

Minutes
DCTA Executive Board
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Via zoom

Present: Derr, Wilson, Olson, Mathies, Gibson, Pulvermacher
Also Present: Renee Lauber

Meeting called to order by President Derr at 7:00 pm.

Consider 8/18/2021 Minutes

Motion: Wilson/Mathies. Approve minutes as written. Carried unanimously.

Consider September/October Financial Report

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

ARPA update

Derr reported that more program flexibility is being considered at the congressional level. There is a good possibility that municipalities can just spend the money that was sent. There may be no need to do the calculations to show revenue loss. This should be decided in the next few weeks.

WTA Convention

Derr reported information from the convention workshops (videos) is now available on the WTA website.

Updates on:

Broadband Task Force

Lauber reported that a letter regarding setting aside ARPA funding was sent to towns. The Task Force is meeting once a month and progress is steady but slow. A focus right now is on a survey to find out where additional service is needed. The Board asked how the survey could provide accurate data without the expectation of a response from almost all residences. The areas without service are very specific like half of the residences on a street. Pulvermacher suggested getting in touch with fire, EMS districts and police departments. They have all given that information to Dane Com. Dane Com knows where the dead spots are. The difference between cell phone service and broadband was discussed. It was also noted that most towns add information and communicate through the tax bill. Lauber stated that there had been criticism of this method. The Board suggested letting each town decide if they wanted to add information in their tax bill mailing. Lauber noted she wasn't sure if the survey would be ready by December for that mailing.

Capacity and build-out issues were discussed. Bristol received a PSC grant and nothing has happened to date. We can allocate the money but the supply chain is slow.

Redistricting Commission – Dane County has approved the map. Many people were thanked for setting up this nonpartisan process several years ago including Mark Hazelbaker. Two supervisors voted against the maps. Now the local ward maps are being written. Clerk McDonnell has sent information to towns on the process. Wilson suggested that clerks use the resolutions that passed 10 years ago as a template.

Sign Ordinance

Dane County staff have been contacted for updates a few times, nothing to report.

Delinquent Tax Parcels

Treasurer Gallagher sent the information requested on delinquent parcels. Tom Mathies will work with Lauber on a letter regarding the information to be run by Adam Gallagher and then sent to towns. A general discussion with Gallagher was suggested for the January Membership meeting. Things to discuss include ag conversion fees – how do they work? Are towns missing out on ag conversion fees? His perspective on town issues, etc.

Clean Lakes Compact

Recommendations and suggestions documents are being put together. There should be a document coming out soon. The process has improved but still no big ideas. We are reiterating things we already know but more education and awareness is a good thing. We still need behavior change on the things we already know like cleaning streets and properly disposing of pet waste.

Shared Services Work Group

-DCCVA has put sample RFPs under resources on the DCCVA website, DCCVA.org

-The group has recommended an email list serve pilot for administrators and department heads could better communicate and share resources. Gaggle mail has been tested and recommended. The cost is 15 cents per member per month.

Motion: Wilson/Gibson. Approve working with DCCVA on pilot program for email list serve. Understanding that there will be minimal expenditures involved. Carried unanimously.

-Carolyn Clow has offered to do a training workshop on RFPs, procurement training and contracts. This workshop will be available to DCTA

-New ideas were requested. Tom Wilson volunteered to join the group as he knows a good deal about these issues.

County Budget

Lauber followed the ZLR budget process. They have recommended \$225,000 for a regional housing initiative. To date most the work from this group has focused on workforce housing.

Other notable budget items include:

- \$93,000 to start a Civilian Climate Corps.
- Increasing the Continuous Cover Program to \$2.5 million.
- New position in the Dept. of Land and Water Resources to compile county carbon reduction accomplishments.

- Increasing funding for the Conservation Fund by \$1 million, bringing the total to \$6 million available for land preservation work in 2022.
- Adding \$500,000 for “Suck the Muck” to extract sediment from waterways.
- \$3 million for flood risk reduction dredging in the Yahara from Lake Kegonsa to Co. Hwy. B.
- Expanding lake weed harvesting: \$225,000 new plant harvesting machine, \$35,000 to staff it and a full-time mechanic to support weed harvesting and the dredging fleet.

Topics for December Educational Session

Suggestions included:

- Highway road maintenance – similar to the program Jim Pulvermacher helped put together a few years ago
- Presentation on drugs at home and how they are becoming a problem in the state. This might be better for a membership meeting than a special educational session. Could also tie this together with Sheriff Barret’s work.
- Talk to Rock County program about their PDR program. This could start with an initial meeting with the Exec Board on 11/17.

Motion: Wilson/Gibson. Adjourn at 8:37 pm. Carried unanimously.