

Draft Minutes
Dane County Towns Association Executive Board
December 21, 2011 – 7:00pm
Madison Town Hall
2120 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison

Present: President Derr, Pat Downing, Bob Lee, Tim Roehl, Jim Pulvermacher, Steve Schulz

Absent: Ted Olson

Also Present: Mark Hazelbaker, Legal Counsel; Renée Lauber, Policy Advisor.

Meeting called to order by President Derr at 7:08 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: Roehl/Pulvermacher. Approve 10-19-11 minutes as written. Carried unanimously.

Motion: Roehl/Pulvermacher. Approve 11-9-11 minutes as written. Carried unanimously.

(Downing and Lee arrived)

Review and Comment on Draft Farmland Preservation Plan

DATCP approved a one year extension. Board members discussed the importance of getting information on the new plan out to town boards, landowners, farmers and the Farm Bureau and Farmers Union.

The Board did a detailed page by page review of the draft plan and directed Renée to work with the Farmland Preservation Subcommittee on the edits. They would like to start plans for educational sessions for town officials and farmers/landowners as soon as possible.

Approve 2012 meeting calendar

Meetings will continue to be held the third Wednesday of the month. The meeting calendar is attached to the minutes.

Update on DaneCom

24 towns have approved the agreement. Four towns have rejected the agreement. Three towns have not yet voted. Three towns have agreed to pay for DaneCom with altered agreements. The county has not yet determined how to count the altered agreements. Renée will continue to work with the County Executive's office on this.

Update DCTA Audit Committee

Mark has been going over the DCTA account with his office manager and accountant. The account had not been reconciled since 9/2010. The paperwork should be ready for the audit committee next month.

Review Survey Information

Renée has received surveys from 4 towns.

Motion: Roel/Pulvermacher. Table item until next meeting. Encourage towns to get surveys in prior to the January meeting. Carried unanimously.

Housekeeping

Jim Pulvermacher requested that the Executive Board review account statements and approve expenditures each month. Mark stated that he would make that happen. Monthly meeting sign in sheets with mileage statements were also discussed.

Review Draft 2012 Budget

Mark presented draft dues and budget spreadsheets.

Motion: Roehl/Pulvermacher. Adopt dues schedule for 2012 same as 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark proposed shifting professional salaries to improve DCTA communication.

Motion: Pulvermacher/Schulz. Increase Renee's compensation by \$5,000 and reduce Mark's by same amount. Change Executive Board per diem to \$50 per meeting with no payment for mileage.

Amendment proposed by Downing to reduce amount to \$2,500 failed for lack of a second. Motion carried. Downing and Derr opposed.

Communicating Minutes

The Board discussed sending meeting minutes directly to towns.

Motion: Roehl/Downing. Allow Executive Board 48 hours to comment on minutes then send minutes to the towns.

Amendment Downing/Derr. Distribute minutes 5 days after the meeting. Amendment carried. (Roehl opposed)

Motion: Derr/Downing. Draft minutes go out in 5 days. Carried unanimously.

Request DCTA File Amicus Brief Opposing an Annexation

A group of citizens is filing a lawsuit opposing an annexation in the town of Polk, Washington County, WI and has asked the DCTA and Wisconsin Towns Association to file an amicus brief opposing the annexation with the WI Supreme Court.

Motion: Derr/ Schultz. The DCTA will not participate. Carried unanimously.

The Board chose not to participate because it was not clear if the local town is supportive of the legal action.

Other Business

Road Weight Limit Ordinance. A letter critiquing the model Weight Limits Ordinance was received from the Wisconsin Dairy Business Association (DBA). The Board discussed the DBA clearly not understanding the model ordinance. Mark will write letter to the DBA to close the loop.

Chickens Ordinance Amendment. Patrick Miles is working on an ordinance to allow up to 8 chickens in residential areas. The city of Madison allows chickens in single family residential areas. The Board thanked Supervisor Miles for allowing them to review the OA before it was introduced. They would like to send it to towns and review the OA and town comments at the next Board meeting.

Initial Board comments on the OA centered on subdivisions with restrictive covenants. There might be issues in neighborhoods with such covenants and a need for a delayed effective date so neighborhoods could be made aware of the proposed changes and, if necessary, have time to amend their covenants accordingly.

Motion: Downing/Pulvermacher. Thank Supervisor Miles for the opportunity to comment and send OA to towns requesting review and comment before next Executive Board meeting. Carried unanimously.

CARPC – Board members asked President Derr for an update on a motion made at the October 2011 meeting asking the Budget and Personnel Panel to hire an Executive Director. Derr stated he was not able to set a meeting date for the Budget and Personnel Panel.

Adjourn

Motion: Pulvermacher/Schulz. Adjourn at 10:21 pm.