

Committee Structure and Rightsizing

WCA Educational Webinar Series



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What Do We Want To Accomplish Today?

- Understand the statutory requirements related to committee structure (HINT: there is a lot of freedom)
- Understand the PROCESS La Crosse County and Ozaukee County utilized to examine committee structure
- Learn how the La Crosse County and Ozaukee County models have worked
- Use our discussion today as a launch point for discussions in your county



Overview – County Committee Structure



Mandatory Committees

- Board of Health Wis. Stat. §§ 251.03, 251.04
- Commission on Aging Wis. Stat. § 46.82(4) - if a county aging program is established under Chapter 46.
- Chapters 46 & 51
 - Community Programs Board Wis. Stat. § 51.42(4)
 - Developmental Disabilities Services Board Wis. Stat. § 51.437(7)
 - Social Services Board Wis. Stat. § 46.22(1m)
 - Human Services Board Wis. Stat. § 46.23(4) – may be combined with Board of Health under Wis. Stat. § 251.03 and may replace other boards, see statutes for qualification requirements



Mandatory Committees (cont.)

- Emergency Management Committee Wis. Stat. § 323.14(1)(a)
- Highway Committee Wis. Stat. § 83.015
- Land Conservation Committee Wis. Stat. § 59.70(19)
- Local Emergency Planning Committee Wis. Stat. § 59.54(8)
- Rural Planning Committee Wis. Stat. § 27.019(4)
- County Park Commission Wis. Stat. § 27.02
- Sheriff's Grievance Committee Wis. Stat. § 59.26(8)(b)1
- Traffic Safety Commission Wis. Stat. § 83.013(1)
- Veterans Service Commission Wis. Stat. § 45.81(1)



The FREEDOM Statute

- Wis. Stat. § 59.03(1):

Every county may exercise any organizational or administrative power, subject only to the constitution and to any enactment of the legislature which is of statewide concern and which uniformly affects every county.



La Crosse County Example



29 Supervisors
Non-Partisan
Elected by District

COUNTY BOARD

von Briesen

von Briesen & Roper, s.c. Attorneys at Law
vonbriesen.com

CEO Prepares
Annual Budget

COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR

CORPORATION
COUNSEL

Executive
Committee

Health & Human
Services Board

Public Works &
Infrastructure

Judiciary & Law
Committee

Veterans,
Aging & Long
Term Care

Planning,
Resources &
Development

County
Administrator

Health

Facilities

Clerk of Courts

Hillview Health
Care Center &
Carroll
Heights

Land Conservation

Corporation
Counsel & Child
Support

Human Services

Highway

Family Court
Commissioner

Lakeview
Health Center

Zoning, Planning &
Land Information

County Clerk

Solid Waste

District Attorney

Veterans
Services

Register of Deeds

Finance
Department

Elected Officers

- Sheriff
- County Clerk
- District Attorney
- Treasurer
- Register of Deeds
- Clerk of Courts

Emergency
Services

Medical Examiner

Mediation

Sheriff

County Surveyor

University
Extension

Information
Technology

Personnel

Treasurer

Five Elected
Circuit Court Judges

County Library
System

County Board and Committees

1. Board Chair appoints Committee Chairs and members to all Committees
2. Standing committees have oversight of departments, Special Committees do not
3. Five Standing Committees plus Executive (made up of Committee Chairs, 1st & 2nd Vice Chairs plus 1 at large)
4. Board meetings – 3rd Thursday
5. Committees meet week before regular Board
6. Full Board Policy Planning – Monday of Committee week
7. Administrator @ agenda preparation with Committee Chairs and Departments



Note: Supervisors are paid monthly salary, no per diems





MAY 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 9 am VALTC 4:30 PWI 6 pm Planning	12 4:30 J&L 6:30 HHS	13 7:30am Executive	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 6pm County Board	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1 4pm PRD					

Ozaukee County Example



Committees of County Board Members	County Board of Supervisors			
	Administrative	Board of Health	Buildings	Commission on Aging
	Community Programs	Emergency Management	Emergency Planning	Finance
	Highway	Home Health	Information Technology	Insurance
	Land Conservation	Land Information	Law Enforcement	Legislative
	Long-Term Support	Nursing Home Board	Park Commission	Personnel
	Planning	Reapportionment	Security and Facilities	Social Services
	Solid Waste	Taxation and Claims	Transit	University Extension

-  It is not broken, can things be improved
-  How do we maximize the policy focus
-  Are there too many decision points
-  Do we look backward or forward

PURPOSE



Per Diem
Staff & Committee working
Board planning and policy
Creating linkages not meetings

POSITIVE



Maximize expertise of Board
Business approach
Active review of risk and
opportunity
Organize by function

POWER



Money, strategy and policy
Set the agenda
Unknowns and concerns
Culture

County Board of Supervisors

Executive Committee

Finance

Administrative

Finance

Information
Technology

Insurance

Personnel

Taxation and Claims

Natural Resources

Land Conservation

Land Information

Park Commission

Planning

Solid Waste

University Extension

Human Services

Board of Health

Commission on Aging

Community Programs

Home Health

Long-Term Support

Nursing Home Board

Social Services

Public Safety

Emergency
Management

Emergency Planning

Law Enforcement

Public Works

Buildings

Highway

Security and Facilities

Transit



- Board Chair, Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair
- Chair's "Cabinet" Three Committee Chairs
- Committee linkages
- Budget, Capital Plan, Debt & Union
- Strategic Plan Oversight



DEPARTMENTS:

- Clerk
- Corporation Counsel
- Treasurer
- Information Technology
- Human Resources
- Finance

Policy Issues:

- Elections
- Investments
- Child Support
- Fiscal Policy
- Personnel
- Radio and IT



Departments:

- Human Services
- Adrc
- Public Health
- Lasata Campus
- Veterans Services

Policy Issues:

- Alcohol And Drugs
- Mental Health
- Senior Services
- Communicable Disease
- WIC
- Vets Transport



DEPARTMENTS:

- Land and Water
- Parks and Planning
- Register of Deeds
- Land Information
- University Extension
- Planning and Parks

Policy Issues:

- POWTS & Sanitation
- Land & Vital Records
- GIS
- 4-H
- Planning
- Resource Management



DEPARTMENTS:

- Clerk of Courts
- County Sheriff
- District Attorney
- Emergency Management
- Coroner

Policy Issues:

- Courts System
- Jail & Patrol
- Haz Mat
- Rescue Boat



DEPARTMENTS:

- Highways
- Transit
- Facilities

Policy Issues:

- Road Maintenance
- Road Construction
- Shared Ride Taxi
- Express Bus
- Facility Projects
- Fairgrounds

Questions

