

MINUTES

Dane County Cities' and Villages' Association

July 24, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

Belleville:
Black Earth:
Blue Mounds:
Brooklyn: Village President Nadine Walsten
Cambridge:
Cottage Grove:
Cross Plains:
Dane:
Deerfield:
DeForest: Village President Judd Blau, Trustee Jason Kramar, Village Administrator Steve Fahlgren
Edgerton:
Fitchburg: City Administrator Tony Roach
Madison: Government Relations Officer Nick Zavos
Maple Bluff:
Marshall: President Marlin Hensler, Village Administrator Sue Peck
Mazomanie:
McFarland: Village Administrator Don Peterson
Middleton: Mayor Kurt Sonnentag
Monona:
Mount Horeb:
Oregon:
Rockdale:
Shorewood Hills:
Stoughton: Mayor Donna Olson, EMS Director Cathy Rigdon
Sun Prairie: City Administrator Aaron Oppenheimer
Verona: Mayor Jon Hochkammer, City Administrator Bill Burns
Waunakee: Village President John Laubmeier, Trustee Gary Walden, Village Administrator Todd Schmidt, EMS Director Mike Helt
Others Present: Forbes McIntosh, GPS/DCCVA
John Hendrick, Dane County Board of Supervisors Chairman
Tim Kiefer, Dane County Board of Supervisors
Charles Tubbs Sr., Director of Dane Co. Emergency Management
Dan Lowndes, Dane Co. Risk Manager

Carrie Meier, Dane County EMS
Tim Hillebrand, Dane County EMS
Andrew Disch, Madison Area Builders Association

1. **Call to Order.** The business meeting was called to order at 7:05 a.m. at the fire department in Waunakee. A quorum was present with 11 member communities represented. Jon Hochkammer, DCCVA president and Mayor of Verona, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes from the last DCCVA meeting were presented. A motion was made by City of Stoughton Mayor Donna Olson to approve the minutes from the meeting of May 22, 2013, seconded by Mike Gracz. Approved by voice vote.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Bill Burns referred to a print handout of the treasurer's report. No increase in DCCVA member dues is being sought for 2014. Motion to approve made by City of Fitchburg Administrator Anthony Roach, seconded by City of Middleton Mayor Kurt Sonnentag. Approved by voice vote.
4. **Transportation Guest Presentations.** Forbes McIntosh reported that William Schaefer, Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (MPO), and Pam Dunphy, Dane County Department of Public Works, Highway & Transportation, were not able to make it to the meeting and that they would present at the next DCCVA meeting on September 25, 2013.
5. **CARPC Update.** DCCVA lobbyist Forbes McIntosh provided an update on the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) financial situation. McIntosh stated that the Budget Personnel Panel (BPP) that is meant to approve the final CARPC budget and levy charge that CARPC sets, again failed to provide adequate funding to the organization to meet its financial needs over the objection of DCCVA President and BPP member Mayor Jon Hochkammer. Of the four voting members of the BPP, two representatives are unwilling to spend any additional county levy funds on CARPC at this time, County Executive Joe Parisi and Dane County Towns Association and T. Bristol Chair Gerald Derr. After failed passage of the motion to accept the proposed CARPC budget by the BPP, Madison Mayor Paul Soglin made a motion at the BPP to accept the 2014 budget at the same level of funding as 2013. That motion passed 3-1 with DCCVA President Mayor Hochkammer voting against, with his explanation that more funding on the levy is necessary to achieve a viable CARPC. McIntosh stated that this continued trend of spending the CARPC reserves will come to a head in mid-2015 when CARPC will have no further access to reserve funds to maintain the organization. This situation threatens the ability of CARPC to carry out its mission and functions, which could lead to staffing problems beginning in 2015. McIntosh stated further that he had met with Dane County Board Chairman John Hendrick, who was in attendance at the DCCVA membership meeting, reporting that the County Board Chairman was willing to meet with the stakeholders to identify a solution for the 2015 budget.

