

WCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Friday, August 19, 2011

Jefferson Street Inn
Wausau, WI

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: President Buechel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Del Twidt, John Tramburg, Colleen Bates, Howard Ludwigson, Erhard Huettl, Janice Swoboda, Dan Diliberti, Lee Rymer, Lonnie Wolf, Cindy Wisinski, Peter Hansen, Russ Podzilni, Randy Tatur, Herb Tennes, James Dwyer, Mark Harris, Alice Connors, Keith Langenhahn, Gus Wirth, Dick Koeppen, and Allen Buechel. **EXCUSED:** Lee Holloway. **ABSENT:** John Hendrick and Johnny Thomas. **STAFF:** Mark D. O'Connell, Lyn Bradstreet, J. Michael Blaska, Jon Hochkammer, John Reinemann, Brenda Brown Swenson, Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, and Ann Marie Austin. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Roy de la Rosa, Milwaukee County Intergovernmental Relations and John Weishan, Jr., Milwaukee County Supervisor.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Board and others present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by LUDWIGSON, second by TWIDT, to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2011 meeting. Motion carried.

WELCOME: Keith Langenhahn, Marathon County Board Chair, welcomed the Board to Marathon County and the City of Wausau. The Marathon County Board approved the expenditure of \$150,000 to hire an outside firm to look at the impact of economic development and tourism in Marathon County and to re-design their logo. Marathon County was very surprised to learn of the amount of tourism that is drawn to the county and very happy with their new logo.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Buechel commented on the State Budget that is now law. Counties survived the process as well as can be expected considering the deficit the state was facing. The legislative team will continue to work on important issues which affect counties. We owe the staff a lot of credit for all of their hard work. The NACo Conference in Portland, Oregon was well attended with good information and good networking opportunities. The featured speakers Bob Woodruff and Aron Ralston were excellent. Bob Woodruff, ABC news

correspondent, was seriously injured by a roadside bomb in Iraq and Aron Ralston, mountain climber, escaped death by severing his right forearm.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mark D. O'Connell introduced the newest addition to the WCA staff, Ann Marie Austin. The legislative staff did an excellent job on the state budget. The transportation issue (motion 352) was a very contentious issue. Mr. O'Connell met with the Governor's office on motion 352 and had an exceptional meeting with Representative Robin Vos on the same issue. The Wisconsin County Highway Association and WCA Legislative Associate Doug Parrot met with Transportation Secretary Mark Gottlieb who resolved to bring all parties together to find a solution on motion 352.

John Weishan, Jr., Milwaukee County Supervisor, asked to speak on behalf of Milwaukee County Chairman Lee Holloway. Milwaukee County is concerned about WCA's endorsement of motion 352 and asked why. They are disappointed in that Milwaukee County took a \$7 million hit to transportation. Mr. Reinemann acknowledged that motion 352 incorporated Governor Walker's proposed reduction of \$7 million.

The Wisconsin Breakfast Caucus at the NACo Annual Conference and NACo Legislative Conference has not been well attended the last few years. WCA is considering other options such as caucusing with other states or having a reception in the afternoon. Lastly, Mr. O'Connell stated that the August meeting is always difficult as it is the President's last meeting to chair. He publicly thanked President Buechel on behalf of WCA staff for his steady hand over the year, a year which posed many challenges. He always made time for us and his long range vision is an asset to the Association. President Buechel thanked the Board stating that it has been a privilege and a great opportunity.

NACo DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Keith Langenhahn updated the Board on the NACo Annual Conference held in Portland, Oregon in July. The Conference was very well received. The keynote speakers were exceptional and inspirational. Registrations were down 3%. Revenue was higher due to an increase in conference sponsorship. All Conference resolutions submitted were adopted. The NACo Board Finance Committee recommended no dues increase. It is the fifth year with no dues increase. NACo has \$30 million in reserves and expects a \$40,000 budget surplus. Membership retention rate is 96% which is the best ever. Over 13,086 counties participate in the prescription drug card program. The Membership Committee is exploring other discount programs such as vision and diabetes care. Twice a month conference calls with the Executive Director which includes a monthly call with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Vilsak. Lenny Eliason, Athens County Ohio Commission was elected President and Linda Langston, Linn County Iowa Supervisor was elected 2nd Vice President. Keith was again named Chair of

the Rural Caucus. Mr. Langenhahn thanked the WCA Board of Directors, Mark O'Connell, and WCA staff for their continued support.

