. Lori Palmeri – District 54; Rep. Nate Gustafson – District 55; Rep. Rep. Lee Snodgrass – District 57

Representative Nate Gustafson - District 55

** Representative Gustafson stated that the 2023-2024 session ended February 23, 2024. They would not return until after the fall election unless there is some special business that they would be called back in for.*

** The Shared Revenue was one of several bills passed this session which was seen both on the local and county level. Shared revenue was distributed to all counties and municipalities, so funding increases benefited a wide range of local governments.*

** Representative Gustafson discussed and explained the new boundary lines for District 55. Mr. Gustafson confirmed that he will be running against Representative Schraa in a primary being held on August 13, 2024.*

** Representative Gustafson stated it was an honor and privilege to serve in his first term and is hopeful he will serve another term and represent Winnebago County in this next session.*

Representative Michael Schraa - District 53

** Representative Schraa mentioned the Assembly passed 200 Bills during their last week in session. The Senate passed only a couple dozen of those bills.*

** Governor Evers signed a CESA Bill that gave \$50,000,000 to school districts to increase literacy.*

** Representative Schraa spoke on a couple of bills that has been part of the Criminal Justice Reform.*

2023 Senate Bill 722: This bill is a training program for correctional officers and how to identify symptoms of active psychosis among prisoners.

2023 Senate Bill 172: This bill creates a one-stop reentry community center so when an individual gets out of prison they have everything they would need to get and sign up for in one location in one building to help these individuals succeed after they've served their sentence. This bill passed both the Assembly and the Senate; and the Governor has signed the bill. The State of Wisconsin is going to start this as a pilot program in Milwaukee County.

** Wisconsin lawmakers passed a pay raise for corrections officers in an effort to improve prison conditions and attract more staff in hopes of fixing staffing shortages. Representative Schraa stated it definitely has had a huge impact. When an individual wants to become a correctional officer, they need to attend a six-week training academy called the Facility Staff Training and Support Program. This academy has seen a huge increase of individuals participating which is partially contributed to the \$33/hr starting wage.*

** Representative Schraa brought in the new Legislative District map and pointed out that the maps have changed significantly. Mr. Schraa discussed the changes in the borders/boundaries between the Assembly and Senate.*

F. Update from Federal Representatives

1. Invited Representatives: Senator Baldwin, Senator Johnson, Congressman Grothman and Congressman Mike Gallagher

There were no federal representatives present.

G. Communications Shared by Committee Members

Chairman Farrey mentioned there was not a 'Chairmans Report' item on this agenda and that will be corrected and added to future agendas.

Chairman Farrey announced and clarified that County Board Chairman Egan is a voting member for the Legislative Committee per County Board Rule 24.5.

Chairman Farrey announced that Supervisor Albrecht was not able to attend the March 19, 2024, County Board meeting. A recognition of retiring County Board Supervisors took place during that meeting. County Board Chairman Egan presented a plaque recognizing Supervisor Albrecht for all his dedication and service to Winnebago County serving on the County Board and multiple committees.

H. Updates from the County Executive

1. New Legislative District Maps
Ethan Hollenberger, Assistant to the County Executive, briefly explained the updates and changes to the new Legislative District Maps. He provided a handout that highlighted the new boundary lines for the Senate and State Representative Districts.

I. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. Resolution: Discussion/Action - Sawyer County Resolution 2023-27 – "Resolution on Enhanced Wake Regulations"

- This resolution was read in at the December 19, 2023, County Board of Supervisors meeting and referred to the Legislative Committee.
- The Legislative Committee met on January 22, 2024, and they voted to refer this to the Land Conservation Committee.
- The Land Conservation Committee met on March 14, 2024. The committee voted 5-0, to approve the Sawyer County Resolution and refer it back to the Legislative Committee.

Motion by Supervisor Binder, seconded by Supervisor Albrecht, to approve and forward to the County Board. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

J. Items for Next Agenda (i.e. Resolutions from other Counties)

Suggestions from committee members for items to be addressed on a future agenda

- *Resolutions from other counties that were referred to the Legislative Committee from the County Board.*
- *Resolution Establishing a Winnebago County Position on "Enhanced Wake" Regulations. The Land & Water Conservation Committee will be adding this resolution to their April meeting agenda.*

K. Next Meeting Date: May 20, 2024?? (Regularly scheduled 4th Monday would have been Monday, May 27, 2024 (Memorial Day)

The next meeting will take place on Monday, June 3, 2024, at 8:30 am.

L. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Gustafson to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 am.

Submitted by:

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor

Winnebago County Deputy Clerk