

**Ad Hoc Committee, Government Services Project
Friday, March 2, 2012, 9:00 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 9:00 a.m. Besides Supervisor Bailey in attendance were committee members Bob Lee, Randy Scholz, Bill Zeitz, Arlene Meyer, and Dan Leydet. Also in attendance were community members Thor Backus, Lavonne Gustavson, Kyle Robl, John Spiegelhoff, Ralph Pelke (spelling?), Don Heyel, Nancy Meier, Joy Malitz, Vicki Heipel, Fritz Helhker, and Art Lersch, UW-Extension project facilitator.

2. Approval of minutes from the February 10, 2012 meeting

A motion was made by Supervisor Meyer and seconded by Supervisor Zeitz to approve the minutes as written. All ayes.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Review of draft resolutions for County Board

Chair Bailey asked members from the public whether or not they were there to discuss only the resolution related to Pine Crest Nursing home. All members of the public indicated that is why they were in attendance. Chair Bailey declared that the Pine Crest resolution would then be reviewed first.

Several citizens voiced their concerns about what seemed to them a recommendation from the committee that Pine Crest be closed. Various committee members mentioned that the resolution states that the Ad Hoc Committee on Government Services is recommending that “the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors engage in a serious conversation on the future direction of Pine Crest Nursing Home.” Each committee member stated that a “serious conversation” meant just that, and that the committee is not making a recommendation to close the facility. If the resolution passes, committee members asserted, the County Board would have to solicit a wide variety of expert information in order to have that serious conversation. Members of the public indicated that they now understood the intent of the resolution and would like to see the conversation take place in order to put the matter to rest.

Motion by Supervisor Lee and seconded by Supervisor Meyer to forward the resolution as written for County Board consideration during its March 20, 2012 meeting. All ayes.

Committee members thanked the citizens for taking the time to come to the meeting to voice their concern and provide their insights.

Supervisor Bailey made a motion and Mr. Leydet seconded to forward a resolution from the Ad Hoc Committee stating that the County Board on March 20 consider setting a policy that it “will reduce programming in a department proportionate to the reduction in Federal and State funding.” All ayes.

Supervisor Lee made a motion and Supervisor Meyer seconded to forward a resolution from the Ad Hoc Committee stating that the County Board on March 20 consider setting a policy that the Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator “organize annual meetings with local government administrators and elected officials for the purpose of intergovernmental cooperative efforts to save taxpayer dollars while maintaining adequate services.” All ayes.

Supervisor Zeitz made a motion and Supervisor Meyer seconded to forward a resolution from the Ad Hoc Committee stating that the County Board on March 20 consider setting a policy that demands that “the Federal or State Government fully fund mandated services required by Federal or State Government.” All ayes.

Supervisor Lee made a motion and Supervisor Meyer seconded to forward a proposed ordinance change from the Ad Hoc Committee to the County Board stating that “the county Treasurer shall provide for the inclusion of the following notice on or with all tax statements: ‘TAXPAYER NOTICE. Section 3.30 of the Lincoln County Code of Ordinances requires interest of 1% per month or a fraction of a month plus 0.5% penalty per month or a fraction of a month on delinquent real estate taxes, special assessments, special charges and special taxes. LINCOLN COUNTY TREASURER.’” All ayes.

5. Discussion about/evaluation of project

Supervisor Bailey solicited comments from the committee about the project’s outcomes and effectiveness. Most committee members agreed that they learned a great deal about county government during the project and that they were pleased with the recommendations the committee is making to the County Board. Lersch requested that each committee member complete a short evaluation related to the processes that were used during the project.

6. Dissolving of the Ad Hoc Committee, Government Services Project

A motion was made by Supervisor Lee and seconded by Supervisor Meyer to dissolve the committee. Supervisor Bailey mentioned that County Board Chair Lussow expressed to him that similar committees would likely be established in the future to deal with arising fiscal/budget issues. Lersch also mentioned that Chair Lussow expressed this view early on in the project. Supervisor Lee modified his motion to state that “this particular Ad Hoc Committee” be dissolved. Supervisor Meyer agreed with the modification. All ayes.

7. Agenda items for next meeting (if necessary)

This item was not discussed because the committee was dissolved.

8. Next meeting(s) date(s); (if necessary)

This item was not discussed because the committee was dissolved.

9. Adjourn

Supervisor Lee made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zeitz. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:25 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Art Lersch, UW-Extension, Lincoln County.