Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, May18 2015
Green Lake County Government Center
Green Lake, WI

ICC Participants

See attached sign in sheet

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by ICC Chair Russell Kottke at 9:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Certification of Open Meeting Notice

Jay Dampier certified that the meeting was posted and met Wisconsin State Open Meeting Law.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Green Lake County to adopt the agenda as is; second by Columba County. Motion passed on voice vote.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Marquette County to accept the April 20, 2015 meeting minutes; second by Dodge County. Motion passed on voice vote.

Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials

None

Wisconsin Counties Association Report

- Jon Hochkammer outlined that his responsibilities are outreach, and to connect with local county governments.
- Local governments throughout the state are frustrated with lack of funding, and lack of flexibility.
- Some challenges include: not enough daycare, youth moving away, education in general.
- Related to transportation issues: if you cannot give us more money, give us more flexibility.
- Utilities can no longer be put on the county tax bill. Some jurisdictions used to put unpaid fees on tax bill. Some special charges are still allowed.
- Referendums are being used locally as the shifting burden goes from the state to local governments. Borrowing is the other option.
- Levies only collect from property owners. Room tax only collects from tourists. Sales tax collects from everyone.

- Public biding requirements: The current threshold is $25K, but will be increased to $100K.
- Criminals now pay additional fees.
- Transportation issue still not dealt with in the budget. Likely some projects will need to be put off. Options include the state raising car registration fees or gas tax, but Governor would not support these. However, increasing car registration fees would be an easier one to pass.
- Aging and Disability Resource Centers may be eliminated – WCA arguing against that. It was intended to be a one stop shop for elderly. If local governments loose control, they will never get it back.
- Economic development needs strong infrastructure such as roads and broadband.
- WI not competitive relative to neighbouring states, kids are moving out.
- Legislator wants to hear from their constituents. If you have problems with the budget, contact your Senator.
- WCA is working closely with the Senate.
- As UW faces cuts: A problem that people do not know what UW Extension does. This is the challenge.
- Prevailing wage: many constituents feel the legislator is overreaching. Although for some contractors it won't matter. Good work costs.
- Manufacturing sector in November: 40% of the people applying for work are failing the drug test.
- Cannot grow with 0% increases. Local government needs to educate the public.
- "What does a supervisor do?" A WCA hand out helps to educate the public on what county give does.
- There are 28 new legislators this year. Turnover on all levels. Sixteen on the Joint Finance Committee with 10 never having served on this committee before.
- Three trends statewide trends at the county level: 1) Increased fees / charges, 2) more bonding, 3) pulling $ out of reserve.
- Relating to Economic Development – If the state is not being responsive to investors and economic development needs, the investor will move on.

Open Discussion of County Issues

- Marquette County is considering a wheel tax as an option, however, it is not going over well. There's some confusion with the term "wheel tax". It is not precisely a wheel tax, but rather a registration fee.
- The State is considering 0.5 % sales tax. Which would be shared among counties and municipalities to help cover transportation costs.

Education Program

Program Topic, "Economic Development" Presented by Genevieve Borich, PhD, AICP Executive Director, Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation

Adjournment