

# MINUTES

## *Dane County Cities' and Villages' Association*

May 3, 2017

### ATTENDANCE:

Belleville:  
Black Earth:  
Blue Mounds:  
Brooklyn:  
Cambridge:  
Cottage Grove:  
Cross Plains: President Pat Andreoni, Administrator Caitlin Stene  
Dane: President Roger Schmidt  
Deerfield: President Greg Frutiger, Administrator Elizabeth McCredie  
DeForest: President Judd Blau, Administrator Steve Fahlgren  
Edgerton:  
Fitchburg: Administrator Patrick Marsh  
Madison:  
Maple Bluff:  
Marshall: President Marlin Hensler Jr., Trustee Ryan Frey, Trustee Scott Michalak  
Mazomanie: Clerk/Treasurer Sue Dietzen  
McFarland: President Brad Czebotar  
Middleton: Mayor Gurdip Brar, Administrator Mike Davis, Finance Director Bill Burns  
Monona: Mayor Mary O'Connor, Administrator April Little  
Mount Horeb:  
Oregon:  
Rockdale:  
Shorewood Hills:  
Stoughton: Mayor Donna Olson  
Sun Prairie: Mayor Paul Esser, Alder Jon Freund, Administrator Aaron Oppenheimer  
Verona: Mayor Jon Hochkammer, Administrator Jeff Mikorski  
Waunakee: Administrator Todd Schmidt, Assistant Administrator Adam Bentley  
Windsor: President Bob Wipperfurth  
Others Present: Forbes McIntosh and Ann Gryphan, GPS/DCCVA

Outgoing Middleton Mayor Kurt Sonnentag  
Stephen Steinhoff, Capital Area Regional Planning Commission  
Ronda Hensler of Marshall  
Jerry Deschane, League of WI Municipalities

1. **Call to Order.** The business meeting was called to order by DCCVA President Mayor Jon Hochkammer at 7:12 p.m. at The Breakwater restaurant in the City of Monona. A quorum was present with 15 member communities represented.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Judd Blau (V. of DeForest) made a motion to approve the minutes from the DCCVA meeting on March 8, 2017, seconded by Roger Schmidt (V. of Dane) and approved on a voice vote.
3. **Financial Report.** Treasurer Bill Burns (C. of Middleton) presented the financial report. As mentioned at previous meetings, the Villages of Rockdale and Black Earth chose not to be DCCVA members this year. All other cities and villages in Dane County paid their dues for 2017. The largest expenditure is for lobbying/professional services. The year-end fund balance is expected to be just under \$58,000. Bob Wipperfurth (V. of Windsor) made a motion to accept the financial report, seconded by Roger Schmidt (V. of Dane) and approved on a voice vote.
4. **Year in Review.** DCCVA President Jon Hochkammer (C. of Verona) reviewed the DCCVA business and actions over the past year. He said there were fewer discussions about Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) and DaneCom over the past year than previous years. DCCVA held a strategic planning retreat in October 2016 in Sun Prairie, with follow-up actions from that retreat still pending. DCCVA decided to eliminate the 7 a.m. membership meetings due to low turnout. DCCVA is also looking at potential shared services, such as POLCO surveying platform, staffing, etc. Hochkammer noted that League of Wisconsin municipalities is also a good resource for cities and villages. Todd Schimdt (V. of Waunakee) said he serves on the LWM board and that organization has begun offering webcasts to deliver more information to municipalities. Jerry Deschane, executive director of LWM, noted that LWM offers a Local Government 101 workshop for newly elected officials. LWM is also using more video and more social media. He also thanked LWM members who attended the LWM lobby day today at the state Capitol. Hochkammer noted that one challenge for municipalities is getting good people to run for local office and developing future leaders.
5. **Election of Officers.** The membership held elections for the 2017-18 DCCVA officers.
  - a. **President:** DCCVA Board Member-at-Large Donna Olson (C. of Stoughton) presided over the election of the DCCVA president. Jon Hochkammer (C. of Verona) was nominated by Judd Blau (V. of DeForest) to serve as president. There were no other nominees. A unanimous ballot was cast for Jon Hochkammer as president.
  - b. **Vice President:** DCCVA President Jon Hochkammer presided over the remainder of

the elections. Hochkammer noted that longtime DCCVA Vice President Kurt Sonnentag, City of Middleton mayor, did not run for re-election as mayor. Judd Blau was nominated as DCCVA vice president. There were no other nominees. A unanimous ballot was cast for Judd Blau as vice president.

