

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
November 13, 2014

The Administrative Committee met on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 1:00 a.m. in Room 266, on second floor of the Administration Building in Lancaster, WI pursuant to the last meeting of October 30, 2014.

Members present: Larry Wolf, Mark Stead, John Patcle, Dale Hood, Robert Keeney and Todd Johnson, Extension Comm. Resource Development Agent. Robert Scallon and Roger Guthrie were absent; Roger had asked to be excused.

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: John Patcle, seconded by Robert Keeney made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes: Larry, seconded by Dale Hood, made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2014 meeting with two changes. Second page restate that a comment had been made instead of Lester Jantzen stated, and strike Larry Wolf seconded a motion which had been stated twice. Motion carried with changes.

Strategic Planning, Todd Johnson, Extension Agent:

The Committee engaged in discussion regarding the strategic issues of “controlling expenses”; “public perception”; “roles and responsibilities/service structure”; and “infrastructure”. It was agreed by the Committee to combine the strategic issue of “revenue” and “controlling expenses” into one issue, “budget”. The following goals and strategies were developed:

- “Budget”
 - Goal 3: Control expenses by investigating areas for cost sharing.
 - Strategy 3A: Use the principles of “Lean Government” to identify buying groups, sharing between counties, and sharing between County departments.
 - Barriers: Training costs and time.
 - First Steps: Provide “Lean Government” training to department heads.
- “Infrastructure”
 - Goal 1: Maintaining County System of roads and bridges to necessary standards.
 - Strategy 1A: Provide adequate funding to Highway Department
 - Barriers: To be determined
 - First Steps: To be determined
 - Strategy 1B: Maintain necessary standards for projects
 - Barriers: To be determined
 - First Steps: To be determined
 - Goal 2: Mitigate the impacts of agricultural equipment on roads and bridges.
 - Strategy 2A: Develop adoption of a County Ordinance by all local units of government.
 - Barriers: Enforcement

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