

Minutes
DCTA ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, May 18, 2022
Verona Town Hall
7660 County Hwy PD, Verona, WI

Towns Present: Blue Mounds, Bristol, Cottage Grove, Dunkirk, Dunn, Middleton, Oregon, Pleasant Springs, Primrose, Rutland, Springdale, Springfield, Sun Prairie, Verona, Westport.

Meeting called to order at 7:13 pm by President Derr. Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of guests: State Representative Dianne Hesselbein, CARPC Executive Director Steve Steinhoff, Dane County Lobbyist Carry Springer, Representative Dave Considine, County Board Supervisor Alex Joers, County Board Supervisor Mike Bare, County Board Chair Patrick Miles.

Remarks from Patrick Miles, newly elected Dane County Board Chair

Chair Miles talked about some of his accomplishments on the County Board including working to get towns CUP approval authority and to require the Zoning and Land Regulation Committee to have a majority of supervisors that represent towns.

Consider reappointments of Mark Geller (2 years) and Kris Hampton (3 years) to the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC)

Towns are well represented on CARPC with the current Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Committee all being town appointees.

Motion: Pulvermacher/Updike. To reappoint Geller and Hampton. Carried.

Approval of January 19, 2022 Membership Meeting minutes

Motion: Pulvermacher/Anders. Approve January 19, 2022 Membership Meeting minutes as presented. Carried.

John Campbell, TADI (Traffic Analysis & Design, Inc.), P. E., Director of Traffic Engineering Safety Services will discuss speed limit reductions, general traffic safety analysis and possible funding sources for improvements.

John gave a brief overview of his firm that has 10 traffic engineers with 3 certified road safety professionals. He noted that they regularly screen safety data and look for ways to make improvements and obtain funding. A power point presentation was given (and posted to the DCTA website). It was emphasized that just reducing the speed limit doesn't improve the speeds that are driven or safety. Drivers are going to drive whatever speed they feel comfortable on the road. Changing human behavior is difficult, if you pair lower speed limits with enforcement and education it can have an impact. Many towns traffic scenarios were described and discussed.

Broadband Task Force Accomplishments and Draft Recommendations from Task Force members Deanna Zentner and Renée Lauber

The Task Force has almost completed a coverage/access survey, conducted by UW River Fall Survey Research Center. This data is need as current data is inaccurate. The Task Force has also initiated an RFP for an infrastructure engineering assessment (based on work done in Marathon and Door Counties)

to find solutions to improve broadband. It has also funded a dig once pilot project to install dark fiber during road construction and submitted a grant request to the PSC with Charter for improved access in the Cross Plains/Berry areas. The County Board has been asked to continue the Task Force. A Draft, 5/3/2022, Dane County Broadband Task Force Recommendations document was reviewed with discussion focusing on issues with state law that restrict municipalities.

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

DCTA: Lauber is working with Dane County Planning on setting up a listening session to review the zoning code and Board of Adjustments CUP process.

CARPC: David Pfeiffer asked if having CARPC map culvert locations would be useful and of interest to towns. Attendees suggested also having stormwater detention ponds on the map. Capacity of culvers also should be recorded. Some towns already have done this mapping. It would be useful to have state, town and county road information in one system. A solicitation letter from CARPC to communities would be a good idea. If this information had been available, it might have avoided the wash out that happened when the state increased the culvert size in Sun Prairie.

Lakes and Watershed: Lyle Updike reported that new chapter 14 stormwater changes are being implemented with new permits that come in. Seems to be going well. Suck the muck initiative to removing legacy sediment is also proceeding with a dewatering pond in McFarland. The goal is to get back to the predevelopment P levels of the Yahara River.

DaneCom: Steve Anders reported that operations seem to be going well. Fee increases are being discussed.

MMSD: Tom Wilson has agreed to stay on the commission and fill out his term

Adjourn

Motion: Pulvermacher/Hampton. Adjourn meeting at 9:00 PM. Carried.