

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

October 30, 2014

The Administrative Committee met on Thursday, October 30, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 266, on second floor of the Administration Building in Lancaster, WI pursuant to the last meeting of October 1, 2014.

Members present: Larry Wolf, Mark Stead, Robert Scallon, Roger Guthrie, John Patcle, Dale Hood, Robert Keeney and Todd Johnson, Extension Comm. Resource Development Agent. Lester Jantzen, Grant Loy, Jack Johnson, Attorney Ben Wood, John Beinborn, Sheriff Nate Dreckman and Fred Naatz were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Robert Keeney Chair. Linda K. Gebhard, Clerk verified that the meeting was in compliance with the open meeting law, posted in two places.

Agenda: Mark Stead, seconded by Dale Hood made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes: Roger Guthrie, seconded by John Patcle, made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.

Designation of three Representatives to Grant County Economic Corporation: After discussion, Roger Guthrie made a motion seconded by Larry Wolf recommending that the County Board Chair, the Chair of the committee represent two of the members and the third member be appointed by the Economic Tourism and Resource committee.

After more discussion the committee felt that the Economic Development needed to define who they would like to have as voting members; as they are in the process of amending their By-Laws. Roger Guthrie and Larry Wolf rescinded their motion on the floor and John Patcle, seconded by Robert Scallon made a motion that the voting members should be the County Board Chair, the Chair and Vice Chair of the committee should make up the other two voting members, with the Secretary of the committee being the alternate pending the Economic Development recommendation when their By-Laws have been amended. Motion carried.

Supervisor Per Diem and Mileage: Ben Wood, Corporation Counsel addressed this issue with the committee stating that there should be clarification regarding who gets reimbursed for attending sub committees. There have been some questions on members attending meetings which they have not been appointed by the Board. Larry Wolf stated that in the past the board member got reimbursed for attending a sub- committee meeting if they receive an agenda to attend. It was stated that if the board member was attending a meeting on their own accord there should be no reimbursement expected, only appointed board members should be reimbursed. Robert Keeney stated that the Board Members should be a role model for the employees and should follow the rules that are set in the By-Laws.

Dale Hood, seconded by Larry Wolf, made a motion that the Chair of the Economic, Tourism, and Resource committee will receive reimbursement to attend the Economic Development Corporation Executive Committee meeting effective immediately, and the current Chair of the committee will receive retro payment for past meetings attended with no reimbursement. Motion carried.

Review of Rules of the Grant County Board Supervisor Article 3, Section D Chairperson: In reviewing the meeting attendance issue with county board members, it was brought to attention that John Beinborn had been the Chair of the Economic Tourism Resource Committee for three consecutive terms.

Mark Stead, seconded by Roger Guthrie made a motion that the issue regarding the Chair's term on the Economic, Tourism, Resource Committee should be sent back to the committee to rectify this oversight and decide what action they would like to take. Motion carried.

A comment was made that in the future this rule that a board member can be a Chairperson of the same committee for a maximum of two consecutive terms should be sent to all board members for a reminder when the officers of the committees are being elected.

Broadband Internet Resolution: Todd Johnson presented the following draft resolution to the committee to recommend that it come before the full county board for passage. He stated that this is the first step to raise attention to providers of this service that improvement is needed in this area.

Support Improved Broadband Internet Access in Grant County

WHEREAS, improved high speed (broadband) access is an essential infrastructure for Grant County and its citizens to remain competitive in the areas of economic development, education, healthcare, public safety, communication, entertainment, and other future uses; *and*

WHEREAS, significant portions of Grant County are below average in Internet speed, adoption and capacity compared to the rest of the state, nation and worldwide competitors; *and*

WHEREAS, Grant County, working in partnership with private providers, can serve as a catalyst for supporting improvements in broadband access in the County; *and*

WHEREAS, the cooperation among county, town and city government with providers will be necessary to ensure success; *and*

WHEREAS, both public and private involvement is essential in the development of a broadband improvement plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses and establishes as a goal that Grant County will pursue the best possible broadband access in terms of speed, adoption rate and data capacity for all of its businesses and citizens.

Hereby recommended for passage by the Grant County Board of Supervisors this 30th day of October, 2014 by the majority of a quorum of the Administrative Committee.

/s/Robert Keeney, Chair
/s/Roger Guthrie, Secretary
/s/ John Patcle
/s/Dale Hood

/s/Mark Stead, Vice Chair
/s/ Larry Wolf
/s/ Robert Scallon

Motion was made by Mark Stead, seconded by Roger Guthrie, to recommend that this resolution be brought before the full county board for passage. Motion carried.

The Administrative Committee reviewed the results of the Strategic Issues Survey and focused their attention on the "Revenue" theme. From that, they identified (2) goals in which they believed the Grant County Board should focus when dealing with "Revenue".

Goal 1: Maximize All Revenue Sources

It was shared among the board members that the County should make all attempts to maximize all sources of revenue coming in.

- Hire a Professional Administrator

- Description: hire a professional administrator who would oversee the financial operations of departments and identify opportunities that would increase revenue.
- Barriers: finding enough money to pay an administrator and acquiring enough votes on the Grant County Board to make the change.
- First Steps: developing a job description, finding monies within the budget to pay for the position, and looking at other examples of professional administrators.

Goal 2: Create a Business-Friendly Atmosphere

Committee members identified a common need to retain and attract businesses in Grant County. Discussion began with a focus on maintaining infrastructures such as: highways, rail, internet, on/off loading of freight, parks, schools, trails, recreation, shopping, and entertainment. (2) strategies were identified in address this goal:

- Grant County “Buys Local”
 - Description: lead by example by giving preference to local vendors.
 - Barriers: perceived and actually availability of goods and services
 - Steps: develop a “buy local” preference policy for Grant County government that requires initial contact for pricing to be local.
- Work With Agencies and Organizations to Attract, Retain, and Expand Businesses
 - Description: grow revenue by increasing number of jobs and population in Grant County.
 - Barriers: government tends to have “strings attached” when working with businesses.
 - Steps: continue to support the efforts of Grant County Economic Development Corporation, UW Extension, Southwest Community Action Program, and Workforce Development Board to attract, retain, and expand businesses.

Sincerely,

Todd W. Johnson, University of Wisconsin Extension-Grant County
Assistant Professor of Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development (CNRED) &
Community Resource Development Agent

Adjournment: Robert Scallon, seconded by Dale Hood made a motion to adjourn the meeting to November 5, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. with an alternate date of November 13, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. Motion carried.