Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 27, 2016
Dodge County Administration Building
Juneau, WI

ICC Participants: Columbia- Lois Schepp, Vern Gove, Joe Rut, Andy Ross, Mary Cupery, Kathleen Haas, Dan Drew, John Tramburg, Patti Herman **Dodge-** Russell Kottke, Jeff Hoffman, Dave Frohling, Allen Behl, Larry Bischoff, Pattie Carroll, Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, Bonnie Borden, Amanda Young **Green Lake-** Harley Reabe, Jay Dampier, Katie Gellings, Ali McNamara, Patti Garro, Joanne Guden, John de Montmollin **Jefferson-** Steve Nass, Amy Rinard, Jim Schroeder, Glen Borland **Marquette-** Martin Havlovic, Christa Van Treeck **Sauk County –**Marty Krueger, Donna Stehling, Charles Spenger, Judy Ashford, Sue Nagelkerk **Fond du Lac County** – Shelley Tidemann **WCA-** Jon Hochkammer, David Berard, nEXT Gen Project, Matt Hanson, Southwest Regional Director for Cooperative Extension-University of WI-Extension; Rick Klemme, Dean & Director of Cooperative Extension, University of Wisconsin-Extension; Steve Wildeck, Vice Chancellor for Administrative & Financial Services, University of Wisconsin-Extension & University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Kottke at 9:00 a.m.

Certification of Wisconsin Open Meetings Law Notice
The secretary confirmed the requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law were met.

Adoption of Agenda
Motion by Columbia County, second by Green Lake County to approve the agenda. – Motion Approved.

Presentation

- Klemme explained the 3.6 million deficit which equates out to 8.2% with the on-going budget.
    - How do we build – and align our costs with the nEXT Gen model?
    - How can we best serve our counties with the amount of tax levy dollars across the state with effective programming? And providing to all the counties in the State?
- Process they are following:

- Chancellor received feedback on concerns with the nEXT Gen in Dec 2015
- Feb 10th did a follow-up announcement
- Gave a few decisions to kick off the plan
- In March 2016 – member Executive Team was appointed (Rick Klemme, Aaron Brower and Steve Wildeck)
- From that Executive Team – Steering Committees were formed (13 members) which appointed 19 work groups (8-10 members) to provide recommendations in how there can be a different way of reducing the budget within UW-Extension that would go into effect in 2017. The work groups are an on-going process at this given time.

- Wildeck explained the framework – 2015-2017; 250 million dollar reduction to the UW-System which equals a 125 million dollar a year reduction the the UW-System as a whole
  - 13 – 4-year universities
  - 13 – 2-year colleges
  - UW-Extension, which is made up of four divisions
    (1) Continuing Education
    (2) Broadcast Media (Public Radio and TV)
    (3) Coop Extension
    (4) Business & Entrepreneur Division
    - (4%) UW-Extension – which equates out to 5.2 million of the 125 million overall. 2.1 less than previously had. Have to now manage on a permanent basis. Part of the managing process is through vacant positions ie retirements, resignations, etc., and looking at new ways of refilling those positions with "sharing" a position between two counties ie Dodge Counties Crops & Soils position between Fond du Lac and Dodge County.
- Counties should look at continuing to do a "flat funding" approach for 2017 when doing budgets; keep your office space and budgets to where they are currently.
- Chancellor committed to "no job actions taken" prior to Feb. 1, 2017. Would be happening late 2017.
- Klemme & Wildeck mentioned that they are currently working and having TWO meetings bringing more county officials and UW-Extension individuals together for more communication and discussions regarding the nEXT Gen updates. Looking at having those meetings in Waukesha and Eau Claire.

Question & Answer:

- Is there a freeze on all hiring? Klemme responded that there are a number of strategies in place.
  - ie negotiating with neighboring counties (like Fdl and Dodge for Crops & Soils)
  - bringing on more 'academic' positions
  - not committing to 'long term' commitments

    - not refilling faculty positions
    - short term positions w/requirements of a Bachelor's degree vs. Master's degree
- Klemme – want to build a model with more flexibility – to see more on the return on investment
- Columbia County pointed out – they are competing to get more "Stable" funding
- Columbia County asked – what is your projection with staff cuts/reductions – very hard to put up new office space for staff when they don't know where the funding will be and/or how many employees they will be housing
    - Answer: maintain the same going into 2017
    - Answer: encouraging counties to maintain the same as they are currently doing
    - Answer: don't abandon your presence in the counties
    - Answer: 8% cut – currently carrying 7% cut in current vacancies – that may be the total cut and leaving the vacant positions vacant.
- Klemme pointed out that salaries are 'frozen' – no salary increases in coming year. No pay plan going into 2016/2017. Pointed out that Wisconsin is paid less than the IN and OH UW-Systems currently.
- Behl asked – what the future looks like for County Committee Meetings
    - They want to maintain county committee but they will have a different role
    - Currently still looking at that model
- Behl asked – who will the lead be when overseeing four county (clusters)
    - There is currently a 'work group' assigned to figuring out this
    - Will there be an "area wide county committee" – role of oversight committees when blending counties
        - Currently looking at models to learn from
        - This is a statuary of County Governments
        - nEXT Generation conversations
- Counties would like to revisit the assignment of counties to regions
    - We're not happy that their requests were not taken into consideration and they were not consulted before the decisions were made
    - Hanson explained that they had to look at how administrative areas were structured, looked at multi counties not program areas, looked at cross programs across the state/counties, not making 3-4 counties 'exclusive', and what was the best way to distribute programs
- Request was made that there should be more communications
    - Wildeck indicated that this was heard as the biggest request amongst all the counties they've met with and is on the top of their agenda to get more communication out especially with the work that is being done within the work groups
- Why are the committees more weighed in having mostly "faculty" vs. "county partners" on them

    - Only 10% is made up of county partners; it was a nomination process; when county partners found out how much time commitment and workload was going to be required with these work groups they steer away
- Hoffman asked if they are working on a "how to generate more revenue"
    - Klemme explained there is a work group assigned for strategic revenue generation
- At the end of the presentation Chairman Kottke suggested that Enews blasts be sent to the County Clerk's office for distribution within the counties.

Next Meeting
Next meeting: Green Lake County on August 15, 2016.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 11:02AM by Chairman Kottke

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Hoffman
Community Development Educator
UW-Extension, Dodge County