

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, December 6, 2010
County Administrative Center, Room 3220
11:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bridget Flood, Sharon Hampson, Monica Kruse, Don Meyer

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bill Brockmiller John Medinger, Roger Plesha

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Hank Koch

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Bridget Flood called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2010

MOTION by Kruse/Meyer to approve the Minutes of October 11, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.** Brockmiller, Medinger, Plesha excused.

REPORT ON BANNING SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS

Since a proposed Ordinance and Resolution regarding synthetic marijuana were discussed in the Legislative and Judiciary & Law Committees, and subsequently referred by those committees to their December, 2010, meetings, the City of La Crosse has adopted an ordinance to ban the substances. Steve O'Malley reported that the federal Drug Enforcement Agency has used emergency powers to make possession and sale of synthetic marijuana illegal for at least one year. Discussion was held regarding contacting local legislators about possible state legislation and an unfunded mandate to test for synthetic marijuana. Corporation Counsel provided information that the estimated cost per year would be \$347,820, based on the number of tests done in 2009. That amount is four times the current drug testing budget. O'Malley stated the Legislative and Judiciary & Law Committees could redirect staff or redraft the Ordinance and Resolution, but his recommendation was not to act on either. **MOTION** by Kruse/Hampson to table the Resolution Re: Support for Banning Synthetic Cannabinoids. **Motion carried unanimously.** Brockmiller, Medinger, Plesha excused.

RESOLUTION RE: SUPPORT FOR ELIMINATING WISCONSIN DNR FEES REGARDING WASTE RESIDUE RESOURCES FROM THE NSP FRENCH ISLAND FACILITY

The Resolution calls for an exemption from Wisconsin DNR fees charged for waste that is sent to a renewable refuse-derived fuel facility such as Xcel's RDF plant. The Resolution would be sent to local legislators to urge adoption of an amendment to state law. Hank Koch provided background information regarding DNR fees and exempted waste, and spoke about cost savings and competitiveness. **MOTION** by Hampson/Kruse to approve the Resolution Re: Support for Eliminating Wisconsin DNR Fees Regarding Waste Residue Resources from the NSP French Island Facility. **Motion carried unanimously.** Brockmiller, Medinger, Plesha excused.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None suggested.

NEXT MEETING

Pending any legislative items that need to be addressed, the next meeting will be in February or March, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Vice-Chair Flood declared the meeting adjourned at 11:52 p.m.

Approved, April 11, 2011, Margaret Norden, Recorder