

MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: February 5, 2016
 TIME: 9 a.m.
 PLACE: Auditorium, Wood County Courthouse
 TIME ADJOURNED: 11:45 a.m.
 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Clendenning, Gerald Nelson, Ed Wagner, Bill Leichtnam, Joseph Zurfluh
 OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Week, Harley Wolt, Jesse King, Sue Winch, and see attached list of attendees.

At 9 a.m., Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order.

1. Public comments. None.
2. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the minutes of the January 8 and 19, 2016, Committee meetings. All ayes.
3. Professional ladder. Chairman Clendenning asked for the Committee members' comments.
 Wagner and Leichtnam expressed concerns.
 Clendenning opened up discussion to the department heads.
 Trisha Anderson, Victim/Witness, spoke against it.
 Cindy Joosten, Clerk of Court, spoke against it.
 Brent Vruwink, Child Support, reiterated his opposition.
 Amy Kaup, Systems, spoke in favor.
 Lori Heideman, Dispatch, spoke in favor.
 Mike Martin, Finance, proposal is problematic. Supervisor Zurfluh asked Martin about the fiscal impact and Martin indicated the cost is still unknown.
 Kathy Roetter, Human Services, she indicated Human Services is no different than any other county department. They've lost a number of high quality employees to other counties due to salary.
 Stephanie Gudmunsen, Human Services, they worked on the ladder a long time. Employees and management developed the ladder as a group.
 Chris Hanten, Human Services, the grades in the ladder are the same as in Carlson-Dettman.
 Warren Kraft, Human Resources, feels it commits management to a much more aggressive supervision.
4. Citizen complaint of District Attorney.
 Steve Abrahamson is disappointed in the way that the District Attorney (D.A.) has handled the case involving the Amish buggy accident. He feels the D.A. has dropped the ball and is lenient with major cases. He requested the Committee do an investigation of D.A. Craig Lambert.
 Alexis Walton - apologize to Amish community for our county. She feels unsafe for citizens because of the D.A.
 Dave Week - neighbor of Amish people killed in the accident. Claims that driver didn't have any lights on.
 Harley Wolt - disrespect toward Amish.
 Supervisor Zurfluh expressed condolences for the loss of life and then asked Captain Shawn Becker of the Sheriff's

Department to speak on the investigation. Becker indicated that the accident reconstruction investigation validated the affirmative defense.

Jesse King - "astronomical" amount of drunk driving on the road.

Bruce Dimick - D.A. didn't let jury decide. D.A. let down all of Wood County. Sloppy work by the elected D.A.

Supervisor Clendenning - expressed sympathy for the loss of life and thanked those in attendance for speaking. He indicated the Committee will meet with the Corporation Counsel to determine the limits of their authority.

Lance Pliml - D.A. is elected not appointed; county board does not look at each case in detail. To some extent this is handled in the ballot box.

Sue Winch - doesn't feel safe anymore.

5. The Committee reviewed department reports and monthly voucher reports:

Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Zurfluh, to approve the reports and payment of vouchers of Branch I, II, and III, Child Support, Clerk of Courts, Register of Deeds, Family Court Commissioner, Corporation Counsel, District Attorney, and Victim/Witness. All ayes.

The Corporation Counsel's draft memorandum "Calling Committee Meetings and Controlling the Agenda" was approved by the committee and will be put in the county board packet for February 2016.

6. LRB-4524/1 - employment of Veterans Regional Coordinators and Claims Officers.

Rock Larson gave a presentation on LRB-4524 and at this time does not require anything of the Committee on this matter.

Lance Pliml indicated the WCA supports County Veterans Service Officers (CVSO) but doesn't support regionalization.

7. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Wagner, to approve the resolution seeking county board approval for the Clerk of Court to contract with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue for the collection of unpaid debt. All ayes.

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Wagner, to approve the resolution to amend the 2016 budget for the Clerk of Courts in the amount of \$13,000 to fund the cost of new work stations. All ayes.

8. Wood County Board meeting 1/19/16 topics.

Clendenning talked about the tabling discussion at county board on the career ladder and he expounded on the procedure for tabling a matter.

Joining North Central Regional Planning Commission discussion. Wagner spoke in favor of becoming members. Nelson felt the presentation at the last board meeting was

disappointing but there are a lot of advantages. Clendenning is against joining the Commission; he feels it is a waste of money.

Executive Committee action on Riverblock building with Venture Architects. No action required by the Committee.

9. The Committee reviewed correspondence, Chair's report, and legislative issues.
10. The Committee met with Dara Hamm to discuss the position of Coroner. Dara Hamm discussed new pending legislation mandating certain educational requirements.
11. Groundwater subcommittee report. Leichtnam reports they have met 5 - 6 times; they have visited with townships, villages, and other counties to ask for "meaningful" groundwater legislation.
12. County Board rules. Rule 13.D. No action at this time.
13. There was one new notice of injury/claim filed with the County. The notice of injury and claim of David Becker was reviewed by the Committee and will be forwarded to the county board.
14. There was one new animal claim against the County. Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Nelson, to pay the claim of Castlerock Veterinary Hospital, Inc., in the amount of \$80.41 for rabies testing of a stray. All ayes.
15. The next committee meeting will be March 4, 2016, at 9 a.m.
16. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Leichtnam, to adjourn. All ayes.
Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Minutes taken by Ed Wagner.

Ed Wagner

Ed Wagner, Secretary (signed electronically)

Sign-in list for Feb 5, 2016,
Judicial + Legislative meeting

Steve Abrahamson

Nelen Kourieski

Edward Borntrager

Henry Borntrager

Bruce Dimick

Dara Hamm

Rock LARSON-

DENNIS POLACIA

LANCE PLIML

Brent Vinyard

Cindy Grosten

Kathy Roetter

Stephanie Leander

Chris Hunter

Lori Skideman

AMY KAP

Alexis Walton

Trisha Anderson

Mike Martin

Shawn Becker

Warren Knatt