

Call to order:

The Legislative & Judicial Committee meeting was called to order at 9:10 A.M. in the Vilas County Courthouse conference rooms by County Clerk David Alleman with the following committee members present: Rocky Caffarella, Carolyn Ritter (arrived at 9:34), Mark Rogacki and Erv Teichmiller. Walt Maciag was excused. Board Chair Ron De Bruyne was in attendance but took no part in any committee action. Other persons present at various times during this meeting: Martha Milanowski, Joy Schmitz, Jason Hilger and Mike Biszek. Open meeting law complied with and quorum verified

Election of a committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson:

The Clerk called for nominations from the floor for a committee Chairperson. R. Caffarella nominated M. Rogacki. After calling three more times for additional nominations, the Clerk closed nominations and called for a vote. All voted aye for M. Rogacki. Carried. (C. Ritter was not yet present for this action.) Committee Chair M. Rogacki assumed leadership for the remainder of this meeting. The Chair asked everybody present to introduce themselves. He then called for nominations for a committee Vice-Chairperson. R. Caffarella nominated C. Ritter. After calling three more times for additional nominations, the Chair closed nominations and called for a vote. All voted aye for C. Ritter. Carried. (C. Ritter was not yet present for this action.)

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

Motion by E. Teichmiller, 2nd by R. Caffarella to approve the agenda, with the agenda order to be presented at the Chair's discretion. All voted aye. Carried.

Approve March 3, 2014 meeting minutes:

Motion by E. Teichmiller, 2nd by R. Caffarella to approve the March 3, 2014 meeting minutes as presented. All voted aye. Carried.

Department reports, budget review and travel requests:

a. Child Support:

Child Support Department Head J. Schmitz explained the duties and services provided by the Child Support Dept. She recalled several noteworthy changes in department organization and reductions in staff size occurring since 2007. Year to date performance metrics were presented and explained. Department case load amounts remain stable. State funding levels are also partially contingent upon department performance, and the high level of department performance has been recognized several times in past years by the state. Child support collection procedures were also discussed. E. Teichmiller suggested that copies of the 2013 Child Support Annual Report be distributed to the newly elected committee members. A Training Report was reviewed by the committee. J. Schmitz presented a travel request to attend a Child Support State Committee meeting in Cable, WI. E. Teichmiller advised that permission to travel was no longer required, as long as the travel was previously budgeted for. M. Rogacki concurred, but requested that written Training Reports continue to be provided to the committee. He added that in his opinion, he preferred that all future Child Support Dept. reports be submitted to the committee in written form. He asked the committee for their opinions, and **by consensus, the**

committee agreed that obtaining permission for budgeted travel would no longer be required, and that future Child Support department reports could be submitted in writing. J. Schmitz asked if she was required to attend each Legislative & Judicial Committee meeting. The Chair replied that her attendance was only necessary when requested by the committee, or unless she had any specific issues requiring committee action.

b. Corporation Counsel:

Corporation Counsel M. Milanowski presented and discussed a list that summarized the various duties and services that her department provides for Vilas County government. She also explained her department's working relationship with Child Support, Zoning and other county departments. E. Teichmiller stated that he has come to highly value the legal services provide by the Corporation Counsel, and enumerated a number of instances where the various human services agencies relied on the Corporation Counsel. He specifically recognized her work in handling Chapter 51 and 55 cases. M. Milanowski enumerated the number of trainings that she provides to county office and law enforcement staff, asking if the committee expects her to submit training reports for all of those instances. She also explained that her position requires frequent travel. **By consensus, the committee agreed that the Corporation Counsel did not need to submit training reports for any of her normal trainings, and only needed to submit written reports regarding her department's activities.** The Chair invited her to attend committee meetings whenever she desired the committee's input. He also praised her for her recent efforts in regards to recent communications tower and real estate issues.

c. Veterans Services:

M. Biszek presented a written report highlighting his department's recent activities. He stated that Vilas County veterans received \$19.1 million in benefits, exclusive of medical benefits, in 2013. He then spoke in regards to a number of issues concerning local veterans.

Committee initiatives:

M. Rogacki began the discussion by stating that he feels that this committee needs to become very active in communicating with state legislators and rule makers. He enumerated the benefits that can be derived by county governments taking an active role in communicating with their state representatives. He favors amending the Standing Rules, to allow this committee to pursue legislative initiatives in a timely manner without prior County Board approval. This concept was discussed. **Motion by E. Teichmiller, 2nd by C. Ritter to authorize the preparation of a resolution to amend the Standing Rules and Committee Duties as pertains to the Legislative & Judicial Committee, to allow that committee to represent Vilas County before the state and federal legislatures, until the County Board acts otherwise. All voted aye. Carried.** M. Rogacki also spoke about the need to work more closely with the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA). R. De Bruyne spoke in regards to recent Standing Rules amendments. J. Hilger recommended amending Standing Rules language as pertains to out of county travel by staff. Other members presented their recommendations for Standing Rules changes. The Clerk advised the committee that members should individually review the Standing Rules and Committee Duties and list their proposed changes. The entirety of proposed rule amendments could then be incorporated into draft form.

Letters and Communications:

R. De Bruyne reported that a County Board Supervisor was requesting that Public Comment become an agenda item for committee meetings. The Corporation Counsel is reviewing this matter.

Future meeting date:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 9, 2014

Adjournment:

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:21 A.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.