

**Ad Hoc Committee, Government Services Project  
Tuesday, April 26, 8:00 a.m.  
Lincoln County Service Center, Rm. 156  
Merrill, Wisconsin 54452**

**MINUTES**

1. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order by committee Chairman Bailey at 8:00 a.m. Besides Mr. Bailey in attendance were committee members Bob Lee, Dan Leydet, Randy Scholz, Bill Zeitz, and Arlene Meyer. Also in attendance was County Board Chair Robert Lussow, Dan Miller (Planning and Zoning Department Head) and Diane Hanson (Land Information & Conservation Department Head.) The meeting was facilitated by Art Lersch, UW-Extension.

2. Approval of minutes from the March 17, 2011 meeting.

Supervisor Zeitz made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Scholz provided the second. All ayes.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Closed session.

Convene into Closed Session pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1)(e) Wis. Stats. for conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Sec. 19.85(1)(e).

a. Organization of land information and zoning departments.

Supervisor Meyer made a motion to go into closed session with all present at the beginning of the meeting in attendance. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zeitz. Mr. Scholz explained that Diane Hanson would be called in if needed. All ayes.

After discussion, Supervisor Meyer made a motion to return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zeitz. All ayes.

5. Take any necessary action on items discussed in closed session.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zeitz and seconded by Supervisor Bailey to recommend to the Planning and Zoning Committee and Land Information & Conservation/UW-Extension Committee that they draft a joint resolution that would accomplish the following if approved by the County Board.

- Consolidate the Planning & Zoning and Land Information & Conservation departments into one department with one department head.

- Simplify the Lincoln County Zoning Code.
- Allow towns currently under county zoning to opt out.

After discussion, all committee members voted aye.

6. Overview and discussion of employee survey results draft report.

Committee members discussed the results based on the draft report. They requested that similar responses be categorized to better discern prominent themes in the same manner that was done for the department head survey results report. Lersch will submit the revised version of the employee survey report at the next Ad Hoc Committee, Government Services Project meeting.

7. Further discussion of finalized “County Government Mandated and Non – Mandated Positions Based on State Statutes” report.

Lersch provided a brief overview of the finalized report. Following minimal discussion, the report was placed on file.

8. Continue to determine timelines for Administrative Coordinator and Ad Hoc Committee conversations with department heads based on their survey suggestions

Following discussion, by consensus it was determined that the next departments to speak with the committee will be Information Technology, Administration, and Maintenance.

9. Updates on state budget issues.

Lersch provided a brief report on WCA and WTA interpretations of the budget repair bill and biennium budget issues. Key points made by the executive directors of both bodies in a recent teleconference with Extension faculty were:

- If courts rule against or make no ruling before late May on the budget repair bill, it is likely that there will be a proposed amendment to the governor’s biennium budget proposal calling for similar restrictions on collective bargaining throughout the two fiscal years that the budget would be in effect.
- There is some discussion in the legislature about lowering the percentage of how much the governor’s biennium budget proposal would erase the state’s structural deficit. The governor’s proposal would conceivably erase 90% of that deficit. Proposals floating around the legislature are for the budget to eliminate either 70% or 60% of the structural deficit.
- Shared revenue dollar reductions will remain what has been proposed but there might be adjustments to shared revenue contribution formulas.
- State funding for recycling programs will likely remain.

- There will be discussion about the governor's budget proposal stipulating that local governments not be allowed to carry over any tax levy savings from the previous year. (For example, if the County Board did not increase the tax levy the full 3% in 2010 and was allowed to do so, currently the difference between the percentage enacted and 3% could be carried over to the following year. The governor's proposal if passed would no longer permit this). The WTA is arguing that the carry over should be allowed.

The Joint Finance Committee has reported that it expects floor votes related to the biennium budget to begin sometime in mid-June.

#### 10. Possible Agenda Items

The committee requested that the following items be placed on the next meeting agenda.

- Department Head interviews (Information Technology, Administration, Maintenance)
- Information gathering; potential County Board questionnaire
- Overview of finalized employee survey results report
- Continue to determine timelines for Administrative Coordinator and Ad Hoc Committee conversations with department heads based on their survey suggestions
- Updates on state budget issues

#### 11. Next meeting date.

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, Government Services Project is scheduled for **Monday, May 16, 8:00 a.m., Room 156, Lincoln County Service Center.**

#### 12. Adjourn

A motion was made by Supervisor Meyer and seconded by Mr. Scholz to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.