

DCTA Executive Board Meeting

4058 County Road N Cottage Grove, Wisconsin and Virtual

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

6:00 PM

Present: Mary Manering, Jerry Derr, Tom Mathies, Steve Anders, Greg Hyer

Absent: Martha Gibson, Ted Olson

Also Present: Chad Fleck, DaneCom; Kevin Fosso, DaneCom; Doug Meier, Supervisor Vermont and DaneCom appointee; Kim Banigan, Cottage Grove Clerk; Kris Hampton, Chair Cottage Grove; Fred Wolf, Chair Mazomanie (Virtual); Jeremy Lang Supervisor Mazomanie (Virtual); Nancy Nedveck, Supervisor Rutland (Virtual); Cynthia Richson, Chair Middleton (Virtual); Renee Lauber, DCTA.

Meeting called to order by President Derr at 6:04 pm. Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion with DaneCom staff regarding proposed increases in DaneCom operations and maintenance charges.

Cost increases were discussed and DaneCom staff were asked if there was any way to improve the system or implement economies of scale. Operating with both Motorola and Harris systems was criticized. It would be more efficient and reduce costs to not have two systems. Dispatchers have to use two different very expensive radio consoles. This topic was previously very contentious. Staff noted that the political climate has changed and we stand a better chance of a single radio system now than when the system was first put together.

The DaneCom cost structure established by Intergovernmental Agreements 10 or 15 years ago was reviewed. Towns, cities, and villages pay 70% of the operation and maintenance cost up to a max of \$825,000/year. The 2025 cost increase will bring fees up to the \$825,000 maximum. This means that costs should not increase significantly in the future. Since costs are allocated using a formula based on equalized valuation (EV) and population, the distribution of costs will shift between municipalities to match future population and EV changes.

Q: What do other counties do? Generally, they have one radio system.

Expressing concerns about the two vendor system at the upcoming September 11, 2024 DaneCom Governing Board meeting was discussed.

Approve June 19, 2024 minutes

Motion: Hyer/Mathies. Approve June minutes. Carried.

Consider Financial Report

Motion: Mathies/Anders. Approve Financial Report. Carried.

Motion: Mathies/Manering. Invest \$40,00 into a 7-month CD and open a money market account. Carried.

Note: the intent is to invest funds from the checking/savings account in a CD now while the 7-month offer is available. The funds in the CD coming due in September will then not be reinvested in a CD and will go into the money market account.

Discuss letter of support for Letter of Support for the USDOT Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program ("CFI") application

The Justice40 Initiative was discussed and concerns that EV's are currently not priced for people in multifamily housing.

Motion: Manering/Hyer. Sign on to support this effort. Carried.

Discuss format of September County Executive candidate forum. (Establish meeting protocol and questions.)

Candidates will be asked to make an opening statement regarding their message to towns.

Renee will facilitate the meeting. Renee will send notice out to towns requesting the submittal of questions in advance. There will also be an ability to submit questions at the meeting.

The forum will be for 1 hour with a social time after to mingle and meet the candidates.

Elect DCTA Vice President

Manering nominated Tom Mathies. Mathies accepted. There were three calls for nomination.

Motion: Manering/Hyer. Close nominations and elect Tom Mathies as Vice President. Carried.

Updates:

- Appointments to MMSD, CARPC and Historic Preservation were discussed.
- CUP changes and idea of a zoning commission were reviewed. Renee will contact Patrick Miles again about meeting to discuss this.
- Discussed meeting with Dane County Land and Water staff regarding stormwater and erosion control complaints and setting up a future listening session
- Renee will send the fee in lieu data out again.
- Speed limit guide – Jerry will speak to Joe Ruth this week about document review. He noted that when the speed limit legislation failed in the last legislative session, DOT assured WTA that they would look at their criteria/process for approving applications to reduce below 45 mph and assure fair consideration. In the past, no was always the answer. (Cottage Grove just paid \$1,500 to the county to do a speed study for a reduction request.)
- Grant writing education. Renee will be meeting with UW Extension staff on 8/26. We are having a hard time articulating what we want regarding education. Specific advice from reviewing applications was suggested. People need to be reminded to follow directions, include photos, plan ahead so you have the correct data.
- Other educational programming: Listening session with new HWY Commissioner was discussed. Would like info on how much money the department has to spend, system of ranking roads, scope of how they prioritize roads for repair, what the opportunities might be to increase funding sources. What is their strategic plan? How do federal funds impact things? Does it all go to Madison?, How do they decide on things like where to put a bike lane? Options for towns sharing licenses (software) were discussed.

Adjourn

Motion: Manering /Anders. Adjourn at 8:10 pm. Carried.