

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Monday, October 23, 2017
James P. Coughlin Center

Present: Tom Egan, Jerry Finch, Robert Keller, Harold Singstock, Bill Roh, Ken Robl, Larry Smith, Tom Snider, Robert Warnke, Larry Lautenschlager, Paul Eisen, Tom Ellis and David Albrecht

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

Excused: Supervisor Wingren.

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

Motion by Supervisor Smith and seconded by Supervisor Robl to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2017 meeting. Carried by Voice Vote.

Public Comments: None

Discussion/Action regarding Outagamie County Resolution No. 18-2017-18 – “supporting proposed legislation permitting inmates confined to county jails, county houses of correction, or tribal jails under a Department of Corrections contract to leave the facility to participate in employment related activities or other approved programs designated by the Department of Corrections in its contract with the local unit of government...”

This resolution was discussed at the August 28, 2017 Legislative meeting. The topic was discussed both in favor and in opposition to this resolution. Concerns regarding who would bear the burden of housing and supporting this program, state vs. county. Representative Rohrkaste reported that the counties that have work release programs are restricted for not for profit and possible collective bargaining disputes.

Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded by Supervisor Singstock in support of this resolution. Vote: AYES – 5; NAYES – 7. LOST.

Discussion/Action regarding Outagamie County Resolution No. 34-2017-18 – “Resolution to support proposed legislation reducing the forfeiture to \$100 for possessing or attempting to possess not more than 10 grams of marijuana and eliminating the increase in penalty if second or subsequent violations involve not more than 10 grams of marijuana”

Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded by Supervisor Lautenschlager in support of this resolution. Supervisor Eisen mentioned that Representative Schraa and Representative Hintz are co-sponsors of this resolution. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Discussion/Action regarding Outagamie County Resolution #46-2017-18 – “Resolution to oppose any legislation that automatically revokes a person's extended supervision, parole or probation if that person is charged with a crime while on extended supervision, parole or probation”

Motion by Supervisor Smith and seconded by Supervisor Snider in support of this resolution to oppose legislation that would automatically revoke a person's extended supervision, parole or probation if that person is charged with a crime while on extended supervision, parole or probation. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Discussion/Action regarding St. Croix County Resolution No. 34(2017) – “Resolution Opposing Sections 52 and 53 of Assembly bill 456 and Senate Bill 374 Relating to Vehicle Registration Fees

Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded by Supervisor Lautenschlager in support of this resolution to oppose these bills. With this resolution, it would oppose having to have a referendum to assess additional registration fees. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. NAYES: 1 – Eisen.

Discussion/Action regarding 2017 Assembly Bill 432 – An Act to amend 146.40 (3) of the statutes; relating to: hours of instructional program for nurse aids. (Reducing the required amount of CNA training hours for Wisconsin.)

Supervisor Ellis reported that the Federal requirements for instructional training is 75 hours and the State of Wisconsin's requirements are 120 hours. The hope is to amend the State Statutes to have the State match the Federal requirements. Marleah Keuler, Administrator for Park View Health Center, commented that the cost for this training is approximately \$1,000.00. Because of the amount of training, there are lost wages while training. The hope is by cutting the hours, more people would be interested in becoming CNAs. Ms. Keuler stated that even with dropping the number of required hours for training, the CNAs would still receive on-going training. The residents would not be in jeopardy of receiving proper care. Supervisor Eisen reported that Representative Rohrkaste and Representative Murphy co-sponsored this bill. Representative Murphy stated that their intention is to have conformity amongst states across the country.

Motion by Supervisor Lautenschlager and seconded by Supervisor Finch to support this Amendment. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Discussion: Report on 2017-2019 State Budget Power Point from Wisconsin Counties Association that summarizes many budget decisions that impact Counties

Supervisor Eisen commented on the power point presentation that he handed out. It summarizes the 2017-2019 Wisconsin State budget and how it affects Counties. Mr. Eisen reported on a topic that he has been directly involved with. Previously there was no funding for the support of the 911 Emergency Communications in the State budget. Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Telecommunications Association proposed establishing a statewide digital network to be funded by the State Police and Fire Fund. Mr. Eisen proudly reported that funding for the 911 Modernization Objectives along with administrative requirements has become available in the 2017-2019 budget. It was approved and signed by the Governor.

Supervisor Snider inquired about the Personal Property Taxes and Computer Aids, if they have been eliminated and will there be back funding. Representative Rohrkaste confirmed that there would be something put in place to help aid the loss of revenue by eliminating these taxes.

Discussion/Possible Action: Opposing Federal Action on the elimination of State and Local Tax Deductions

Executive Mark Harris stated that the bonds that the County works with are not subject to state and local taxes. If this would come in to play, the County would have to pay a higher interest rate. If the Federal Government passes this, the County would have to pay more when they borrow money.

Motion by Supervisor Snider and seconded by Supervisor Finch to have a resolution drafted opposing State and Local Tax Deductions and have it presented to the County Board. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Update from County Executive Mark Harris

County Executive, Mark Harris, voiced his concerns regarding TIF and TID districts and how they affect the tax levy. He encouraged the Representatives to look closely into this matter.

Executive Harris is also concerned about the movement of monies from the reserves at the Veteran's Home in King, Wisconsin. The State receives money from the Federal Government for Veterans. This money is placed into a Veterans' Trust Fund. The belief is that this money is used to aid Veterans for their benefits. The bulk of this money is used for administrative cost of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Veterans' benefits should not be jeopardized to pay for administrative costs. The reason for the Veteran's Trust Fund being out of money is the prior head of DVA ended all the interest bearing revenues. Soon there will no reserves from King and nothing in the Trust Fund. Executive Harris feels that funds will soon be diminished.

Supervisor Finch would like to see a resolution drafted to present to the County Board in regard to Veterans and be distributed to all Counties in Wisconsin.

Supervisor Warnke would like to take this topic to the Veterans Commission.

Supervisor Snider reported that this issue is being worked on at the National level as well. Pushing to have federal funding for Veterans going directly to the Veterans Commissions and not to the State.

Update from State Legislators:

Representative Mike Rohrkaste reported that the budget is finished and that there are bills being circulated at this time. One item vetoed from the Budget was the historic tax credit. He is working on some health care related items, helping to improve women's knowledge of their health care. Representative Rohrkaste touched on the

Condemnation of Recreational Trails and an amendment that reduces local control of condemnation of land for recreational trails.

Representative Amanda Stuck reported that her committee is looking for an audit in regard to the Veteran issue. The transportation bill regarding the fuel tax issue did not make it into the budget. She touched on AB479 regarding housing and real estate. The Wisconsin Counties Association and Wisconsin Towns Association voted against this bill. It is in regard to zoning and conditional use permits. Some amendments have already been made. Representative Stuck reported that she has Blue Books if anyone is interested.

Update from Federal Legislators:

Alan Ott, Representative from Congressman Glenn Grothman's office, reported on issues that Congressman Grothman has been working on:

- The House and Senate have passed the 2018 Budget
- Tax reform will dominate the house for the rest of the year
- Relief geared toward middle class and manufacturing and agriculture construction
- Disaster Relief Supplemental
- Children's Health Insurance Program

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

Correspondence – Supervisor Wingren asked to be excused from this meeting.

Next Meeting Date – The next meeting will be January 22, 2018.

Motion by Supervisor Finch and seconded by Supervisor Snider to adjourn. Carried by Voice Vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie Barthels, Recording Secretary