

## **Legislative Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ed Kelley. Members present: Ed Kelley, Ed Wenger, Fred Erwin, Holly Stratton, Larry Neuens and Ron Yadro.

**Approval of Agenda:** On a motion made by Ed Wenger, seconded by Holly Stratton and voted unanimous, the agenda was approved as posted.

**Minutes:** It was moved by Fred Erwin and seconded by Ed Wenger to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2017 meeting as printed. Motion carried.

### **Department and Partner Agency/Organization Recommendations:**

**School Legislation:** It was moved by Holly Stratton and seconded by Ron Yadro to have Ron Yadro talk with Superintendent Neihaus concerning SB211 and the \$1000 per student minimum aide proposal and if he approves take to County Board of action. Motion carried unanimously.

**Towns Concerns/Recommendations:** Fred Erwin shared a FOCUS article entitled “Balloon Squeezing: Transportation finance and the state budget”. Discussion was held on the continual deterioration of roadways complicated by insufficient funds, increasing demands on GPR, frills on some of the projects that are completed, lack of rail to ease burden of large loads on roads, and other issues squeezing funding. The information stated that Wisconsin’s roads have a national ranking of 49<sup>th</sup> according to US News and World Report, there are 1232 bridges that are structurally deficient, 33% portion of traffic fatalities in which the road features were a contributing factor, \$200 million in “throw-away-lipstick on a pig” repairs in Southeast Wisconsin over the next decade, Wisconsin is the second most transportation dependent state economy in the nation (Indiana #1). After discussion it was moved by Larry Neuens, seconded by Fred Erwin and voted unanimous to send a letter from the Legislative Advisory Committee to our legislators encouraging and supporting an increase in the gas tax. Motion carried.

### **Pending Legislation:**

**AB286/SB215 Family & Medical Leave** It was moved by Ron Yadro and seconded by Ed Wenger to table to next meeting for more information on fiscal impact. Motion carried.

**SB245 Supermajority vote for bills overturning local government policies:** This bill provides that no house of the legislature may pass a bill that overturns any local government policy, ordinance and regulation unless by 2/3 super majority vote. It was moved by Ed Wenger, seconded by Fred Erwin to send to Zoning for input. Motion carried.

**President Trump’s FY18 Proposed Budget:** Discussion was held on the importance to continue to monitor proposals and their impact on Counties. Larry Neuens discussed concerns over broadband and the need to try to bring the application for grant funding together for the current cycle. 50% match funding is still being secured.

**2018 Farm Bill and National Forest Stewardship Contracts:** Discussed no action taken.

Rail Shippers Fairness Act: Bill introduced by Senator Baldwin. Discussion on importance of legislation to help get things on rail and alleviate demands on roadways. No action taken.

Forestry Mill Tax Concerns: On May 31, 2017 the mill tax was held over at Joint Finance Committee. It was moved by Holly Stratton and seconded by Ed Wenger to send another letter supporting the Forestry Mill Tax. Motion carried.

**Committee Concerns For Future Agenda Items:** No new items were identified.

**Next Meeting Date/Adjournment:**

Being that there was no further business to be discussed at this time, it was moved by Larry Neuens and seconded Holly Stratton to adjourn to a meeting date set at the Chair's discretion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Kelley, Chairman