

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, August 26, 2019

James P. Coughlin Center

Present: Thomas Egan, David Albrecht, Paul Eisen, Tom Ellis, Chuck Farrey, Jerry Finch, Robert Keller, Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Harold Singstock, Tom Snider, Robert Warnke and Bill Wingren

Also Present: Representative Mike Rohrkaste, Mark Harris – County Executive, Bill Topel – Human Services Director, Douglas Gieryn – Director of Public Health, Niki Euhardy, Public Health Policy and Equity Coordinator, Jerry Bougie – Director of Planning and Zoning, Cary Rowe – Zoning Administrator, and John Casper – President/CEO Oshkosh Area Chamber of Commerce

Excused: Maribeth Gabert, Patrick O'Brien and Aaron Wojciechowski; Senator Feyen, Jennifer Garner, District Director for Representative Tammy Baldwin and Representative Gordon Hintz

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Finch and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2019 meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Public Comments:**

No public comments.

**Correspondence:**

Representative Gordon Hintz, Senator Dan Feyen and Jennifer Gardner – District Director for Senator Tammy Baldwin asked to be excused from this meeting.

**Discussion/Action: Door County Resolution No. 2019-41 – “Urging the Legislature to Revise the Statutes for Court Fees and Costs in Probate and Juvenile Cases”**

Motion by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Snider to bring this forward for discussion. Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to postpone this resolution until the next meeting and invite Melissa Pingel, Winnebago County Clerk of Courts, for clarification of these revisions of the Statutes for Court Fees and Costs in Probate and Juvenile Cases. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Discussion/Action: Kenosha County Resolution No. 20 – “Resolution asking Governor Evers and the Wisconsin State Legislature to apply for a waiver from Federal rules excluding institutional stays from Medicaid coverage”**

Motion by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Snider to bring this forward for discussion. Dr. Bill Topel explained to the committee how this resolution could affect Winnebago County in a positive way. Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Snider to approve. After discussion as to whether or not a resolution should be drafted from Winnebago County, Supervisor Farrey amended his motion supporting the Kenosha County Resolution No. 20 and to forward to the County Board in conjunction with a Winnebago County resolution being drafted with the same intent and purpose. The amended motion was seconded by Supervisor Finch. Supervisor Farrey amended his amended motion and it was seconded by Supervisor Snider to approve Kenosha County Resolution No. 20 and forward to the full County Board. Supervisor Eisen called for the question. Vote on Resolution: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. NAYES: 1 – Wingren

**Discussion/Action: Portage County Resolution No. 134-2018-2020 – “Supporting Local Control for Livestock Siting”**

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Snider to bring this resolution forward. Supervisor Farrey explained that livestock siting is State controlled. CAFOs are Concentrated Livestock Feeding Operations with over 700 units. Permits are required from the DNR to construct these operations. These are located mostly in townships. Townships have very little control over these operations; the option to issue conditional use permits. Portage County feels control should be at the County level versus the State level. Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Snider to approve and forward to the full County Board. Vote to Approve: AYES – 8; NAYES – 4. CARRIED.

**Discussion/Action: Door County Resolution No. 2019-50 – “Public Health Resolution Requesting the Wisconsin Legislature End the Use of Personal Conviction Waivers for School and Day Care Center Immunizations”**

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Eisen to bring this forward for discussion. Supervisor Norton asked to have the Senate Bill number included with this resolution. (2019 SB262). Supervisor Eisen hoped the

State Legislators would provide their input regarding this issue. Public Health Director, Doug Gieryn, expressed his concerns in regard to this matter. There are three waivers that can prevent someone from being vaccinated: religious, medical and personal waivers. Wisconsin is one of fifteen states that allow personal reasons for exemption from vaccinations. Supervisor Farrey inquired if this would infringe on constitutional legal rights under state and federal laws and public safety concerns. Representative Rohrkaste does not feel it will move forward this session, there is not enough support. He said that there has been discussion to educate the public regarding this matter. A resolution regarding this matter was presented at the County Board on August 20. That resolution was pulled from the agenda, because this resolution from Door County was already on the agenda for the Legislative Committee meeting. Director Gieryn recommended that this resolution be brought back to the County Board from the Board of Health with support from the Legislative Committee. After further discussion, motion by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Snider to postpone indefinitely to allow the County Board to address and discuss the resolution that was proposed to them in August. FAILED BY VOICE VOTE. Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Finch to approve and support, from the Legislative Committee, 2019 Senate Bill 262 and Assembly Bill 248 and forward to the full County Board. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Discussion/Action: Burnett County Resolution No. 2019-21 – “Medicaid Expansion”**

This item was pulled from the agenda. It was addressed and passed at the June 24, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting.

**Discussion: Medicaid Re-entry Act, Bill number HR1329**

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Snider to bring this forward. Bill number HR1329 involves Medicaid coverage for someone that is incarcerated in jail. Currently, Medicaid does not cover someone while incarcerated. This bill would allow them to be covered during the last 30 days of commitment and hope to prevent them from being re-incarcerated by providing treatment before they are released. This item will be added to the next agenda to include discussion and action.

**Discussion of Mandatory Adoption of the Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) for the Sawyer Creek Floodplain Study – Effective March 27, 2019**

The Planning and Zoning Committee voted in favor of this study and it will be forwarded to the County Board for approval. The City of Oshkosh proposed this to the Planning and Zoning Department to adopt new flood plain studies as part of their flood plain program. This would also include flood storage areas. The original proposal was brought to the County Board in May. The Committee encouraged the board to deny it at that time as it would be more restrictive than the State of Wisconsin. Since that time, FEMA has told the Planning and Zoning Department that the County had to adopt this plan or they would be denied the National Flood Insurance Program. This item is a closed hearing item that involves legal matters. Today was for discussion only and will be presented to the entire County Board at a later date.

**Discuss Proposed/Potential State Legislation as presented by Local Legislators and Committee Members**

No items brought forward.

**Update from State Legislators:**

Representative Mike Rohrkaste – District 55:

- Sessions will start in October
- Committee Meetings: Clean Water Adoption, Suicide Prevention and Task Forces
- Elder Care Protection Legislation

Representative Rohrkaste announced that he will not be seeking re-election in 2020.

**Update from County Executive Mark Harris**

County Executive Mark Harris reported that the fair market value of property in 2018 was up 5%. Changes in new construction is what determines the increase available for the taxes levied. Net new construction for 2019 was 1.42%. At that percentage, it would add \$700,000.00 new dollars for the levy. Changes in health insurance will affect the budget by \$900,000.00. Reserves will be used to offset this expense. Currently the County is in good financial shape, but long term prospects are not good unless there would be a change in the tax levy rules.

**Update from Federal Representatives:**

No one present.

**Topics to be discussed at next Legislative Committee Meeting – Nothing noted.**

**Next Meeting Date** – The next meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2019.

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.  
The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie Barthels, Recording Secretary