

Draft Minutes
(to be approved at 9/16/2020 Membership Meeting)
DCTA Annual Meeting
Via Zoom
Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Meeting called to order by President Derr at 7:05 PM.

The following towns participated: Black Earth, Bristol, Christiana, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Dunkirk, Oregon, Pleasant Springs, Primrose, Rutland, Springfield, Sun Prairie, Verona, and Westport.

Approval of January 15, 2020 Membership Meeting minutes

Motion: Geller/Anders. Approve minutes as written. Carried.

President Derr thanked departing Executive Board member Manfred Enburg and welcomed new District 5 representative, Mike Duerst.

Update on current local/state/federal Covid 19 response from Mike Koles, Executive Director, Wisconsin Towns Association

Mr. Koles noted this was the first ever Dane County Unit meeting via zoom. He noted the increase in phone calls to the WTA attorney hotline and reviewed work WTA has done regarding the April elections, state budget, and act 185. Mr. Koles recommended that all towns do some sort of contingency planning. They should have a plan for what might happen if shared revenue is cut.

Updates from DCTA Policy Advisor and DCTA appointees on: CARPC, Lakes and Watershed, DaneCom, MMSD and Yahara Clean

Yahara Clean: Tom Wilson and Renee Lauber reported that they have been attending meetings. Background work is being done. Things are moving along.

CARPC: Kris Hampton/David Pfeiffer reported that CARPC revised the Regional Development Plan update. They heard that towns would like CARPC to get back to land use planning. USA are at the same pace as last year. The MPO (Madison Area Transportation Planning Board) and CARPC (Capital Area Regional Planning Commission) are now co-located (sharing office space). CARPC is collaborating with the MPO and working on website and branding to be consistent between entities and general public engagement.

Lakes and Watershed: Lyle Updike reported the Commission has a new interim Chairperson, Chuck Erickson. He provided an overview of the process LWC has followed in the past in developing budget recommendations. He also provided background on the Stormwater TAC and stormwater banking.

Motion: Mark Geller/Deana Zentner. Reappoint Lyle Updike to the Lakes and Watershed Commission. Carried unanimously.

DaneCom: Steve Anders noted that the county is catching up from billing earlier in the year. No other issues right now.

MMSD: Tom Wilson reported that rate payments are down as businesses are closed and have less use. They have a reserve to cover this. New annexations are happening. He noted the 60-70 acres added recently from the town of Middleton. He also discussed the status of their CWA permit.

Policy Advisor: Renee Lauber reported that she is following the Dane County redistricting process.

Act 185 option for towns, following county authorization, to waive penalties and fees associated with late property tax payments. Do towns plan to use this option?

The option to waive interest and penalties on upcoming property-tax installments was discussed. It was suggested that towns considering offering this should check in with their school districts and other overlying taxing jurisdictions. They may have payments due on specific dates that would be hard to make if the tax income is delayed. Springfield, Pleasant Springs, Middleton and Sun Prairie have authorized delayed payments. Westport will consider it next week.

Other Business

Towns discussed other ways they are trying to offer businesses relief. Some towns are lowering alcohol licensing fees.

Adjourn

Motion: Gibson/Olson. Adjourn at 8:45 pm. Carried.