

Open meeting law complied with. Quorum verified.

Call to order:

The Legislative & Judicial Committee meeting was called to order at 9:04 A.M. in the Vilas County Courthouse conference rooms by Chairman Sig Hjemvick with the following committee members present: Jim Behling, Ron De Bruyne and Kathleen Rushlow. Steve Favorite was excused. Other persons present at various times during this meeting: Scott Jensen, Martha Milanowski, Joy Schmitz, Joe Van De Laarschot and David Alleman.

Approve agenda to be discussed in any order by the Chair:

Motion by K. Rushlow, 2nd by R. De Bruyne to approve the agenda, with the agenda order to be presented at the Chair's discretion. All voted aye. Carried.

Approve January 10, 2012 meeting minutes:

Motion by K. Rushlow, 2nd by R. De Bruyne to approve the January 10, 2012 minutes as presented. All voted aye. Carried.

Veteran's Service report:

S. Jensen presented an abbreviated budget report. There are no current budget issues. Funds remain for remaining December 2011 expenses. He reported attendance at a Transportation meeting held in Stevens Point in January. He also reported that a local Korean War veteran was presented with medals earned during that conflict. S. Hjemvick reported attending a recent Navy Band concert, held in Phelps, WI. He wondered if these types of events were publicized. S. Jensen stated that local media publicized the event. He reported that a benefit was being held at the Holiday Lodge, located in Phelps, WI. The Wounded Warrior program is the stated beneficiary. He then asked the committee to consider relocating the Veteran's Services office into the current Commission on Aging offices, should that space become available. R. De Bruyne replied that Public Property was taking that issue under advisement. **Motion by R. De Bruyne, 2nd by J. Behling to approve Veterans Service department vouchers. All voted aye. Carried.** There were no request for department travel.

Judicial update:

S. Hjemvick reported on a letter that he received from Judge Nielsen regarding recent courtroom shooting in Minnesota. R. De Bruyne reported that the Public Property Committee continues to deliberate on courthouse security issues. J. Behling stated that a draft security plan has been on the agenda since last Fall. K. Rushlow encouraged Public Property to keep the Legislative & Judicial Committee informed. S. Hjemvick also wants the Law Enforcement Committee included in any security discussions. R. De Bruyne informed him that Sheriff's staff members were routinely include in discussion of security issues.

Agenda format and department oversight activities:

S. Hjemvick feels that the Legislative & Judicial Committee is a good candidate for combination with other similar committees. K. Rushlow is concerned about closed session issues that may arise due to committee restructuring. Would the committees be so large as

to cause problems with keeping closed session discussions “closed”? S. Hjemvick recalled that proposed restructured committee size was seven members. J. Behling felt that K. Rushlow presented a valid point, but added that consequences for “leaks” could be addressed by policy.

K. Rushlow excused herself from the meeting at 10:14 A.M.

a. Strategies to eliminate committee micro-management of departments:

J. Behling felt that the committee did not need to deal with monthly department budgets, voucher approval and travel approval. Department heads can assume that responsibility. Department reports can address those issues in writing, using a format established by committee policy. S. Hjemvick is concerned about committees losing touch with department heads under their jurisdiction. He feels that attendance by department heads at committee meetings may be reduced, but should not be eliminated.

M. Milanowski presented her department’s recommendations regarding this issue. She does not feel that her department is overly micro-managed, but stated that budget, travel and equipment purchase issues could be left up to the department head. J. Schmitz presented a written list recommending areas where committee micro-management can be eliminated.

Child Support report:

J. Schmitz presented her monthly report of operations and finances. Her budget remains on track. Annual cooperative agreements with the State have been approved and signed. State recommended computer monitors have been purchased and installed. Security issues in her department remain on the Public Property agenda. She has reduced clutter and reorganized her office area. **Motion by R. De Bruyne, 2nd by J. Behling to approve Child Support vouchers. All voted aye. Carried.** No request for travel were presented.

Standing Rules:

M. Milanowski presented a draft of proposed Standing Rules additions and revisions. The committee discussed proposed amendments and language changes. M. Milanowski offered her advice and reasons why specific changes needed to be made, primarily for the sake of added clarity. Other proposed revisions pertaining to county committees were discussed. M. Milanowski recorded all pertinent changes to the draft copy, which will be presented for further discussion at the March meeting. No formal action was taken on Standing Rule revisions by the committee at this time.

Corporation Counsel report:

M. Milanowski reported on her department’s January 2012 activities and workloads, included Chapter 51 and other commitment cases. Workloads continue to increase. She also presented monthly vouchers for approval. **Motion by R. De Bruyne, 2nd by J. Behling to approve Corporation Counsel bills. All voted aye. Carried.** No travel requests were presented.

County record retention ordinance:

M. Milanowski reported that she continues to work on possible revisions to this ordinance. She plans to present any revisions at the March meeting.

Legislative update:

Nothing presented

Letters and Communications:

Nothing presented.

Future meeting date:

The next regular meeting will be held at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, March 12, 2012.

Adjournment: S. Hjemvick adjourned the meeting at 12:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David R. Alleman

Vilas County Clerk.

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.