

**Call to order:**

The Legislative & Judicial Committee meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. in the Vilas County Courthouse conference rooms by committee Chairman Mark Rogacki with the following committee members present: Rocky Caffarella, Walt Maciag and Carolyn Ritter. Erv Teichmiller was absent. Other persons present at various times during this meeting: Supervisors Ken Anderson and Chuck Hayes, Martha Milanowski, Jason Hilger, Bob Egan and David Alleman. Open meeting law complied with and quorum verified

**Roll call:**

The Clerk called the roll and affirmed that four committee members were present.

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

**Motion by C. Ritter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Maciag to approve the agenda, with the agenda order to be presented at the Chair's discretion. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Approve August 8, 2014 meeting minutes:**

**Motion by W. Maciag, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ritter to approve the August 8, 2014 meeting minutes.** C. Ritter pointed out two errors in the minutes. The meeting time was incorrectly stated and the second page contained an unnecessary mathematics symbol. The Clerk will make the proper corrections. **All voted aye. Carried.**

**Amendment of the Standing Rules, UW Ext. and Economic Dev. – Resolution to the County Board:**

C. Hayes explained the reasons behind the proposal made by the UW Extension and Economic Development Committees to merge into an Extension, Education and Economic Development Committee. B. Egan spoke on the benefits of unifying UW Extension economic development efforts with Economic Development Committee efforts. **Motion by W. Maciag, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ritter to approve the resolution and to send it on to the County Board for their consideration. Discussion. Motion by W. Maciag, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ritter to amend the resolution on line #22 increasing the number of committee members from 5 to 7. 3 voted aye to amend. 1 voted no: R. Caffarella. Amendment carried. Motion by C. Ritter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Caffarella to amend the resolution on line #28 so that it reads and/or economic development related... All voted aye to amend. Amendment carried. All voted aye to forward the resolution to the County Board as amended. Carried.**

**Chapter 3 – Finance And Taxation – Ordinance to County Board:**

J. Hilger presented the reasons behind the proposed "wheel tax" ordinance. He was instructed by the Finance & Budget Committee to seek out all potential sources of additional revenues for the county. Several Wisconsin municipalities and one county have adopted a wheel tax and adoption is being considered in another Wisconsin county. The fee would be \$10 on all vehicles registered in Vilas County and would return about \$210,000 into the county coffers. Funds received would only be earmarked for County highway maintenance and improvements. The Wisconsin DOT would collect the tax and forward the funds to the county. Both R. Caffarella and Walt Maciag spoke in opposition to the wheel tax. C. Ritter observed that the proposed wheel tax was essentially a user fee. R. Caffarella felt that other efficiencies could be gained within county government and the Highway

Department that could mitigate the need for a wheel tax. K. Anderson noted that this idea was rejected by the board two years ago and stated that it should be rejected again.

**Motion by R. Caffarella, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Maciag to disapprove of the ordinance and to not send the ordinance onto the County Board for their consideration. 3 voted aye. 1 voted no: C. Ritter. Carried.**

**Amendment of the Standing Rules, Finance Committee – Resolution to the County Board:**

The committee reviewed the proposed Standing Rules changes. W. Maciag questioned the need for the changes. J. Hilger responded that the changes mirror finance procedures in effect for some time. The Finance & Budget Committee also wishes to qualify the annual budget appropriations process by causing all proposed expenditures to be reviewed by the Finance Director, prior to committee of jurisdiction and Finance & Budget Committee deliberation. R. Caffarella expressed concern that this change would allow the Finance & Budget Committee to suppress an appropriation approved by another committee. J. Hilger responded that his role and the Finance & Budget Committee's role were to review and make recommendations. M. Milanowski added that all budget items ultimately must be determined by the entire board. W. Maciag questioned if the phrase "any expenditure" also referred to annual operating expense and payroll and benefit items. This was discussed. **Motion by C. Ritter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Maciag to amend the resolution at line #7 by adding the word "new", so that the phrase reads any new expenditure and to approve the resolution and to send it on to the County Board for their consideration. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Amendment to Standing Rules – Resolution to County Board:**

The Clerk explained that the various Standing Rules revisions contained within this resolution were the result of Legislative & Judicial Committee deliberations and actions taken previously. The committee discussed the various revisions. M. Milanowski expressed concern with language contained under The Duties of Vilas County Committees, paragraph #16. This language pertains to the submittal and acceptance of grant funds. This was discussed. R. Caffarella objects to language contained under Formation of Vilas County Committees, paragraph #2, which restricts the County Board Chairperson from voting when acting in an ex officio capacity at a county board committee meeting. This was discussed. M. Milanowski reported that Roberts Rules allows for voting when attending ex officio. **Motion by R. Caffarella to remove the word non-voting from line #'s 21-22. Three calls for a second to the motion being made, and none heard, the Chair ruled the motion dead.** The committee discussed other portions of the revisions at length. **By the consensus of the committee, and without objection, the resolution will not be forwarded to the County Board, but will be referred to the Corporation Counsel for her review.**

**WCA legislative platform:**

Chairman Rogacki commented on the various positions taken by the WCA. He does not recommend that Vilas County take a position in regards to all WCA legislative initiatives.

**Vilas County legislative positions:**

Discussed under WCA legislative platform above.

**Standing Rules & Committee Duties:**

The Chair inquired if any additional responses were received from county department heads in regards to committee consolidation. The Clerk reported no new responses. This item shall be include don the next agenda

**Letters and Communications:**

K. Anderson presented the following proposed Standing Rule revisions and requested that the committee consider each of them.

1. Under General Rules of the Board, #3, pertaining to the appointment of a county board member due to a vacancy. Add language requiring the County Board Chairperson to request a recommendation from the Town Chairperson(s) of the district in which the vacancy occurred.
2. Under Meeting Dates and Times. Change the months of June and August to evening County Board meetings. Change the Special Meeting notification period from 48 to 72 hours. Add line #6 to require that Public Participation is an agenda item at every County Board meeting.
3. On page 4, change #10 to state that time for public participation shall be provided at each meeting.
4. Under section H. Creation of Resolutions and Ordinances, line #5, add Assistant Corporation Counsel.
5. Under Duty of Vilas County Committees, line #11, reduce per diem payment to \$45.00 and under line #20 change language to allow all departments their own latitude to determine the carrying-over of underspent expenditure budget amounts into a subsequent years budget.

**Future meeting date:**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 9:30 A.M, Tuesday, October 7, 2014.

**Adjournment:**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:  
David R. Alleman  
Vilas County Clerk.