

DCTA Executive Board
January 15, 2014 – 7:00 PM
Town of Madison
2120 Fish Hatchery Rd, Madison, WI

Present: Pulvermacher, Lee, Olson, Roehl, Klein Kennedy

Absent: Derr, Schulz

Also: Renée Lauber, Mark Hazelbaker

Meeting called to order by acting Chair Roehl 7:04 PM.

Minutes

Motion Pulvermacher/Olson. Approve minutes from 10/16/13. Carried unanimously asking Mark to follow up on a report to towns on our accomplishments. Motion: Pulvermacher/Klein Kennedy. Approve 11/20/13 with change that Olson was not present. Carried unanimously. Motion: Olson/Lee. Approve 12/17/13 minutes. Carried unanimously.

Review and approve Financial Statements. Statement were reviewed and towns that had made payments were noted.

Review and approve 2014 meeting calendar Meeting days (Tues. v. Wed.) for membership and annual meetings were discussed. Switching meetings to Tuesdays caused other people to not be able to attend. A decision was made to stick with the 3rd Wednesday meeting dates. There was consensus that meeting locations should move around the county and suggestions for meetings in town halls that we have not been to. Renée will follow up on this and send out a 2014 calendar.

Review Dane County Initiatives

Healthy Skies Initiative

This topic has been referred to as the Blue Skies Initiative, Healthy Skies Initiative and Dane County Air Pollution Inventory. Renée reported that there was a \$35,000 amendment to the County 2014 budget via the EANR Committee, sponsored by Supervisor Ripp to fund:

Expenditures be increased by \$35,000 in the Department of Planning and Development to fund a POS contract and LTE position(s) for a communitywide inventory of air pollutants, including greenhouse gas emissions, throughout Dane County business, not-for-profits, and residences; an inventory of conservation and efficiency opportunities and renewable energy resources; and the creation of a climate action strategic plan for the greater Dane County community.

The amendment was requested by CRANES (Capital Region Advocacy Network for Environmental Sustainability). The request is based on work members of CRANES did with the Capital Region Sustainable Communities (CRSC) consortium (a group funded by a HUD grant through CARPC – Capital Area Regional Planning Commission). A CRSC developed a report on Greenhouse Gas & Air Quality. The first two recommendation of that report are similar to the 2014 Budget Amendment.

Renée asked John Hendrick what the purpose of budget amendment was. He replied that it was to establish baseline data. They expect federal grant money to be available in the future for projects – baseline air pollutant data will be needed to apply for grants.

Members of the Executive Board noted that Maidson's air quality is substandard – it is one of the worst places to live if you have asthma. It is a given that report will come back with negative findings. The stick will come on the towns because the county cannot do anything against the cities and villages.

Commuter traffic is the air quality problem but they are going to say it is the people that live in the country that cause the problem.

This item should be on the agenda for our next meeting with the County Executive. Renée will send a report to the towns on this topic with the conclusion that we don't see a positive outcome for towns and noting that the amendment was done without any public discussion.

Chapter 10 Task Force (CAFO). The next Chapter 10 meeting is scheduled for 1/30/14. There still is not a clear understanding of what could be accomplished if state CAFO legislation is adopted in Dane County. Additionally, the CAFO rules are due to be reviewed in 2014 and there is speculation that the review could be controversial. Jim Pulvermacher feels the real concern is for roads and the impact of the traffic and hauling that larger operation generate. He commented that there is legislation that could have the state increase road weight limits. If this happens the towns will bear the cost. This topic (and specifically road weight protection) will be discussed with the County Executive at our next meeting.

Comp Plan Steering Committee (hydric soils) – Tim Roehl asked about the status of maps showing the proposed hydric soil development restriction being sent to towns. Renée stated that she spoke with Brian Standing earlier in the week and they were ready to be mailed – he was just working on the cover letter. She asked to add information on the county's plan to notify landowners of this proposal to the letter. He indicated that their current plan was to do notification letters based on the amount of property that would be removed from potential development. A meeting date on this topic has not been set yet. The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be on 1/27/14. It will cover housing and homeless issues. The hydric soil topic will likely be taken up in February.

Dane Com – Exec. Board members noted that the paging final testing is proceeding and changes are being made. They also noted that towns will have the opportunity to drop out of the Dane Com contract next year. Many are very uncomfortable not knowing what operation and maintenance costs will be. Renée commented that we brought this topic up with the County Executive at our last meeting – to warn him it was likely towns would consider not signing another contract. His response was that that was over a year away.

Ordinance Amendment (OA) 26 – Exec. Board members discussed their fears about this OA giving the county more control over town land use decisions. They also pointed out that the staff memo was quite slanted in favor of the OA. They expressed an understanding that towns are of various opinions on this topic and thus decided that the association will not take a position on the OA.

However, they would like to provide education on topic especially on the option for towns to develop their own ordinances to address the nonconforming sites.

Jim Pulvermacher noted that, if needed, the DOT can step in and create borrow pits. In such situations local control is lost - the DOT doesn't have to bond the roads or respond to any town operational requests. He believes that if towns give control to the county, the county will either deny the site or attach so many conditions that the site is not workable. He asked for town education on ordinances like the town of Dunn enacted. Mark will review the Dunn and Berry ordinances and send a memo to the towns.

There was also a discussion of how large mineral extraction companies are in favor of this OA because it will help put a burden on the small operators and increase their monopoly.

Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC)

Renée sent an email on 1/9/14 to town clerks requesting applications for the open seat.

Motion: Klein Kennedy/Pulvermacher. Thanking Bob Wipperfurth for his service. Carried unanimously. DCTA will have candidate interviews in February and replacement in March. In March we should post the position that is up in May. In June we should ask the town CARPC Commissioners to a meeting.

County Board Reorganization in March Mark should send a letter to the Count Board regarding a new structure for ZLR

State Legislation

-MMSD – Tim noted that a resolution in favor of the proposal passed the Madison City Council and that the Builders are going to be behind this. Renée noted that she heard the farmers were opposed to the proposal and their representatives (republicans) would not let it happen.

- CARPC – Tim reported that the proposal to limit CARPC to only water quality work and to require a 90 day approval process has legs and it might happen during the next session.

- Towns out of Dane County Zoning – Tim is working on getting the proposal redrafted.

9:11 Motion: Klein Kennedy/Olson. Adjourn.