

Florence County

LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2013

In attendance: Chairman Edwin Kelley, Supervisors Holly Wahlstrom-Stratton, Don Gardner; appointed - Ron Yadro. Supervisors Edward Wenger and Larry Neuens were excused. County Towns' Association Chairman Fred Erwin was absent.

Also in attendance: Land Conservation Department Administrator - Margie Yadro.

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the upstairs conference room of the courthouse.

Wahlstrom-Stratton moved to accept the agenda as written, supported by Gardner, all were in favor.

On a motion by Wahlstrom-Stratton, a second by Gardner, all were in favor to accept the August 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes as drafted.

Old Business:

A – K-12 School Issues: R. Yadro has nothing new to report.

B – Replies from County Departments or Outside Agencies:

M. Yadro stated that six letters were distributed to Legislators after County Board approval in August.

Three additional resolutions were supported at a recent regional Land Conservation Association meeting.

M. Yadro will include those on upcoming agendas once copies are received.

New Business:

A – SB 261 through SB 267: Relating to elections (witness address required for valid absentee ballot; labeling duplicate ballots; challenging an elector's registration during recount proceedings; securing the ballot container; party representation for election officials serving at polling places; the procedure for recounting ballots when electors voting in person are required to sign the poll list and fail to do so; and, recording the type of identifying document provided by an elector as proof of residence.) Though committee members saw nothing to object to at this point, Wahlstrom-Stratton motions to send these bills on to the County Clerk for comment and possibly grouped into one letter of recommendation, supported by R. Yadro. All were in favor. (Most read first time and referred to Elections and Urban Affairs.)

B – AB 288: Relating to county payments to public libraries in adjacent counties. Wahlstrom-Stratton believes that this bill is searching for county library funding, especially now that municipality payments to county libraries are optional. On a motion by R. Yadro, supported by Gardner, this item will be sent to the County Librarian requesting administrative input. Wahlstrom-Stratton asks that the motion be amended to include requesting Representative Jeffrey Mursau's viewpoint. R. Yadro supports the amendment. All were in favor. (August 16, read first time and referred to Committee on Urban and Local Affairs.)

C – SB 241: Relating to police vehicles being equipped with one or more flashing white lights. R. Yadro suggests that white lights might just be more visible at night and moves to refer this item to Sheriff Jeff Rickaby for comments, supported by Gardner. All were in favor. (August 29, Senator Carpenter added as a co-author.)

Land Conservation Committee Action Items: Department Administrator M. Yadro stated that resolutions items will be in front of the Land Conservation Committee on September 9th. Some will also be forwarded from the North Central Regional Association as well.

2014 Legislative Advisory Budget: Chairman Kelley asked that a \$500 bonus be considered for each secretary assisting the committee, totaling \$1,000 annually. On a motion by Gardner, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton (R. Yadro abstains), the revised budget totaling \$5,043 will be sent to Audit and Budget for consideration. Motion carries.

Resolutions:

A wolf management resolution was forwarded from Wood County. Chairman Kelley was requested to take no action on this item that stems from 2009 data. Jake Walcisak from Forestry and Parks would like to provide a state committee update at a later date. Wahlstrom-Stratton expressed her concerns on wolf conflicts with people and pets which seems that more management appears necessary. R. Yadro motions to table this item until next month when Walcisak and WDNR Game Warden Kelly Crotty can provide more up to date information, a second by Gardner. All were in favor.

Group Discussion:

Committee member Neuens had submitted two bills for committee consideration: AB 194, relating to the authority to hunt certain animals with a crossbow, establishing open seasons for hunting with a crossbow, and information required to be included on certain hunting license applications and certain hunting tags; and AB 289, relating to authorizing a city or village to require the Department of Revenue to redetermine the value of the tax incremental base of certain tax incremental districts.

On a motion by R. Yadro, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton, all were in favor to refer AB 194 to WDNR Warden Crotty for his opinion regarding hunting with crossbows. (August 22, 2013 available for scheduling.)

Concerns were vocalized about AB 289's relevance to county business. On a motion by R. Yadro, supported by Gardner, this item will be referred to the Economic Development Administrator for comment. All were in favor. (June 27, 2013 fiscal estimate received.)

Future Meeting Notice: with all business being completed and a Motion by Wahlstrom-Stratton, supported by R. Yadro, the meeting adjourned. Next month's Legislative Advisory Committee meeting is planned for October 1st, at 9 am, at the Courthouse second floor conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Yadro