

MINUTES

Dane County Cities' and Villages' Association

October 22, 2014

ATTENDANCE:

Belleville:
Black Earth:
Blue Mounds:
Brooklyn:
Cambridge:
Cottage Grove: President Diane Wiedenbeck
Cross Plains:
Dane:
Deerfield: Administrator Liz McCredie
DeForest: President Judd Blau
Edgerton:
Fitchburg: Alder Dorothy Krause, Administrator Tony Roach
Madison: Alder Paul Skidmore, Alder Denise DeMarb, Alder Anita Weier,
Govt. Relations Officer Nick Zavos, MPD Lt. Carl Strasburg, Fire
Chief Steve Davis

Maple Bluff:
Marshall: Administrator Sue Peck
Mazomanie:
McFarland: Police Chief Craig Sherven
Middleton: Mayor Kurt Sonnentag
Monona: Police Chief Walter Ostrenga, MOFD Chief Scott Sullivan
Mount Horeb: President Dave Becker
Oregon:
Rockdale:
Shorewood Hills:
Stoughton: Mayor Donna Olson
Sun Prairie: Mayor Jon Freund, Administrator Aaron Oppenheimer
Verona: Mayor Jon Hochkammer, Alder Elizabeth Doyle, Administrator Bill
Burns
Waunakee: WNPD Chief Kevin Plendl
Others Present: Forbes McIntosh and Ann Gryphan, GPS/DCCVA

1. **Call to Order.** The business meeting was called to order by DCCVA President Jon Hochkammer at 12:05 p.m. October 22 at the City/County Building in the City of Madison. A quorum was present with 14 member communities represented.
2. **General Discussion – DaneCom and 911 Center Board.** DCCVA lobbyist Forbes McIntosh gave opening remarks about recent developments at the county level regarding two proposals: One by County Executive Joe Parisi for a DaneCom Fix/Upgrade of \$4.5 million in capital expenditures and \$500,000 for operation/maintenance costs to be paid for by Dane County; the second by Parisi and Dane County Sheriff Dave Mahoney to change the governance structure of the Public Safety Communications Center Board and make this body advisory in nature. McIntosh said it was his understanding that the two proposals are tied together, meaning if one fails to pass they both fail. Nick Zavos said that County Executive Chief of Staff Josh Westcott said at a recent hearing that they are not attached. Kurt Sonnentag said County Board Chairman Sharon Corrigan also said they are not attached. The DCCVA Executive Committee put out a press release in support of the DaneCom fix/upgrade proposal after it was announced earlier this month, however DCCVA has not yet taken a position on the 911 Board change, which is 2014 Ordinance Amendment 56. McIntosh distributed large packets of supporting materials on both topics.
3. **DaneCom.** Following a question about the funding for the DaneCom upgrade, McIntosh explained that the \$4.5 million would include the \$1.2 million left over from under the current DaneCom system funding (\$1.8 million of the current allocated \$3 million has already been spent) – so there is actually \$3.3 million in new investment by Dane County for capital costs beyond the original DaneCom system that had been agreed upon. Parisi is calling this proposed upgrade “DaneCom Phase 2.” Potentially a second DaneCom agreement might need to be signed by all municipalities for the DaneCom Phase 2. Hochkammer said that even though the county agreed to pick up new O&M costs it could be difficult to get all municipalities to agree to sign the new agreements. Overall, DCCVA is in support of the DaneCom Phase 2 proposal as presented.
4. **911 Center Board.** McIntosh gave a history of the dispatch center and the city/county agreement for the dispatch center. McIntosh said that many issues that are currently being discussed about 911 Center operations and needed improvements are only taking place because of the oversight by the stakeholders who serve on the 911 Center Board – such as CAD implementation, software pre-alert difficulties, etc. McIntosh questioned whether making the 911 Center Board “advisory in nature” would be enough to force needed changes in the future, as well as whether people would be as willing to serve on an advisory body with no real authority. Nick Zavos of Madison expressed many concerns about 2014 O.A. 56. He said that under county ordinance the county has complete control over finances and personnel of the dispatch center, but the 911 Center Board has control over policies for the dispatch center. Zavos said it is unclear what problem 2014 O.A. 56 is trying to solve – if there are problems they should be brought forward and discussed publicly to try to find a solution rather than stripping the 911

Center Board of all authority. Elizabeth Doyle said she has been told by some county board supervisors that lack of attendance/quorum has been an issue and is one reason for 2014 O.A. 56 – to help speed up decision-making. Zavos said he is not aware of any instances of the 911 Center Board not meeting due to lack of quorum. Judd Blau said his public safety officers are willing to have an open dialogue on improvements that can be made at the dispatch center, but he does not support having DaneCom Phase 2 tied to the passage of O.A. 56. Hochkammer said one of his concerns is whether in the future the 911 Center would only handle emergency calls, not service-related non-emergency calls. Jon Freund has already sent a letter to Parisi on behalf of the City of Sun Prairie in opposition to O.A. 56 – he said with DaneCom the local municipalities have started moving closer together and working in partnership on public safety and now O.A. 56 tries to move in the opposite direction. Freund said stakeholders need to identify what the problems are and fix them – not strip the 911 Center Board of authority – a sentiment expressed by many other individuals present at today’s DCCVA meeting. Steve Davis, the City of Madison fire chief, also said the passage of O.A. 56 could open the door for Dane County to reduce staffing at the dispatch center in the future and reduce services.

5. **Motion.** Judd Blau made a motion, seconded by Dave Becker:
 - "In support of the Dane County 2015 budget provision for the DaneCom fix and upgrade, with no support at this time for 2014 Ordinance Amendment 56 regarding 911 Center Board governance, and requesting a joint meeting of all stakeholders regarding 911 Center Board operations and protocols - also noting that additional money may be needed to reimburse the City of Fitchburg for its investment regarding DaneCom."
 - Motion passed by a show of hands, 14-0.

6. **Adjourn.** Judd Blau made a motion to adjourn at 1:28 p.m., seconded by Kurt Sonnentag.