

Florence County

## LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2013

In attendance: Chairman Edwin Kelley; Supervisors Holly Wahlstrom-Stratton, Don Gardner, Larry Neuens; appointed members Ron Yadro and Fred Erwin. Supervisor Edward Wenger 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.

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

On a motion by R. Yadro, a second by Erwin, all were in favor to accept the September 3, 2013 Meeting Minutes as drafted.

#### Old Business:

##### **A – Replies from County Departments or Outside Agencies:**

On a Motion by R. Yadro, supported by Neuens, M .Yadro will draft a resolution for County Board Supervisors to consider requesting the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to manage the wolf population statewide, in a timely manner, to a goal of 350 animals. All were in favor.

Wahlstrom-Stratton motioned to accept Sheriff Jeff Rickaby's recommendation to support SB 241 that authorizes police vehicles to be equipped with one or more flashing white lights, supported by Erwin. All were in favor. A letter will be sent to local legislators.

Gardner motions to table consideration of AB 288 relating to county payment to public libraries in adjacent counties, supported by Erwin. Motion passed, Wahlstrom-Stratton abstains.

On a motion by Neuens, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton, all were in favor to follow the recommendation by local Economic Director, Wendy Gehlhoff, to support AB 289. This bill authorizes the Department of Revenue to redetermine the value of the tax incremental base of certain tax incremental districts (TID). Gehlhoff reported that if some circumstance were to lower the value of some of the properties within the local TID, this bill will help reduce the likelihood of the District having a negative balance. A letter will be drafted and sent to the County Board Supervisors for further consideration.

Chairman Kelley commended all of the administrators and agency staff who have taken the time to offer legislative recommendations to this Committee.

No action was taken on the 2014 Legislative Advisory Budget.

#### New Business:

**A – AB 11:** relating to notification requirements for registered sex offenders who are on school premises and providing penalties. R. Yadro consulted the local school district Superintendent, Ben Niehaus, who recommended supporting this bill. Wahlstrom Stratton motioned to send a letter on to legislators in favor of the bill, a second by R. Yadro. All were in favor.

**B – 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. Wahlstrom-Stratton questioned possible viewpoint of rifle season hunters. After discussion, Wahlstrom-Stratton motioned to send a request to the Conservation Congress for their recommendation, supported by R. Yadro. All were in favor. Kelley will forward.

**C – AB 262:** relating to motor vehicle registration, motor carrier appeals, rulemaking procedures, and modifying and repealing various rules promulgated by the Department of Transportation. Wahlstrom-Stratton shared a concern about language referring to bridge projects.

R. Yadro motioned to send a recommendation request on this bill to the County Highway Department Administrator and Economic Development Director, flagging the bridge proposal, supported by Neuens. All were in favor.

**D – AB-270:** relating to additional providers in the volunteer health care provider program and proof of financial responsibility and malpractice insurance requirements for certain advanced practice nurses serving as volunteer health care providers. Erwin noted that the bill makes the health care professional volunteers into “agents of the state.” R. Yadro believed that current law provides for some volunteers and this would just expand the list. R. Yadro motioned to send this to the local School District Administrator and to the County Health Department Administrator for recommendation, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton. All were in favor.

**E – AB-343:** Relating to distribution by schools of a concussion and head injury information sheet and the participation by pupils in a youth athletic activity. R. Yadro explained that currently, the local school district must provide a sheet to every student athletic participant for each sport throughout the school year. Though he supports the intent of this bill to provide one sheet per athlete that will be good for the entire school year, R. Yadro felt that clarification should be made to state that school districts are still required to provide at least one informational sheet per athlete per year. On a motion by R. Yadro, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton, a request for recommendation will be sent to the local School District Administrator and to the state Committee on Education. All were in favor.

**F – AB-355 and SB-279:** relating to annual or consecutive month permits for vehicles or combinations of vehicles transporting loads near the Wisconsin-Michigan border. Though Neuens appreciated any local business trucking needs, he expressed concern for heavy loads causing excessive wear on local roads. On a motion by Gardner, a request will be sent to the County Highway Department Administrator and the Economic Development Director for recommendation, supported by R. Yadro. All were in favor.

**G – AB-369:** relating to regulation of off-highway vehicles, creating an off-highway vehicle council, granting rule-making authority. On a motion by Neuens, supported by Gardner, a request for an administrative recommendation will be sent to the Forestry and Parks Department Administrator. All were in favor.

**H – AB-390:** relating to parental notification for questioning pupils about criminal activity. R. Yadro reported that the local school administration strongly opposed this bill for a number of reasons. He moved to prepare a letter for County Board consideration to inform legislators about their opposition to this bill, supported by Wahlstrom-Stratton. All were in favor.

**I – SB-278:** relating to public access to managed forest law designation on a proposed mining site. M. Yadro stated that Senator Tom Tiffany explained how a current safety concern exists on MFL lands with open access where mining exploration is being conducted. On a motion by Erwin, seconded by Gardner, a letter will be drafted for County Board Supervisors’ consideration. All were in favor.

**J – AB-381:** relating to the definitions of an all-terrain vehicle and a utility terrain vehicle, restrictions on operating an all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle on a roadway, and seating requirements for utility terrain vehicles. Neuens stated that this bill was opposed at a recent Forestry and Parks meeting, and moved to send a letter on to County Board Supervisors for their consideration, supported by R. Yadro. All were in favor.

**Group Discussion:** Chairman Kelley expressed concern for any tax benefit changes to local governments utilizing municipal bonds; Wahlstrom-Stratton encouraged signup for counties and schools for any additional funding through the Helium Stewardship Fund; Kelley would like to keep the pressure on US Forest Service harvesting timber; R. Yadro reported that the local school district will be researching any reciprocity in tuition for students selecting neighboring Michigan districts; Neuens expressed a safety concern regarding speed limits for ATVs in close proximity with people or buildings. Wahlstrom-Stratton suggested taking the border trucking permit item to the ANSWERS Committee that meets near the end of the month.

On a motion by Gardner, supported by Neuens, all are in favor to adjourn and meet again at the discretion of the chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Yadro