

MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: January 8, 2016
 TIME: 9 a.m.
 PLACE: Room 115, Wood County Courthouse
 TIME ADJOURNED: 11:51 a.m.
 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Clendenning, Joseph Zurfluh,
 and telephonic appearances by Gerald Nelson, Ed
 Wagner
 MEMBER EXCUSED: Bill Leichtnam (appeared at 10:30 a.m.)
 OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Kastenholz, Warren Kraft, Dennis Polach,
 Bruce Dimick, Brent Vruwink, Susan Ginter, Terry
 Rickaby, Jason Grueneberg

At 9:01 a.m., Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order.

1. Public comments. Bruce Dimick expressed concern about state legislative procedures resulting in multiple public hearings on the same day; feels the state legislature is out of control.
2. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Zurfluh, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2015, Committee meeting. All ayes.
3. The Committee reviewed department reports and monthly voucher reports:

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Nelson, 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.

Register of Deeds Susan Ginter gave a brief end of year report. Ginter explained that the state is considering making "all" vital records available throughout the state at the register of deeds offices. Ginter explained that some records may not be available and it may take time to get these records. If the state implements this, it would take effect on 1/1/17.

4. Review of agenda items from December 15, 2015, county board and agenda items from January 5, 2016, Executive Committee.

Human Services Professional Ladder. The county board tabled this for a month. The Executive Committee is presenting a resolution to implement the ladder for Human Services to the county board in March. Supervisor Clendenning spoke against the plan as it only covers some employees in one department. Supervisor Wagner expressed concern about the content of the plan and it being superimposed on the existing pay plan. Supervisor Leichtnam arrived late but spoke with concern about the plan.

River Block building. Some department heads and staff toured the River Block building earlier this week. The Executive Committee thinks Venture Architects should be retained to

assist in the transition to River Block. Supervisor Clendenning suggested there be a public property committee that oversees the transition, it shouldn't be a department head in charge. Clendenning wants a public property committee now, not in April. Supervisor Wagner wants a structure set up to handle the transition. Supervisor Zurfluh felt that the acquisition group could oversee the transition. Supervisor Clendenning supported this idea. Supervisor Wagner supports this approach as well.

Jason Grueneberg arrived and talked about how the resolution set forth that he is to work under the direction of the Executive Committee on effectuating a transition. Jason explained that he and Terry Rickaby met with Venture Architects to discuss its ability to assist the county. The Executive Committee will be meeting on county board day with Venture Architects to see what they propose.

The Committee Chair will talk to Lance Pliml about a subcommittee of the Executive Committee to better oversee this transition.

5. Review of agenda items from January 6, 2016, CEED Committee. No comments.
6. Space needs and lease with Riverview Hospital Association. In that the lease was not properly assigned by Riverview Hospital Association, the County can extricate itself from the lease upon 90 days' notice. The Corporation Counsel is directed to notify Aspirus that only the County can terminate early; Aspirus cannot as it is not a party to the lease. Apparently Aspirus has recently been showing the property to third parties after being advised the County will likely be moving in 9 - 12 months and this has caused some concern.
7. Review of resolution opposing consolidation of elected offices. Moved by Zurfluh, seconded by Leichtnam, to submit the resolution opposing consolidation of elected offices to the county board. All ayes.
8. The Committee reviewed correspondence, Chair's report, and legislative issues. Chairman Clendenning expressed strong opposition to the proposed legislation to modify the Worker's Compensation Law. Other committee members share this opposition to the bill. Moved by Wagner, seconded by Nelson, to prepare a resolution in opposition to AB 501 and any other similar legislation. All ayes. Resolution will be prepared for county board in January.
9. Groundwater subcommittee report. The subcommittee members present discussed the need to continue on this work both at the county and state level for quite some time. The subcommittee is trying to be proactive. The subcommittee will have a draft mission statement prepared for the subcommittee's meeting on January 15, 2016.

10. County board rules. The Committee discussed Rule 13 D. that requires a county board supervisor to be present to vote at the county board meetings unless the rule is waived. Supervisors Clendenning and Wagner spoke in favor of keeping the current rule and only waiving it when necessary. Supervisor Wagner wants to study the matter further.
11. There were two new notices of injury/claim filed with the County. The notices of injury/claim of Jane Binder and Todd Bryan were received by the Committee and will be forwarded to the county board.
12. There were no new animal claims against the County.
13. The next committee meeting will be February 5, 2016, at 9 a.m. Moved by Zurfluh, seconded by Leichtnam, that Clendenning go to the Legislative Exchange of the WCA on February 2 and 3. All ayes.
14. Agenda items for the February 5, 2016, meeting:
 - County Board Rule 13 D.
 - Coroner's office being elected.
15. Moved by Zurfluh, seconded by Leichtnam, to adjourn. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Minutes taken by Peter Kastenholz and approved by Ed Wagner.

Ed Wagner

Ed Wagner, Secretary (signed electronically)