

MINUTES

Dane County Cities' and Villages' Association

May 22, 2013

ATTENDANCE

Belleville:
Black Earth:
Blue Mounds:
Brooklyn:
Cambridge:
Cottage Grove: President Diane Wiedenbeck
Cross Plains:
Dane:
Deerfield: Clerk-Treasurer Elizabeth McCredie
DeForest:
Edgerton:
Fitchburg: Mayor Shawn Pfaff
Madison:
Maple Bluff:
Marshall: Trustee William Spencer
Mazomanie: Clerk/Treasurer Susan Dietzen
McFarland: Administrator Don Peterson
Middleton: Mayor Kurt Sonnentag, Administrator Mike Davis
Monona: Administrator Patrick Marsh
Mount Horeb:
Oregon:
Rockdale:
Shorewood Hills:
Stoughton: Mayor Donna Olson, Director of Planning & Development Rodney Scheel
Sun Prairie: Administrator Aaron Oppenheimer
Verona: Mayor Jon Hochkammer, Alderperson Heather Reekie, Alderperson Elizabeth Doyle, Administrator Bill Burns
Waunakee: President John Laubmeier
Others Present: Forbes McIntosh and Ann Gryphan, GPS/DCCVA
Andrew Disch, Madison Area Builders Association

1. **Call to Order.** The business meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. at 1855 Saloon and Grill in Cottage Grove. A quorum was present with 12 member communities represented. Diane Wiedenbeck, Cottage Grove Village President, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes from the last DCCVA meeting were presented. Shawn Pfaff made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 6, 2013, seconded by Diane Wiedenbeck and approved on a voice vote.
3. **Year in Review.** DCCVA President Jon Hochkammer briefly reviewed some discussion items/speakers for membership meetings that occurred during 2012-13: Dave Taylor from the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District; Kamran Mesbah from the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission; John Dejung from Dane County talking about DaneCom; Dave Gwenda from the City of Madison talking about multiple payments of property tax bills; and Don Heilman and James Tye from Clean Lakes Alliance, among others. Hochkammer said DCCVA has discussed developing some steering committees and a legislative platform in the past, and it is his goal to continue developing that. There was some discussion about possibly holding DCCVA teleconferences in the future if an issue arises, but some attendees stressed the importance of having face-to-face meetings.
4. **Election of Officers.** The membership held elections for the 2013-14 DCCVA officers.
 - a. President: Jon Hochkammer was nominated by Shawn Pfaff to serve as president, no other nominees, Hochkammer was elected on a voice vote.
 - b. Vice President: Kurt Sonnentag was nominated by Patrick Marsh to serve as vice president, no other nominees, Sonnentag was elected on a voice vote.
 - c. Secretary: Don Peterson was nominated by Mike Davis to serve as secretary, no other nominees, Peterson was elected on a voice vote.
 - d. Treasurer: Bill Burns was nominated by Sue Dietzen to serve as treasurer, no other nominees, Burns was elected on a voice vote.
 - e. Past President/At-Large: Hochkammer explained that this position used to be held solely by a DCCVA past president, however DCCVA amended its bylaws in 2011 to allow an at-large member to serve since there were no longer any other past presidents still serving as an elected official and involved in DCCVA. Donna Olson was nominated by Shawn Pfaff to serve as Officer At-Large, no other nominees, Olson elected on a voice vote.
5. **Appointment of Nominating Committee.** Hochkammer explained that typically if there are more people interested in serving on external boards than positions, the nominating committee is charged with overseeing the process for selecting from among the nominees. The renewal of the existing nominating committee – Donna Olson, Kurt Sonnentag and Steve Staton – was approved on a voice vote. Steve Staton was not in attendance at the meeting, so Sonnentag agreed to check with Staton that he accepts to continue serving on the nominating committee.

6. **Treasurer's Report.** Bill Burns referred to a print handout of the treasurer's report, which shows revenue of \$46,514.03 YTD and expenses of \$17,999.71 YTD. The membership dues collected were \$46,480 and all cities and villages paid their dues except Maple Bluff and Rockdale, which had not been expected to join DCCVA in 2013. Sonnentag made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Patrick Marsh and approved on a voice vote.
7. **Appointments to External Committees.** Forbes McIntosh discussed the procedures for DCCVA members to be appointed to serve on external committees or boards.
 - a. **DaneCom Governing Board:** McIntosh said that DCCVA is seeking a representative to serve on the DaneCom Governing Board and the Fitchburg city attorney has agreed to serve. However, the DCCVA bylaws state that appointees to external committees must be elected officials. The membership discussed whether to allow Mark Sewell to serve as the DCCVA appointee to this board. Shawn Pfaff said that Sewell is knowledgeable about DaneCom, has been assisting with the communications/negotiations between Fitchburg and the county on this issue and would be a good representative for cities and villages. Pfaff said he would be willing to serve on the DaneCom Governing Board but said Sewell would be a solid choice. Hochkammer said he was willing to waive the elected official requirement in this instance because no elected official has stepped forward for an appointment. Hochkammer reminded all members that DCCVA representatives to external boards or committees should represent the interests of all cities and villages within Dane County. Sonnentag made a motion to suspend the rules to appoint Mark Sewell to the DaneCom Governing Board, seconded by Aaron Oppenheimer and approved on a voice vote.
 - b. **Capital Area Regional Planning Commission:** McIntosh said DCCVA received only one nomination for the one appointment available to CARPC – Jason Kramar seeking re-appointment. Sue Dietzen made a motion to appoint Jason Kramar to serve as the DCCVA representative on CARPC, seconded by Donna Olson and approved on a voice vote.
 - c. **Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (MPO):** DCCVA does not have direct appointment authority to the MPO. The people casting votes are all chief elected officials within the MPO. Voting has already begun, and the deadline to vote is this Friday.
8. **Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) Update.** Sonnentag reported that CARPC is losing staff because of the uncertainty of the future of CARPC and its funding. McIntosh reported that CARPC has a \$114,000 deficit due to the scheduled end of grant funding, and that CARPC in 2015 it will experience a negative cash flow.

