

Minutes
DCTA Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
Verona Town Hall
7669 County Highway PD, Verona, WI

Present: Jerry Derr, Tom Wilson, Martha Gibson, Jim Pulvermacher, Ted Olson, Tom Mathies

Absent: Steve Anders

Also Present: Renee Lauber

Meeting called to order by President Derr at 7:04 PM.

Consider April 21, 2021 meeting minutes

Motion: Wilson/Pulvermacher. Approve as written. Carried unanimously.

Consider June 2021 Financial Report

Motion: Pulvermacher/Olson. Approve report as written. Carried unanimously.

Consider January to June 2021 Executive Board per diem payments

Motion: Gibson/Pulvermacher. Approve as presented. Carried unanimously.

Solar farms

Lauber will send the town of Saratoga's and Springfield's ordinance to all towns. She will also remind them that WTA attorney Larry Konopacki, legislative affairs/lobbyist with the Wisconsin Towns Association emphasized the importance of having an ordinance because it starts a conversation and can provide a negotiating tool.

Update on shared municipal services working group with DCCVA

There has been one meeting since DCTA joined the group. Derr and Lauber attended via zoom. Phyllis Wiederhoeft, Verona Supervisor expressed interest in working on this initiative and has been added to the group email. Future meetings have not been set yet but the group is currently looking at setting up an educational meeting on contracts.

Group discussed doing something on ARPA with DCCVA after final guidance comes out.

Update on CARPC (Derr and Lauber met with Steinhoff and Pfeiffer)

Mr. Pfeiffer is the "chair elect", he is expected to replace Larry Palm as Chair. The CARPC levy was discussed. It is the same as last year. The Budget and Personnel Panel (BPP) did not meet again this year.

Survey

Lauber noted that response to the survey focused on public works compensation has been good with 22 towns filling out the survey so far.

Broadband

Town access to broadband was discussed. The issue in Primrose of tower promotion as a broadband provider when it didn't actually help with increased service was discussed. Many would like to pressure the state to require underground wire and make service a requirement like was done through the Rural Electrification Act.

The vacancy on the County Task Force for a person with economic/agricultural experience was discussed. Bob Schutte with Yahara Pride might be a good person. Jason Brown, manager at Ag Resource Mgmt is another consideration. Lauber will check to see if the position has been filled yet and make suggestions to Dane County if it is still vacant.

County Budget and upcoming county items to watch

Lauber currently monitors the Planning and Development Department budget. Proactive initiatives were discussed. Potential areas to work on include: clean air / lead from the Middleton airport, fixing and maintaining county roads - towns roads are used to bypass county roads in need of repair and the additional truck use destroys them, money for farmland conservation easements, investment in broadband, payment in lieu of taxes for parkland from the county, expand buffer strip program to other watersheds in Dane County (do phosphorus reduction work in other watersheds), clean up the tax rolls and remove remnant parcels that have been delinquent for decades. Lauber will work on implementation strategy and report back.

Membership meeting discussion/items to increase attendance

Discussion of the value of membership. The lobbying and policy work Jerry does with WTA is directly related to his being President of DCTA.

Educational programming /Information sharing

- ARPA – We have until 2024 to spend funds but many do not know what spending is eligible. No immediate need for a session as guidance from the Treasury is not finalized. Planning and patience is needed.
- Jason Field Executive Director for MadRep potential speaker at a membership meeting.

Adjourn

8:56 PM Motion: Mathies/Olson. Adjourn. Carried unanimously.