

Florence County

Legislative Meeting Minutes

May 7th, 2013

Roll Call: by Chairman Edwin Kelley. Committee members in attendance: Don Gardner, Larry Neuens, Holly Wahlstrom-Stratton, Edward Wenger, and Ronald Yadro. Documentation by Legislative Coordinator, Margie Yadro.

A moment of silence was observed for the loss of Supervisor Bruce Osterberg. His dedication and commitment to the community has been greatly appreciated.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Wenger, supported by Gardner. All were in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Gardner, supported by R. Yadro. All were in favor.

Old Business: possible discussion/action –

K-12 Education Reform: R. Yadro supplied information from the local school superintendent that expressed concerns about the effects of AB40 on rural public schools. It is believed that AB40 proposes the use of report cards to reward high-performing schools and expands private school vouchers beyond Milwaukee and Kenosha. It was felt that this proposal would reward Charter Schools first, and public schools would have to pick up what's left and try to provide amid dwindling enrollment and resources. On a motion by R. Yadro, supported by Wenger, the Committee all agreed that Florence Schools will develop a resolution opposing AB40 and forward it to the County Board for consideration.

HR 933: Kelley has contacted Madison, where this bill is believed to have passed. No answers have yet been received about how it would affect Florence County. The question was raised if there has been any reduction of working forestry operations. Wenger was not sure of the status of the neither 2014 state budget nor Farm Bill which are in progress, but there appears to be a 1.1% cut to the national forest system. Kelley will report back. Refer to next meeting.

New Business –

SB125: Wahlstrom-Stratton reported on a \$300,000 pilot project for 4 counties regarding eligible jail releases receiving additional assistance to re-enter society. The goal is to lessen the approximately 66% of people who reoffend within 3 years, offered Wahlstrom-Stratton. Kelley suggest this item referred to Human Services/Sheriff's for direction. R. Yadro makes the motion to send it on to involved department administrators for further comment, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton. All were in favor.

SB103: Further restriction on Utility release of customer information. On a Motion by Gardner, supported by Wenger, all were in favor to send a request for comment to Florence Utilities for recommendation.

AB133: Related to the applicability of the one-family or two-family dwelling code to certain structures used for camping and the exclusion of certain recreational vehicles and portable toilet systems from the definition of plumbing. Gardner motions to send this item on to the Zoning Administrator for recommendation, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton who also expressed her concerns about any affects on local business. All were in favor.

SB14: Regarding amending state statutes related to the method of recounting votes cast with automatic tabulating equipment. On a Motion by Wahlstrom-Stratton, supported by R. Yadro, all were in favor to send on to County Clerk Trudell for further comment.

AB122: Changing elements in a county development plan. Gardner motions to send on to the Zoning Administrator for recommendation, supported by Neuens. All were in favor. Wahlstrom-Stratton asks for clarification on applicability.

SB160 (companion AB175): Relating to training standards for law enforcement officers regarding domestic abuse incidents and complaints, and law enforcement reports following a domestic abuse incident. R. Yadro moves to send this item to the Sheriff and Human Services Departments, supported by Wenger. All were in favor.

AJR25: Relating to the recall of elected officers and a code of ethics for government officials. Wahstrom-Stratton states how expensive recalls are. It was felt that the Code of Ethics is not yet drawn up and Gardner believes will change as it moves along. Gardner motions to send a letter to support in principle through the county board/agenda then to all representatives, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton. All were in favor.

Resolutions: Kelley offers to follow-up regarding the 2013-13 resolution. The Coordinator was requested to use a specific date to return comments before the next Legislative Meeting, and to also seek input from towns, expand to include committee chairs and administrators.

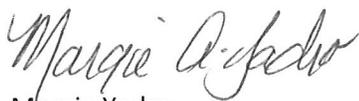
Group Discussion: Wahlstrom-Stratton asks for a policy to gain administrator recommendations before Legislative meeting. Also, was there a response from AB59 relating to searches by law enforcement on people on probation, parole, etc. Wahlstrom-Stratton suggests "Capital Watch" for a week's look at bills to be considered. Neuens would like to receive committee packets prior to the meeting. The coordinator will include available information in supervisor mailboxes at the courthouse, a week in advance. Some information may also be sent by internet. Wahlstrom-Stratton asks about outcome of the interstate weights, HR 612. Wahlstrom-Stratton is interested in watching the governor's budget as it goes through Joint Finance Committee.

Future meeting notice: Some administrators requested the courthouse location for future Legislative Committee meetings. Neuens requests invitation extended to state Representatives.

Set date for next Legislative meeting and adjourn. Kelley asks for date suggestions. Gardner Motions to adjourn until the second Tuesday, June 11, 2013, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton.

Adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Margie Yadro

Florence County Legislative Coordinator