Although the County Executive earlier this year publicly called for the dissolution of CARPC, McIntosh said as of today there does not appear to be sufficient support for dissolution among many county board supervisors nor a majority of the cities, villages and towns – but that could change.

McIntosh stated there is another way to obtain a functional dissolution without having to obtain public support or meet the statutory requirement of obtaining a majority of municipalities within the region to pass resolutions calling for dissolution. McIntosh said another possible tactic for dissolution could entail having at least to members of the CARPC Budget Personnel Panel (BPP) purposely vote the Commission into deficit spending, knowingly and deliberately directing CARPC into financial insolvency \ bankruptcy. This tactic would provide the County Executive and those entities seeking dissolution two options for the 2015 budget discussions: 1) Obtain dissolution by simply bankrupting CARPC or 2) Threaten bankruptcy with the goal of obtaining policy and funding changes from the other required stakeholders (cities, towns and villages).

McIntosh also reported that the Dane County Board's Executive Committee will likely be voting to retract its recommendation for an independent audit of CARPC. Based on communications from the Dane County Executive's office, it appears that the County Executive is delaying the start of the audit until after the CARPC budget process is finalized. In essence, the "independent" nature of the audit process has been compromised and the work with the various stakeholders, the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Board Chair for an "independent" audit appear to have been rejected by the County Executive's office. Based on some county e-mail communications that have been made public, McIntosh said it appears the delay tactic is being pursued because an independent audit performed before the CAPRC budget being finalized could harm a future legal challenge by the County of the 2014 CARPC budget. Again, seeking deficit spending and forcing CARPC into bankruptcy could be the intended goal.

A DCCVA member asked what message DCCVA can give to stakeholders regarding CARPC, and Mayor Sonnentag said it is that CARPC needs a legitimate budget it can adequately operate on.

9. **Capital Area Planning Conference.** McIntosh reported that DCCVA has been asked to be listed as a co-sponsor of the Capital Area Planning Conference, scheduled for this fall. Shawn Pfaff made a motion to have DCCVA listed as a co-sponsor of the Capital Area Planning Conference, seconded by Kurt Sonnentag and approved on a voice vote. Members requested that Ann Gryphan send out information about when/where the conference will be held.
10. **Dane County Interoperable Radio System (DaneCom) Update.** McIntosh said DaneCom is moving forward. Harris is sending out a special purchase offer for radios – watch your DCCVA newsletter for details. System testing will occur this summer, and the system will go live this fall.
11. **Preliminary Discussion of 2014 DCCVA Budget and Dues Structure.** Bill Burns informed members that the Executive Committee has not discussed any membership dues changes for 2014. The 2014 budget is expected to again allocate \$5,000 for legal fees. Don Peterson said the Executive Committee typically takes action on the future year's budget in either

July or September. There is not expected to be any major DCCVA budget changes for 2014.

12. State Legislative Update. McIntosh referred members to the enclosed handout which details all state legislation introduced so far this session impacting municipalities. Members should be receiving weekly DCCVA legislative updates, which details all of the Joint Finance Committee budget actions so far impacting municipalities. McIntosh said many of JFC actions so far have not been favorable to cities and villages. McIntosh said some of the bigger budget items so far include: fees/levy limits, municipal employee residency requirements and a new "OpenBook" reporting requirement for municipalities. Hochkammer said Wisconsin counties vary widely in their opinions about the residency requirement change. Hochkammer predicted that it is unlikely that legislators will open this budget provision up again for further discussion. Hochkammer also said the new "OpenBook" reporting requirement was "out of the blue" and will result in a lot more administrative work for municipalities. Shawn Pfaff noted that there is also a lot of legislation underway regarding voting laws and the cost to cities could be high.

13. Other Business.

- a. **Highway Costs:** Mayor Shawn Pfaff reported that there is a push by the county executive's office to move highway costs onto local municipalities. Pfaff suggested inviting Pam Dunphy or someone from the county highway department to a future DCCVA meeting to talk to the municipalities.
- b. **Shared 911 Dispatch:** Mayor Pfaff also reported on shared 911 dispatch and how non-emergency calls would be handled/dispatched. He cautioned that there could be a cost-shifting, and that it doesn't make financial sense for Fitchburg to change their dispatching.

14. Future Meetings.

- a. The remaining 2013 DCCVA meeting schedule is: 7 a.m. Wednesday, July 24; 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25; and 12 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20.
- b. John Laubmeier volunteered to have Waunakee host the July meeting. An invitation to attend that meeting is to be sent out to Dane County Board Chairman John Hendrick. The village of Oregon will host the September meeting. Hochkammer suggested asking the city of Madison to host the November meeting, to help keep them engaged in DCCVA business.
- c. Topics: Highway costs/transportation will be the topic for the guest speakers in July. Potential guest speakers suggested included: Pam Dunphy, Craig Thompson and Pat Goss. Bill Burns noted that several communities have been contacted recently about a beltline study. A suggestion for future speakers for other meetings includes Scott McDonnell speaking about voting machines.

15. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.