

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Administrative Center, 400 N. 4th St., Room 3220

8:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tara Johnson, Vicki Burke (exc. 8:30-8:35 a.m.), Monica Kruse, Don Meyer, Marilyn Pedretti, Roger Plesha, Joe Veenstra

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sharon Hampson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve O'Malley, Gary Ingvalson, Margaret Norden, Bob Taunt, Dave Lange, Jeff Wolf, Karl Green, Dave Holtze, Jim Speropulos, Mary Meehan-Strub, Donna Hanson, Tim Gruenke, Ginny Dankmeyer, John Parshall, Amy Twitchell, Betsy Bloom, Pam Radtke, Dean Ruppert, Cheryl McBride, Carl Wiggert

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 11, 2012, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MOTION by Burke/Pedretti to approve the April 11, 2012, Executive Committee Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson excused.

CONSENT AGENDA: MARCH INVESTMENT REPORT, MONTHLY ACCOUNT TRANSFERS, CHECK REQUISITIONS

MOTION by Plesha/Kruse to receive and file the March Investment Report, Monthly Account Transfers, and Check Requisitions. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

None reported. Chair Johnson announced a deadline of July 6, 2012, to submit candidates for WCA officers.

REVIEW CONTRACT EXTENSION RE: DREDGE PROPOSAL

Request was made by Brennan Marine, Inc. to dredge two areas to allow sufficient room and depth for boaters at the 7th Street boat landing. They proposed that the dredging cost of approximately \$80,000 would be at no cost to the city or county in exchange for a ten-year fleet lease fee. Lengthy discussion was held regarding current payment, competition for the leased space, the City's decision on the request, comparable Mississippi River harbors and their lease rates, alternatives for payment such as charging by tonnage, responsibility for conducting surveys on the need for dredging, and whether the request should be addressed by the full County Board. Specific requests for further information were made on the following: Harbor Commission recommendation, need for dredging, role of the County, who would pay if dredging is done independent of lease, CPI rates and comparative harbor rates. The following motions resulted:

MOTION by Burke/Meyer to approve the Brennan proposal. **Motion failed unanimously.** Hampson, Burke excused.

MOTION by Ebert/Pedretti to refer the matter to a special Executive Committee meeting prior to the May 17 County Board meeting. **Motion failed 6-1-2.** Meyer aye; Hampson, Burke excused.

MOTION by Pedretti/Veenstra to direct staff to write a resolution with additional requested information. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson, Burke excused.

NOTE: Chair Johnson returned to the Public Comment item on the agenda, and comments were received from Carl Wiggert, 211 N. 24th Street, La Crosse, regarding the request for the Ethics Committee to convene, and Wiggert's suspicion of a

violation of the Hatch Act, and his opposition to government employees running campaigns to grow government.

FINANCIAL RECAP OF THE INTERSTATE 90 WELCOME CENTER

Steve O'Malley provided a letter from Dave Clements at the LACVB with an overview of the Interstate 90 Welcome Center facility. The 2011 expenses, including start-up costs, came to \$54,575.40, which was met by contributions from seven entities, including the La Crosse County Economic Development Fund. Clements projected a budget of \$55,475.00 for 2012. Chair Johnson asked that the information be shared with the La Crosse County Economic Development Fund board.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT OF DECLARATION OF RESTRICTIONS FOR MEADOW PARK ESTATE ADDITION IN VILLAGE OF ROCKLAND

The Resolution seeks to amend the Meadow Park Estates Addition Declaration of Restrictions to allow duplexes in certain areas of the addition. Dave Lange reported that the restrictions may change again, and there have been discussions about having flexibility according to lot size and location. Steve O'Malley reported that Brian Fukuda sent an email to the Village of Bangor requesting a letter of support, and O'Malley believed their response to Fukuda was in agreement.

MOTION by Veenstra/Pedretti to amend the resolution to add "and other modifications to the restrictions" to the Now Therefore Be It Resolved paragraph.

Motion carried unanimously. Hampson excused.

MOTION by Burke/Veenstra to approve the Resolution Re: Approval of Amendment of Declaration of Restricts for Meadow Park Estate Addition in Village of Rockland as amended. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson excused.

DISCUSSION RE: ORDINANCE TO AMEND S. 3.07(1) AND (2) OF CHAPTER 3 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN REGARDING "WORK HOURS"

A summary of buildings, employees and department hours was provided. Steve O'Malley reported that the proposed ordinance changes refer to the downtown campus. He stated that the primary mission is to serve the public in as many ways as possible. Lengthy discussion was held regarding flexibility to deliver services, the procedure for notifying the public of open hours, that some departments already hold extended hours than those prescribed in the current ordinance, and surveying departments for their current and suggested hours. Department heads that were present gave their preferences, including coordinating hours for departments that have frequent interaction, such as register of deeds and zoning. Suggestion was made to revise the current proposed changes and start over with first and second readings. Chair Johnson suggested that since the second reading is scheduled for the County Board meeting on May 17, 2012, that she issue a memo from the Chair about a more flexible ordinance that would leave it to administration to meet with individual departments to determine hours, and to start again with readings of the ordinance.

REPORT ON COUNTY BOARD WEBSITE AND COUNTY BOARD VOTING SYSTEM

John Parshall reported that Information Technology is working on redesigning the website main page, and also looking at navigations, duplications, and clean-up of links. Committee recorders will have the ability in future to post minutes and agendas, so it is done in a timely fashion. He anticipates a July, 2012, launch. He also spoke about replacing hardware and software in the County boardroom to allow touch screen technology. Supervisor Pedretti raised a concern about having enough microphones for all Planning, Resources & Development committee members at their public hearings. Jim Speropulos will look into solutions.

COUNTY BOARD RETREAT REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS

Chair Johnson requested to move the item to the June, 2012, agenda.

REQUEST FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION, PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR REFERENDUM

Steve O'Malley stated that he asked the Ethics Committee for an opinion about the administrative support he was requested to provide in the recent city of La Crosse referendum on a city administrator. He stated that his activities were to promote the administrator profession. Dave Lange addressed questions about the Ethics Committee and timetable. The committee will determine whether they meet in open or closed session, but O'Malley stated he did not request a closed session.

CLOSED SESSION. UPON A MOTION DULY MADE AND CARRIED, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WIS. STATE S. 19.85(1)(E) FOR THE PURPOSES OF DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASE OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION, TO WIT: FORMULATE STRATEGY REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS OF 2012-2013 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WPPA SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES. FOLLOWING THE CLOSED SESSION, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL RECONVENE OPEN SESSION BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE NEXT AGENDA ITEM.

MOTION by Pedretti/Kruse to go into closed session at 10:00 a.m. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson excused.

MOTION by Plesha/Ebert to reconvene open session at 10:28 a.m. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson excused.

No other discussion took place in closed session. No action was taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Report from IT about how many are listening to recorded meetings on-line.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Meyer/Pedretti to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Hampson excused. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting. Margaret Norden, Recorder