

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, June 25, 2018

James P. Coughlin Center

Present: Tom Egan, Tom Ellis, Harold Singstock, Mike Norton, Tom Snider, Ken Robl, Bill Wingren, Robert Warnke, Jerry Finch, Chuck Farrey, Aaron Wojciechowski, Robert Keller and Paul Eisen

Also Present: Representative Gordon Hintz, Representative Mike Rohrkaste, Representative David Murphy, Representative Amanda Stuck, Mark Harris – County Executive, John Casper, President/CEO Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, Jim Koziczowski – Human Services Board and Ann Marshall – League of Women Voters

Excused: Supervisor Gabert

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

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded by Supervisor Farrey to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2018 meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Election of Officers:**

Supervisor Egan called for nominations for Chairman.

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to nominate Supervisor Egan for Chairman.

Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for Supervisor Egan. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Chairman Egan called for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Motion by Supervisor Wingren and seconded by Supervisor Robl to nominate Supervisor Finch for Vice-Chairman. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for Supervisor Finch. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Chairman Egan called for nominations for Secretary.

Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded by Supervisor Farrey to nominate Supervisor Wingren for Secretary. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for Supervisor Wingren. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comments:** Ann Marshall, League of Women Voters, 1120 Olson Avenue, Oshkosh spoke in support of Resolution Nos. 047-062018 and 048-062018 that were presented to the Winnebago County Board on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 regarding the preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans.

**Discussion/Action regarding Burnett County Resolution No. 2018-10 – “In Support of Increased Public Defender Access and Pay”**

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Snider to support this resolution. Representative Rohrkaste will look into this and bring it back to the committee. Supervisor Eisen offered to research this topic and bring it to the full board. This vote would require  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the membership to pass. Representative Hintz reported to the committee that currently the fee is \$40.00 an hour and \$25.00 an hour travel fee. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Discussion/Action regarding Door County Resolution No. 2018-33 – “Supporting a Constitutional Amendment to Allow Limits on Campaign Contributions and Conducting a Non-Binding Statewide Referendum”**

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Singstock to approve and forward to the County Board. Representative Murphy voiced concern regarding this resolution and freedom of speech. Representative Rohrkaste feels the verbiage is questionable and biased. He informed the committee of the steps necessary to change the Constitution of the United States. He voiced concern on the determination of sole proprietorship, partnerships or corporations and how it would affect the vote on this matter. Representative Hintz voiced concern on how some candidates are rewarded by financial donations. Every decision is impacted by money. Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded to call to question. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Discussion/Action regarding Winnebago County Resolution No. 034-052018 – “Request the Wisconsin State Legislature to Require an Audit of the Veterans Trust Fund, Detailing the Revenues Received, All Disbursements from the Veterans Trust Fund, and the Amount of Direct Benefits Paid to Veterans for Each Year Since 2014”**

Supervisor Snider reported that this resolution was pulled from the County Board agenda to bring it to the Legislative Committee. He is concerned where all the money is going. Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded by Supervisor Farrey to approve and forward to the County Board. Representative Stuck stated that this subject was forwarded to the Joint Finance Committee and encouraged Supervisors to contact their Legislators to keep this item moving forward and get it resolved. Motion by Supervisor Wingren and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to amend the resolution to include that the resolution be forwarded to the Winnebago County Board, all Counties in the State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Counties Association. Vote on Amendment: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. Vote on Resolution: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Discussion/Action regarding Winnebago County Resolution No. 047-062018 – “Support the Creation of a Nonpartisan Procedure for the Preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans”**

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Snider to approve and forward to Winnebago County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Wingren commended Supervisor Norton and Supervisor Gordon for bringing this resolution forward. Supervisor Farrey questioned how and where to find a nonpartisan group to complete the procedure of redistricting. Vote on Resolution: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**Update from County Executive Mark Harris**

County Executive, Mark Harris, reported that the budget process has begun. He explained the different items that affect the budget, they are the same as in the past. The county only benefits from new construction.

Executive Harris voiced concern regarding the Dark Store Loophole and the chipping away of personal property taxes and how this will heavily affect the County. He explained that TUFF Districts are directly affected by personal property taxes being eliminated. Municipalities should be refunded for loss of these taxes and it could be done thru state aid.

**Update from State Legislators:**

Representative Dave Murphy touched on the following items:

- Personal Property Taxes – is a strong opponent and would like to see them go away. He has a plan to replace them.
- Dark Store Loophole – feels this is a huge problem. Retailing is a tough business right now and he is placing the responsibility on internet sales. Representative Murphy stated that states will be able to charge sales tax on purchases made from other states.
- Audit on UW System – the audit was not good. He is concerned with some of the practices that are being done. Vendors were being paid without unique vendor code. This item will be looked at very closely.

**Update from Federal Legislators:**

No Federal Representatives were present.

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

**Topics for Next Meeting** – Contact Chairman Egan or the County Clerk’s office with any items to be discussed. Supervisor Norton inquired as to whether items could be brought back from the NACo Convention and presented to the Legislative Committee.

**Next Meeting Date** – The next meeting is to be determined as needed.

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Snider to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.  
The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie Barthels, Recording Secretary