

L & J Committee Meeting

August 9, 2011

Chair Sig Hjemvick called to order the meeting of the Legislative & Judicial Committee at 9:01 a.m., Tuesday, August 9, 2011, in Conference Room #1, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Public meeting notice was given to the public more than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

Legislative & Judicial Committee Members Present: Chair Sig Hjemvick, James Behling, Ron De Bruyne, Gene Ciszek and Steve Favorite.

Others Present: Scott Jensen, Joy Schmitz, Martha Milanowski, Judge Neal Nielsen and recording secretary Beth Carter.

Motion by S. Favorite, seconded by J. Behling to approve the agenda to be discussed in any order of the Chair. All voting aye, carried.

Motion by J. Behling, seconded by G. Ciszek to approve the July 12, 2011, minutes as printed. All voting aye, carried.

Veterans Service Office Matters: Veterans Service Officer Scott Jensen submitted and reviewed the expenditure guideline and vouchers for the Veterans Service Office. Committee members signed vouchers as presented. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by S. Favorite to approve his budget presentation to the committee. All voting aye, carried. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by J. Behling to approve the bills as presented. All voting aye, carried.

Mr. Jensen reported the following: Mr. Jensen is seeking approval to attend CVSO Fall Conference in Rothschild, Wisconsin, October 3-7, 2011. Cost to attend: Lodging \$200.00, Meals \$200.00, Travel \$100.00 and Registration/Banquet \$155.00. Total expenditure: \$745.00. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by S. Favorite that Mr. Jensen be given approval to attend the CVSO Fall Conference in Rothschild, Wisconsin, October 3-7, 2011. All voting aye, carried.

A widower of a veteran applied for VA benefits. The benefits were denied. Mr. Jensen explained to the Committee that the claim is being appealed. The Traveling Board of Veterans Appeals will be in Milwaukee on Monday, August 15, 2011. Mr. Jensen is seeking approval to take the client down to Milwaukee to appear before the board and argue his claim. Mr. Jensen believes the VA was incorrect in denying him benefits and that it is his duty to represent him. Cost: Travel \$275.00 one (1) day trip. Discussion. Motion by S. Favorite, seconded by J. Behling to approve. All voting aye, carried.

Last month we discussed the Veteran Service Commission with the passing of Ray Johnson, one of the commission members. Mr. Jensen reported to the committee that he received two (2) resumes from interested individuals and has been forwarded to County Board Chair Steve Favorite. S. Favorite explained to the Committee that he reviewed the resumes and wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Jensen's recommendation of appointing Merc Jensen. County Board Chair Steve Favorite will make that appointment on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 and then County Board will ratify the appointment. S. Favorite recommends that Mr. Jensen send a 'thank you letter for applying' to the individual not being considered for the appointment. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by S. Hjemvick to recognize Ray Johnson for the years of service given to Vilas County on the Veteran Service Commission by resolution. All voting aye, carried. Mr. DeBruyne will contact Corporation Counsel to prepare the resolution.

Mr. Jensen informed the committee that the Veteran Service Annual Report is complete. S. Favorite indicated that all County Board Supervisors received the Veteran Service Annual Report in their most recent County Board packet.

Closed Session: Motion by S. Favorite, seconded by G. Ciszek to move into closed session at 9:16 a.m. pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, compensation and performance evaluation data of a public employee over which the Legislative and Judicial Committee exercises responsibility. Roll call found the following members voting yes: James Behling, Ron De Bruyne, Gene Ciszek, Steve Favorite and Chair Sig Hjermvick. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Favorite, seconded by R. DeBruyne to adjourn the closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) and return to open session at 11:27 a.m.

Committee may take action on matters discussed in closed session: Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by J. Behling to forward Veteran Service Officer Scott Jensen's evaluation to Corporation Counsel Confidential Secretary Stephanie Nesbitt. All voting aye, carried.

Corporation Counsel Report: Corporation Counsel Martha Milanowski submitted and reviewed the expenditure guideline, vouchers for the Corporation Counsel's office and monthly reports showing the written request, new cases and various activities for July. A report indicating the number of court appearances will begin next month. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by S. Favorite to approve her budget presentation to the committee. All voting aye, carried. Motion by S. Favorite, seconded by J. Behling to approve the bills as presented. All voting aye, carried.

Ms. Milanowski reported the following: Ms. Milanowski reviewed with the committee a preliminary budget request for 2012. Given that there have been decreases over the past several years in several of the line items Ms. Milanowski is asking for increases in Legal Fees Line Item, Document Service, Capital Equipment and a phone. Discussion. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by S. Favorite to approve the Preliminary Corporation Counsel Budget Requests for 2012 as presented. All voting aye, carried. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by S. Favorite to authorize Ms. Milanowski to purchase a smart phone immediately. All voting aye, carried.

Supervisor Steve Favorite left the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Ms. Milanowski requests approval to attend a meeting in Hayward, Wisconsin on August 30, 2011 between tribes and counties. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by G. Ciszek to approve Ms. Milanowski to attend a meeting in Hayward, Wisconsin, August 30, 2011. All voting aye, carried.

Child Support Matters: Child Support Director Joy Schmitz submitted and reviewed the expenditure guideline and vouchers for the Child Support office. Committee signed vouchers as presented. Motion by R. DeBruyne, seconded by G. Ciszek to approve her budget presentation to the committee. All voting aye, carried. Motion by S. Favorite, seconded by G. Ciszek to approve the bills as presented. All voting aye, carried.

Ms. Schmitz reported the following: Ms. Schmitz is requesting to attend training on September 28, 2011 in Stevens Point "*How to Communicate with Tact and Professionalism*". Motion by Ron DeBruyne, seconded by G. Ciszek to approve. All voting aye, carried. Ms. Schmitz is requesting to attend a Regional Directors meeting September 30, 2011, in Wausau, WI. Motion by Ron DeBruyne, seconded by G. Ciszek to approve. All voting aye, carried. Ms. Schmitz is requesting to attend the Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association Fall

Conference in Stevens Point, October 26 – 28, 2011. All voting aye, carried. Ms. Schmitz indicated that funds are available in the 2011 budget to cover the above trainings and seminars requests.

Met with Maintenance Supervisor and Kurt from Samuels Group regarding safety partitions for Public Property to consider. They will be presenting new information regarding 8' partitions later this week. Ms. Schmitz will continue to keep the committee informed.

Supervisor Steve Favorite returned to the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

Ms Schmitz reviewed the breakdown of Performance Measures through July and the projected funding decrease for 2012.

Legislative Update: No discussions.

Out of County Travel: Refer to Veteran Service Office Matters, Corporation Counsel Matters and Child Support Matters above.

Standing Rules: Committee continues to briefly discuss ideas relating to the standing rules.

Judicial Update: No discussion.

Approval of Bills: See Veteran Service Office Matters, Corporation Counsel Matters and Child Support Matters above.

Letters and Communications: Corporation Counsel Martha Milanowski will be reviewed next month.

Next Meeting Date: September 13, 2011.

Chairman Hjemvick announced there is no further business on the agenda. This meeting stands adjourn at 12:45 p.m.

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

Submitted by: Beth Carter