

Minutes  
DCTA Annual Meeting  
May 15, 2024  
Middleton Town Hall, 7555 W. Old Sauk Rd, Verona, WI

**Present:** Larry Beck, Albion; Jerry Derr, Bristol; Mike Duplayee, Kris Hampton, Steve Anders, Cottage Grove; Grey Hyer, Cross Plains; Ted Olson, Dunkirk; Steve Greb, Dunn; Cynthia Richson, Middleton; Jerry Jensen, Laurie Fitzgerald, Oregon; Jim Dorn, Kent Knutson, Rutland; Martha Gibson, Primrose; Lyle Updike, Sun Prairie; Mike Duerst, Tom Mathies, David Lonsdorf, Mark Geller, Verona; Doug Meier, Vermont; Mary Manering, Westport; Dean Helwig, York.

**Also Present:** Renee Lauber, DCTA; several DNR Representatives; Todd Violante, Rachael Holloway, Jaron McCallum, Dane County Planning and Development; Dane County Supervisors Mike Bare, Michele Doolan, Don Postler, Jeff Kroning, Pat Downing; Patrick Miles, Acting Dane County Executive; Charity Barry, Congressional candidate; Chee Thao, John Hausbeck, Public Health Madison Dane County; Martye Griffin, MMSD; David Pfeiffer and Jason Valerius, CARPC; Senator Melissa Agard.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by President Derr.

**Consider Membership Meeting minutes**

Motion: Gibson/Manering. Approve January 17, 2024 minutes. Carried.

**Recognition of Lyle Updike for service to Dane County Towns**

Lyle Updike was honored for his 20 years of service representing Dane County Towns on the Lakes and Watershed Commission. DCTA President Jerry Derr presented Lyle with an appreciation award from DCTA. Senator Agard gave Lyle a State Resolution recognizing his service and U.S. and State flags that were flown over the State Capitol in his honor.

**Remarks from Patrick Miles, Acting Dane County Executive**

Miles talked about the process of appointing and electing a new County Executive. Miles will make an appointment for the County Board to consider on 5/23. The appointee will serve until the November election is certified. He also spoke about the agriculture preservation conservation easement program that was part of the 2023 budget. \$300,000 was allocated to preserve ag lands. He stated the importance of establishing something like this to balance growth, preserve ag lands, and support food security and the ag economy. He acknowledged the county has been slow in developing program standards. They need to reconvene the workgroup and get an agreed upon program to go forward.

**Meet Jason Valerius, Capital Area Regional Planning Commission's (CARPC) new Executive Director**

Valerius spoke about the water quality role of organization. They work on behalf of DNR on water quality and stormwater management standards. They also have the responsibility to create a plan for the physical development of the region. In support of that plan, they serve to support the needs of communities across the region.

**Update on Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) issues and work being done with DCTA**

Lauber thanked staff and County Supervisors for quickly developing and passing OA 68 to address CUP reapplication issues. Holloway talked about how other counties manage CUPs and changes to the county ordinance that are currently being discuss. [Link to presentation.](#) [Link to County Comparison handout.](#)

### **Update on PFAS Community Impact and Management**

Hausbeck and Thao, Public Health Madison & Dane County noted they spoke at a DCTA meeting last year when they first started PFAS private well testing. Now the EPA has released standards for public drinking water systems. The standards were lowered from 70 ppt (parts per trillion) to 4 ppt and include 3 other PFAS compounds. This standard is extremely low compared to what it was previously. It is for public drinking water systems only. Impacts to private wells are being reviewed. Black Earth Creek has been taken off the list because PFAS levels has dropped below the standards. Fish consumption advisories were discussed.

Free (income eligible) private well testing and reduced fee testing through their office was discussed. Testing includes access to staff that can help you interpret the test results. Letting town constituents know about this program was emphasized. Health concerns were discussed. [Link to presentation.](#)

**Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District's (MMSD) Metrogro Biosolids Program**, Martye Griffin, Director of Ecosystem Services spoke about protections they have in place to protect groundwater and other resources. [Link to presentation.](#)

### **Update from Dane County's Broadband Coordinator, Jaron McCallum.**

Jaron McCallum started his position last year. He is talking with providers that are deploying services. He emphasized that he is a resource advocating for town access and funding.

### **Updates from DCTA Executive Director and DCTA representatives on: Lakes and Watershed, DaneCom, and MMSD**

ED Report: The Executive Board will be interviewing the County Exec candidates on June 19<sup>th</sup>. We are doing this to get town issues on their radar. After the primary election in August, we will be have a forum for towns at the DCTA Membership Meeting at 7:00 PM on September 18<sup>th</sup> (location to be determined). Last week survey results on town meeting formats were sent out. Interesting data on virtual vs in person meetings and an ordinance example for those using hybrid or online formats. A speed limit guide is being discussed. Some town officials have incorrect information on changing speed limits. We will be working with legal counsel to explain some of the statutory authority that towns have to change speed limits that do not involve WisDOT. We will continue to work with Dane County on the CUP issue discussed earlier. In April we organized a presentation in Primrose about land conservation and grant options with a focus on PDR. We have had requests to do a repeat meeting on the eastern side of the county. In July we will be talking about the Regional Housing Strategy. We had town members participating but many of those people are no longer on their town boards. Please let me know if you are interested in representing towns on that topic.

Dane Com: Doug Meier and Steve Anders reported that the system continues to work well and they are keeping an eye on costs.

Lakes and Watershed: Steve Greb shared information about a meeting he attended on leaf collection.

WTA: Jerry Derr reminded people about the MOE (Maintenance of Effort) webinar on May 21<sup>st</sup> and emphasized stiff penalties for towns that don't file. Transportation grants, for ag and forestry roads are being reviewed. Four people from towns are on the review committee. Applications for the first round of funding total \$250 million compared to \$50 million available, the second phase will have a \$100 million available. He also noted that a summary of the WTA legislative report is available.

MMSD: Tom Wilson provided a report but confusion as to the presenter resulted in no report.

### **Adjourn**

Motion: Hampton/Gibson. Adjourn at 9:02 pm. Carried.