6. **Dane County Interoperable Radio System (DaneCom) Update.** McIntosh reported that there is not much information to present right now due to DaneCOM holding a meeting today at 4:30 PM. The meeting will include the charges to DaneCOM and when the implementation is going to begin. Until that time, there is no little information to review for the meeting.
7. **EMS Insurance Change.** McIntosh reported that he had already sent a letter to all DCCVA members affected by Dane County's decision to discontinue the payment of and transfer payment responsibility of the ambulance auto liability insurance to postpone signing any addendum to the 5-month remaining intergovernmental agreement. McIntosh stated that he had received a number of calls and complaints of Dane County's decision. Further, although the offer \ addendum extended by Dane County to the cities, villages and towns affected by the transfer of cost responsibility would provide savings during the remaining 5 months of the contract that the county is terminating on December 31, the offer may have been proffered to also obtain agreements to prevent municipalities from seeking a change (increase) in their levy limits and a decrease in Dane County's levy limit. According to the Dane County Towns Association attorney, Mark Hazelbaker, if municipalities sign the 5-month addendum \ agreement they forfeit their ability to seek levy limit restitution with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR).

McIntosh stated that he and Mark Hazelbaker (DCTA) were planning to send a letter today to the DOR to seek clarification of whether cities, villages and towns could seek a levy limit change for 2014, but McIntosh wanted discussion of the issue at today's DCCVA membership meeting before taking action.

McIntosh called on representatives of Dane County EMS at the meeting to explain a budget request they are planning to make to County Executive Joe Parisi and the County Board to reinvest the funding that is being transferred from the Dane County budget to the budgets of cities, villages and towns. Daniel Lowndes, Risk Manager (Dane County Department of Administration) and Charles Tubbs (Director, Dane County Emergency Management)

The Dane County representatives stated that they intend to submit a budget recommendation to County Executive Parisi and the Dane County Board for their consideration during the 2014 budget process this fall to reallocate\reinvest a portion of the \$120,000 currently being spent by the county on liability insurance back into Dane County EMS. The proposal would request \$103,000 to be reinvested in Dane County EMS through a \$63,000 allocation toward a new Dane County EMS employee position and \$40,000 additional funding toward the Dane County EMS medical director contract.

McIntosh asked the Dane County representatives if the proposal has received support from the Dane County Executive or the Dane County Board Chair. The representatives stated that the proposal would be included in their budget request.

McIntosh stated that Dane County for at least thirty years has funded the auto liability, but the issue is when Dane County is paying for the insurance of the districts but doesn't have direct control of the districts. After talking with the insurance companies, Dane County has said they assessed that by moving the costs to the cities, villages and towns the premiums of the insurance will drop because there would be a direct control of the actual service.

Marlin Hensler, Marshall Village President, suggested delaying action and trying to have the various stakeholders work together and find the best solution toward improving EMS, while ensuring fair cost allocation.

8. Invited Guest for Membership Discussion. John Hendrick, Dane County Board of Supervisors Chairman, attended the meeting and discussed the issue of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District and the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC). Hendrick stated that he would be willing to work with the municipal stakeholders to find a workable solution with respect to issues surrounding CARPC. Hendrick also explained why the independent audit was pulled back after the County Executive intervened on the start date of the audit. Hendrick stated that those municipal representative stakeholders felt the County Executive's actions hurt the perspective of the "independent" nature of the audit.

9. Legislative Update. McIntosh reports the challenges local government faced in the spring session and the likelihood that the Legislature's activity to limit local government policy and funding control will increase. McIntosh provided an overview of the budget provisions impacting municipalities.

10. Other Business.

- i. No update on the High Performance Government Project Teams
- ii. A request was made to have a DCCVA member host the November 20 meeting.
- iii. Nadine Walsten, Brooklyn Village President, requested DCCVA staff look into an issue of concern about the communications software New World Systems. She stated there have been some significant problems that have led to some municipalities not renewing in the system. McIntosh and Hochkammer stated they would look into the issue and contact the City of Madison who is overseeing this project.

11. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.