REPORT:

a. WCA Constitution Committee: President Buechel called for the creation of the 2011 WCA Constitution Committee, chaired by Vice President Dick Koeppen, to review the constitution and make recommendations for consideration by the membership. Mr. Koeppen thanked Michael Blaska and Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf for their support in staffing the meetings. Mr. Blaska updated the Board on the progress of the WCA Constitution Committee. The proposed amendments will be considered at the Annual Business Meeting at the WCA Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells. One of the amendments allows past presidents to serve on the WCA Board of Directors as ex-officio members without voting rights. Another provides an additional seat on the board of directors for counties with a population greater than 600,000.

ASSOCIATION ISSUES:

a. Consideration of 2011 Audit Committee Report and 2010 Financial Review - Craig Grinde, Wipfli LLP: Mr. Grinde distributed a memorandum summarizing the Review of the December 31, 2010 Financial Statements of the Association. He reassured the WCA Board of Directors that the management and accuracy of reporting is excellent and that WCA continues to maintain a solid financial position. Liquidity remains strong; cash and investments increased in 2010; total net assets increased; revenue increased and operating expenses increased.

Motion by LUDWIGSON, second by TWIDT, to adopt the 2011 Audit Committee Report and the 2010 Financial Review by Wipfli LLP. Motion carried.

b. Consideration of WCA Districts & Apportionment of Directors 2010: Motion by HUETTL, second by DWYER, to maintain the WCA District boundaries and apportionment of directors as established following the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses for the decade following the 2010 decennial census. Motion carried.

c. Establishment of 2012 Association Dues Schedule - Recommendation to WCA Conference: Motion by LUDWIGSON, second by RYMER, to recommend to the Conference assembled that the 2012 dues remain unchanged from levels established in 2003. Motion carried.

d. Consideration of Presidential Appointments to 2011 WCA Nominating Committee: Motion by DWYER, second by SWOBODA, to confirm the Presidential Appointments of Dennis O'Loughlin, Del Twidt, Alice Connors, Gregg Moore, Judy Goldsmith, John Young, Randy Tatur and Herb Tennies as the 2011 Nominating Committee. Motion carried.

e. Consideration of WCA Bylaws Amendment to Limit Attendance at Closed Session of the Executive Committee: Motion by WIRTH, second by KOEPPEN, to adopt the Constitution Committee recommendation to amend Article IV of the WCA Bylaws to read: "A Board member who is not a member of the Executive Committee may be excluded from a session of the Executive Committee when the purpose of the closed session is to discuss personnel matters." The roll was called. Del Twidt nay; John Tramburg nay; Colleen Bates nay; Howard Ludwigson nay; Erhard Huettl nay; Janice Swoboda nay; Dan Diliberti nay; Lee Rymer nay; Lonnie Wolf nay; Cindy Wisinski nay; Peter Hansen nay; Russ Podzilni aye; Randy Tatur aye; Herb Tennies aye; James Dwyer nay; Mark Harris aye; Alice Connors aye; Keith Langenhahn aye; Gus Wirth aye; Dick Koeppen aye; and Allen Buechel aye. There were nine ayes, twelve nays and three excused, motion failed.

ISSUE PAPERS:

a. Consideration of WCA Agriculture Steering Committee Resolution: Supporting Efforts at the State and Federal Level Which Advance the Goals and Objectives of Wisconsin's Agricultural Community: Motion by LANGENHAHN, second by HUETTL, to support efforts at the state and federal level which advance the goals and objectives of Wisconsin's agricultural community which will enhance the economy and foster job creation. Motion carried.

b. Consideration of Court-Ordered Legal Representation for Indigent Persons in Civil Cases: Motion by DWYER, second by HANSEN, to oppose Supreme Court Rule Petition 10-08 as an unfunded mandate on Wisconsin counties and take no position on the underlying issue of an indigent civil litigant's right to counsel in certain circumstances. Motion carried.

c. Consideration of Extending Health Insurance Coverage for Families of Law Enforcement Officers Killed in the Line of Duty: Motion by TENNIES, second by PODZILNI, to oppose Senate Bill 18. Motion carried.

d. Consideration of Carrying Concealed Weapons: Motion by BATES, second by LUDWIGSON, to retain the current platform language opposing the carrying of concealed weapons in Wisconsin. Motion by DWYER, second by SWOBODA, to amend to read as follows: "maintain current platform language opposing the carrying of concealed weapons in

Wisconsin and oppose the carrying of concealed weapons in county parks, on public transit, and in other locations as counties may deem necessary. Motion to amend carried. Main motion as amended carried.

OTHER BUSINESS AS ALLOWED BY LAW: The 2011-2012 Wisconsin County Officials Directory was distributed. James Dwyer asked that WCA Board of Directors agenda and minutes be posted on the WCA website.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by WIRTH, second by DWYER, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m. President Buechel concluded that it was a pleasure to serve as President and support the Association.