

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Monday, October 22, 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, Robert Keller and Paul Eisen

Also Present: Representative Michael Schraa, Representative Amanda Stuck, Alan Ott - Representative from Congressman Glenn Grothman's office, Mark Harris – County Executive, John Casper - President/CEO Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, Marleah Keuler Grahek – Park View Health Center Administrator

Excused: Gabert and Wojciechowski

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

Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Robl to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2018 meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None

Discussion/Action regarding Pepin County Resolution No. 20-18 – “Support for HR54.29 – SIREN Act of 2018”

Motion by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Norton to approve and forward to the County Board. HR54.29 is up for renewal at the Federal level. This bill is intended to provide grant funding to rural Emergency Medical Service for recruitment and training of personnel, the purchase of equipment and to provide personal protective equipment as required by Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Vote on Resolution: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Discussion/Action regarding Door County Resolution No. 2018-63 – “Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding”

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Snider to approve and forward to the County Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Finch to postpone until the next Legislative meeting to have a representative from Child Support present at that meeting. Vote on Postponement: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Discussion/Action regarding Sawyer County Resolution No. 2018-31 – “Urging the State of Wisconsin to provide the resources to fully staff the Sawyer County District Attorney’s Office”

Motion by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Singstock to bring this resolution forward for discussion and approval. During discussion, members felt that this could affect Winnebago County as well. They felt that resolutions that are forwarded from other Counties should represent the whole state, not just individual counties. Representative Schraa stated that this issue has been recognized at the state budget level. There is a need for funding for Assistant Defense Attorneys. Vote on Resolution: AYES: 3; NAYES: 7. FAILED.

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

Motion by Supervisor Wingren and seconded by Supervisor Farrey to approve. Supervisor Wingren feels that people are deserving of representation and public defenders should be compensated fairly for their time. Supervisors feel that this should be presented to the State Legislators by the Wisconsin Counties Association. Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded by Supervisor Ellis to forward to the Wisconsin Counties Association and to the State of Wisconsin. Supervisor Keller stated that this resolution did pass at the County Board level. It was brought back to this meeting with background information regarding this resolution from Representative Rohrkaste. After discussion, motion by Supervisor Eisen and seconded by Supervisor Wingren to postpone indefinitely. Vote on Postponement: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. NAYES: 1 – Snider.

Discussion/Action regarding LeadingAge and AHCA Statement on the Nursing Home Workforce Quality Act (H.R. 6986)/Leading Industry Groups Support Legislation to End Mandatory CNA Training Lock-Outs

Motion by Supervisor Ellis and seconded by Supervisor Finch to forward to the County Board. Marleah Keuler-Grahek, Administrator of Park View Health Center explained the circumstances regarding this resolution. Currently, if a nursing home receives a high-level citation from the State of Wisconsin, they lose their authority to train certified nursing assistants for two years. The bill that is being introduced would end the mandatory Certified Nursing Assistant training lockout. Rather than the penalty, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the states would have the discretion to impose a lockout under certain conditions; and any lockout imposed would end once the deficiencies cited are corrected. Vote on Resolution: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

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

Supervisor Snider brought forward the circumstances regarding the audit of Veteran's affairs, Veteran nursing homes and how to keep staffing at the nursing homes. After discussion with the Legislators and members present, it was decided to place this on the next Legislative Committee agenda.

Update from County Executive Mark Harris

County Executive, Mark Harris, voiced concern regarding the Community Development Grant Block (CDGB) funding money. He feels there is great difficulty in Winnebago County in enabling people to benefit from these loans.

Update from State Legislators:

Representative Michael Schraa reported on the following items:

- Juvenile Correction Reform Bill – this passed unanimously.
- Juvenile Corrections Study Committee – working on shutting down Lincoln Hills and building one or two treatment facilities. Goal is to try alternative treatments versus incarceration.
- Correction Facilities Study Committee – reported that prisons are becoming over populated and reports will show that there will be a need for another prison facility in Wisconsin.
- Ledge Council Study Committee – reported that the Dark Store Loophole bill came close to making it to the floor.

Current bills that Legislators are working on:

- Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) – prescription costs are sky rocketing.
- Homelessness Bill – creating new model for homeless people.
- Adult Correction Reform Bill

Update from Federal Legislators:

Alan Ott – Representative from Congressman Grothman's reported on the following items:

- Opioid Epidemic
- Human Trafficking

Congressman Grothman visited with companies in Wisconsin that have employed disabled employees.

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.

Topics: Veterans' Affairs, Human Services Child Protective Services and Child Support Funding.

Next Meeting Date – The next meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2018.

Motion by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Supervisor Farrey to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie Barthels, Recording Secretary