- c. **Secretary:** Since Judd Blau was just elected VP, the Secretary position is open. Bob Wipperfurth (V. of Windsor) was nominated by Judd Blau to serve as secretary. There were no other nominees. Bill Burns (C. of Middleton) made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for Wipperfurth, seconded by Roger Schmidt (V. of Dane) and approved on a voice vote. Bob Wipperfurth was elected secretary.
  - d. **Treasurer:** Bill Burns (C. of Middleton) was nominated by Donna Olson (C. of Stoughton) to serve as treasurer. There were no other nominees. Sue Dietzen (V. of Mazomanie) made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for Burns, seconded by Greg Frutiger (V. of Deerfield) and approved on a voice vote. Bill Burns was elected treasurer.
  - e. **Past President/Member-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 at that time there were no longer any other past presidents still serving as an elected official and involved in DCCVA. Donna Olson (C. of Stoughton) was nominated by Patrick Marsh (C. of Fitchburg) to serve as Member-At-Large. There were no other nominees. Judd Blau (V. of DeForest) made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for Olson, seconded by Todd Schmidt (V. of Waunakee) and approved on a voice vote.
6. **Nominating Committee.** The DCCVA Nominating Committee members for 2016-17 were: Kurt Sonnentag, Donna Olson and Steve Staton. Since Kurt Sonnentag did not run for re-election as City of Middleton Mayor, Hochkammer said he will need to report back on who the third committee member for 2017-18 will be. That person will be appointed by the Executive Committee.
7. **Appointments to External Committees.**
- a. **Capital Area Regional Planning Commission:** There is one vacancy on CARPC. DCCVA appointee Paul Lawrence (C. of Stoughton) is up for re-appointment, but he did not win re-election to his alder seat in April. There are no other nominees for this CARPC seat at the moment. Patrick Marsh (C. of Fitchburg) brought up the issue that another DCCVA CARPC appointee, Steve Arnold, also did not win re-election as mayor in City of Fitchburg in April. The new mayor, Jason Gonzalez, would like to replace Steve Arnold on CARPC with Alderman Tony Hartmann. Patrick Marsh made a motion to replace Steve Arnold with Tony Hartmann on the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission, seconded by Judd Blau (V. of DeForest). Sue Dietzen (V. of Mazomanie) asked why DCCVA would remove someone while there is already one vacancy. Hochkammer said it is a DCCVA appointment, not a City of Fitchburg appointment, so any change would need the support of the membership. He believes we should whatever we can to fill the seat with first an elected official, second a municipal staff person if an elected official cannot be found to serve. The

membership voted via voice vote to replace Steve Arnold with Tony Hartmann on the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission. Sue Dietzen (V. of Mazomanie) voted no. Members agreed to also try to find a replacement for Paul Lawrence on CARPC since he is no longer an elected official.

- b. **DaneCom Governing Board:** There is one applicant for one open seat. Mark Sewell, City Attorney for City of Fitchburg, is retiring this year. Valerie Zisman, current Assistant City Attorney who is replacing Sewell as City Attorney this fall, has been nominated to also succeed Sewell on the DaneCom Governing Board. Judd Blau (V. of DeForest) made a motion to approve the appointment of Valerie Zisman, seconded by Bob Wipperfurth (V. of Windsor), and approved on a voice vote.

8. **Recognitions.** Jon Hochkammer recognized Kurt Sonnentag, outgoing City of Middleton mayor and outgoing DCCVA vice president, for his many years of service to DCCVA. Sonnentag served as DCCVA vice president since 2009. He was presented a plaque.
9. **POLCO:** DCCVA members had a follow-up discussion about the POLCO survey platform service originally discussed at the last meeting in March. POLCO is interested in offering the service to all cities and villages in Dane County at a group rate. The online service allows municipalities to generate online surveys for residents on any topic, such as the use of parks, attitudes about municipal initiatives, etc. The platform then validates the survey responses by voter registration records and generates reports analyzing the responses. Some communities are already moving forward with the service separate from DCCVA. The question is whether DCCVA should make the service widely available to all DCCVA member communities, possibly increasing membership dues to cover the cost to DCCVA. Todd Schmidt (V. of Waunakee) noted that municipalities need to devote staff attention to the platform for it to be used effectively. After some discussion, Hochkammer said the Executive Committee would continue to discuss the issue with Forbes McIntosh and the representatives from POLCO and report back to the membership at the July meeting with a recommendation.
10. **Next DCCVA Meetings:** The remainder of the 2017 DCCVA meeting schedule is:
  - Wednesday, July 19, 2017: 12 PM – Village of Dane
  - Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 5 PM – Village of Waunakee
  - Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 12 PM – Village of Windsor
11. **Adjourn:** Gurdip Brar (C. of Middleton) made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m., seconded by Pat Andreoni (V. of Cross Plains) and approved on a voice vote.