

GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2018

AUDITORIUM

IVES GROVE OFFICE COMPLEX

14200 WASHINGTON AVENUE

STURTEVANT, WISCONSIN 53177

Chairman Bernberg called the meeting of the Government Services Committee to order at 6:05 p.m.

The meeting was attended by Supervisors Hillery, Maier, Kaprelian-Becker, Roanhouse, Kramer and Youth Rep Reschke.

Excused: Supervisor Wisch and Youth Rep Cafferty.

Also attending: Adrienne M. Moore, Head of the State Public Defender's Office, Trial Division for Racine and Kenosha Counties.

#1 – Public Comments

Twenty members of the public attending the meeting filled out a registration sheet to speak. Four were from outside Racine County. One speaker addressed item 5C on the agenda, all others addressed item 5F.

#2 – Chairman Bernberg Comments

Chairman Bernberg requested youth member Reschke read the Youth in Governance Statement.

#3 – Approval of Minutes from previous meeting(s)

Action: To approve the minutes from the June 20, 2018 meeting as printed.

Motion passed. Moved: Supervisor Kaprelian-Becker. Seconded: Supervisor Maier. Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Youth Vote: Aye.

#4 Old Business - None

#5A- Adrienne M. Moore, State Public Defender's Office, Trial Division presented information to the Committee

Ms. Moore introduced her co-worker Margaret Johnson who spoke about the training she does with attorneys on bias training and racial disparities. Ms. Moore explained the office represents mostly indigent people. They are comprised mostly of mentally ill, addicted or incompetent people, children charged with delinquency and termination of parental rights cases. Because there are not enough public defenders to cover all the cases the court allows the appointing of attorneys from the private bar to public defender cases. Last year there were 1,899 out of 5,896 cases in Racine County represented by private bar. The fee structure for payment to the private bar is \$40 per hour when paid by the State of Wisconsin. A recent court ruling changed the amount Racine County can pay the private bar from \$70 to \$100 per hour. Based on pay the private bar will work for the County before the State. The public defender's office has had to make up to 160 call to get 1 private bar attorney while the client is sitting in jail for weeks. It used to take days to get a private attorney it now takes weeks. This situation affects the County budget not only in payment to attorneys but in the cost of jail time while legal representation is being searched for. Higher pay for state public defenders is needed but to raise state pay is a state legislative issue.

#5B-Resolution 2018-XX Acceptance of a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in the amount of \$4,000 from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS) for the purchase of safety equipment.

Lt. Klatt from the sheriff's department spoke about how the grant money will be used in the department. It will be used towards highway safety equipment, safety cones, traffic emergency signage and stands, LED traffic batons and LED penlights. The equipment will help the sheriff's office provide accident scene safety and security.

Action: To approve Resolution 2018-XX Acceptance of a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in the amount of \$4,000 from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS) for the purchase of safety equipment and send it to the County Board for 1st reading at the meeting on August 13, 2018.

Motion passed. Moved: Supervisor Kaprelian-Becker. Seconded: Supervisor Maier. Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Youth Vote: Aye.

#5C-Resolution No 2018-XX providing for an Advisory Referendum on the November 6, 2018 Election ballot to measure public opinion on closing loopholes that shift a greater tax burden from commercial to residential homeowners

Discussion was held by the committee on the resolution and understanding it fully.

Action: To layover the resolution for further discussion. **Motion passed.** Moved: Supervisor Kramer. Seconded: Supervisor Roanhouse. Vote: 5 Ayes, 1 Nay. Youth Vote: Aye.

County Board Chairperson Clark offered to contact the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Manufacturers Association to speak to the committee to provide more information on this subject. **Action:** To gather information from WCA and WMA on the laid over resolution. **Motion passed.** Moved: Supervisor Bernberg. Seconded: Supervisor Hillery. Vote 5 Ayes, 1 Nay. Youth Vote: Aye.

#5D – Resolution 2018-XX In support of Increased Public Defender Access and Pay

Action: To approve the Resolution in support of Increased Public Defender Access and Pay and send it to the County Board for 1st reading at the meeting on August 13, 2018.

Motion passed. Moved: Supervisor Maier. Seconded: Supervisor Hillery. Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Youth Vote: Aye.

#5E – Resolution No. 2018-XX To create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans.

Action: To approve Resolution To create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans and send it to the County Board for 1st reading at the meeting on August 13, 2018.

Motion passed. Moved: Supervisor Hillery. Seconded: Supervisor Kaprelian-Becker. Vote: 5 Ayes, 1 Nay. Youth Vote: Aye.

#5F – Resolution No. 2018-XX Providing for an Advisory Referendum on the November 6, 2018, election ballot to measure public opinion on permitting use of marijuana for medical purposes, allowing adults 21 years of age and older to engage in the personal use of marijuana, regulating commercial marijuana-related activities and imposing a tax on the sale of marijuana.

Much discussion was held concerning the merits and wording of the resolution. Supervisors discussed the many comments presented by the public. Chairman Bernberg read a letter received from Supervisor Osterman while not a member of this committee wanted his thoughts on the resolution known to the committee. It was questioned if the questions posed on the referendum were the same or like the ones in nearby communities. Sara McNutt, Asst. Corporation Counsel spoke up and advised that there is a process in place for two municipalities having the same referendum in the same election can work together on the wording. Racine County Clerk Wendy Christensen also informed the committee that the questions in the referendum must be numbered, 1,2,3.

Supervisor Kramer suggested changing the resolution wording and removing many of the lines and adding state statute information.

Action: To approve Resolution Providing for an Advisory Referendum on the November 6, 2018, election ballot to measure public opinion on permitting use of marijuana for medical purposes, allowing adults 21 years of age and older to engage in the personal use of marijuana, regulating commercial marijuana-related activities and imposing a tax on the sale of marijuana with changes as noted and send it to the County Board for 1st reading at the meeting on August 13, 2018. **Motion died.** Moved: Supervisor Kramer. Seconded: Supervisor Roanhouse. Vote: 3 Ayes. 3 Nays.

Further discussion was held regarding the resolution.

Action: To approve the Resolution Providing for an Advisory Referendum on the November 6, 2018, election ballot to measure public opinion on permitting use of marijuana for medical purposes, allowing adults 21 years of age and older to engage in the personal use of marijuana, regulating commercial marijuana-related activities and imposing a tax on the sale of marijuana with added language to indicate there are three separate questions and send it to the County Board for 1st reading at the meeting on August 13, 2018. **Motion passed.** Moved: Supervisor Kaprelian-Becker. Seconded: Supervisor Hillery. Vote: All Ayes, No Nays.

#6A – Burnett County Resolution # 2018-05 to Create a Nonpartisan Procedure for the Preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans, laid over from June 5, 2018 meeting.

#6B – Resolution 31-2018 from Adams County in support of Increased Public Defender Access and Pay

#6C – Resolution No. 52 from Dunn County Urging the State of Wisconsin to Increase compensation for Defense Counsel Assigned by the State Public Defender.

Action: To receive and file items 6A through 6C. **Motion passed.** Moved: Supervisor Maier. Seconded: Supervisor Hillery. Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Youth Vote: Aye.

#7 Adjournment

Action: To adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. **Motion passed.** Moved: Supervisor Kaprelian-Becker. Seconded: Supervisor Hillery. Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Youth Vote: Aye.