

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Monday, March 25, 2019
James P. Coughlin Center

Present: Tom Egan, David Albrecht, Paul Eisen, Tom Ellis, Robert Keller, Tom Konetzke, Mike Norton, Harold Singstock, Tom Snider, Robert Warnke, Bill Wingren, Aaron Wojciechowski and Steven Binder

Also Present: Representative Michael Schraa, Representative Gordon Hintz, Representative Mike Rohrkaste, Representative Amanda Stuck, Alan Ott - Representative from Congressman Glenn Grothman's office, Executive Mark Harris, John Casper - President/CEO Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, Mary Anne Mueller - Corporation Counsel, John Matz - Sheriff, Dr. Bill Topel - Human Services Director and Karen Marone - Town of Wolf River Attorney

Excused: Chuck Farrey, Jerry Finch, Maribeth Gabert, Jim Kozickowski and Patrick O'Brien

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Egan and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Supervisor Albrecht and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2019 meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Public Comments: No comments.

Correspondence: Supervisor Finch and Supervisor Farrey asked to be excused from this meeting.
Supervisor Eisen alerted the Committee that discussion of Assembly Bill 55 was on Wisconsin Eye.
Chairman Egan announced that Supervisor Ken Robl is home.

Update on Supervised Release Law in regards to Sex Offenders

Corporation Counsel, Mary Anne Mueller, updated the committee regarding the supervised release law.

Highlights of her discussion:

- Winnebago County fulfilled their obligation in regard to suggesting/providing a location for the offender to be housed in Winnebago County. (County Road Y near the entrance to the Highway Department)
- The offender has been placed in the Town of Wolf River
- The Assembly Bill that was passed includes language changes for adjacent requirements from homes and other facilities rule and the number of days to meet requirements rule.
- Feels that law enforcement should be represented on the Supervised Release Committee.

Dr. Topel, Winnebago County Human Services, reported that there are seven offenders from Winnebago County still housed at Grand Ridge. One of them has filed for petition to be released.

Sheriff Matz voiced concern that the State Department of Health did not cooperate with the Sheriff's Department regarding this matter.

Karen Marone, Attorney for the Town of Wolf River, voiced concerns from citizens regarding the distance between the town and the Sheriff's Department and the length of response time to get to them in case of emergency.

Representative Michael Schraa provided the following information from the State regarding this issue:

- The State is working to fix this bill because the judges were interpreting two words, "good cause" to mean whatever they wanted it to.
- Part of the fix would include having individuals placed in the county of origin, not just anywhere in Wisconsin.
- The County Board has the ability to change the committee member language to include law enforcement.
- Representative Schraa commended the Supervised Release Committee for their choice of location to house the offender. (County Road Y near the entrance to the Highway Department)
- Representative Schraa reported that since Act 184 was put into effect, of the ones that have gone thru the program, there have been no repeat offenders. He described the program that the offenders are put thru. The program can take one to three years to complete.
- Representative Schraa will take the suggested changes and comments back to his committee. He thanked the Legislative committee for all of their input with this matter.

Representative Schraa then took questions from the committee.

Discussion/Action: Door County Resolution No. 2019-20 – “Supporting a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) Designation for Northeast Wisconsin”

Motion by Supervisor Wojciechowski and seconded by Supervisor Snider to approve this resolution.

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Wingren to forward this resolution to the Land Conservation Committee. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. NAYES: 1 – Eisen. This item will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Discuss proposed/potential state legislation as presented by local legislators and committee members

The following items were brought forward by Representative Schraa:

- Wisconsin Statute Chapter 980 regarding supervised release law for sex offenders
- Closing of Lincoln Hills – Legislation is moving forward with this matter.
- Building new Juvenile Detention facilities
- Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform Bill

Update from Federal Legislators:

Alan Ott – Representative from Congressman Grothman’s reported on updates from the Federal level.

- Congressional Appropriations Process has started. 12 appropriation bills need to be passed.
- Education and Labor Committee
- Work Center related issues – Allowing service for people with disabilities
- Medicare eligibility at age 65
- Two Town Hall meetings – Sunday, April 14 – Fox Crossing – 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Vinland Town Hall – 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Significant changes relating to Veteran issues – Veterans choice for medical assistance

Update from County Executive Mark Harris

County Executive Mark Harris commented on the following concerns:

- Fiscal Bureau Report regarding Veterans Trust Fund/Benefits
- Juvenile Correction Facilities

Supervisor Snider announced that Congressman Gallagher’s office has moved from Appleton to 1702 Scheuring Road, Suite B, Green Bay, WI 54115.

The Committee wishes to thank all the representatives that attend the Legislative Committee meetings.

Topics for Next Meeting – Door County Resolution No. 2019-20
Supervised Release Law – invite Mike Elder

Next Meeting Date – The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2019.

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie Barthels, Recording Secretary