

GRANT COUNTY COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

November 6, 2009

The Complete Count Committee of Grant County met in the Grant County Administration Building in Room 264, Lancaster, WI on Friday, November 6, 2009 at 10:05 a.m. pursuant to the adjournment of the September 11, 2009 meeting.

Chair John Patcle called the meeting to order.

Verification of compliance with the open meeting law was noticed in the Herald Independent stating the date, time and place of the Complete Count Committee Meeting. Don Splinter, seconded by Jerry Linder, moved that the meeting is in compliance with the open meeting law. Motion carried.

Members in attendance are as follows: Fred Naatz, DSS, Marlene Esser, Village of Cassville Clerk, Mary Culligan, Village of Bloomington Clerk, Laura Faga, Muscoda Village, Anne Saxer, US Census Partnership Assistant, Jerry Wehrle, Lancaster Mayor, Denise S. Jansen, Deputy Clerk, Town of Jamestown, Margaret Sprague, City Clerk Fennimore, Jerry Linder, Boscobel Mayor, John Anderson, Tax Description Office, Don Splinter, Town of Hazel Green Chairman, Gabe Loeffelholz, Town of Smelser Chairman, John Patcle, County Chair Person, Paul Thares, Comm. Resource Development Agent, also in attendance was Dave Timmerman, Herald Independent.

Margaret Sprague, seconded by Marlene Esser, made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Don Splinter, seconded by Marlene Esser, made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Dan Elsass, 2010 Census Bureau Partnership Specialist, was present to update the committee on the progress of the 2010 Census and to outline the up coming deadlines that will take place. He stated that the 2010 Census was coming down the home stretch, the next 5 months being critical. The short form of the census questionnaires are due to be mailed out to all households late February – early March.

In November 2009 the Bureau will start to fill the 4300 recruiter/clerical/supervisor jobs that will become available to work on circulating and filling out the questionnaires correctly. The jobs classifications will be rated by testing, the higher grade filling the supervisory positions, second highest filling clerical, and then the field enumerators. A score of 70 or above is desirable. Southwest Technical College in Fennimore will be used as a canvas site. Ann Saxer was introduced by Dan Elsass as the US Census Bureau Partnership Specialist that will be assisting our area. The job applications will be available to pick up at the SW Technical College site and testing will be done on the Bureau web site. The applicant will have to bring two forms of ID and their social security number in order to receive an application. The various jobs will run from December 2009 to possibly the end of August 2010.

The data entry positions will all be located in the Madison area, Rick Zynda, (608-327-5606, General number: 608-327-5600) will be in charge of this division. Applications can be obtained through the Census Bureau web site: www.2010censusjobs.gov.

Dan Elsass expressed that a big concern for the US Census Bureau was to recruit people who have Spanish related backgrounds in order to reach the Spanish speaking population that live here in Grant County.

Paul Thares was present to report on the progress that has been made in Grant County. He reported Elder Fest that was organized through ADRC, was a big success. There seems to be a large interest in the Southwestern WI retirees to obtain these part-time positions with the Census Bureau. Paul has been able to work with Scenic Rivers to publish an article in their News Letter about the upcoming Census Count. Paul hopes to publish the information in the Shopping News next. Paul will be sending publications to all the Municipal Chair People to send out in their municipal utility and tax billings by the first of December 2009. Paul requested that if any community was going to be holding any events that they should contact him at the Extension Office and he could help supply the materials, posters, etc.

Fred Naatz, DSS, stated that if he could get the materials the Social Workers could start handing it out in key places around Grant County like grocery stores, libraries, home health related centers, etc.

Possible Sites were discussed: Dan asked the committee for possible sites that could be used around Grant County to assist the transient type population, or mentally challenged population, handicap accessibility would be desirable. He stated that the Census Bureau will be looking for 80 to 100 sites around the State to utilize with January being the target date to have these sites in place.

The committee came up with the following possible site as suggestions:

Lancaster ADRC Department

Fennimore Community Building

Dickeyville Community Building

Muscoda Village Hall Building

Cassville Village Hall Building

Village of Bloomington Library

Dan Elsass explained that the City of Platteville has a special situation with the college and student count. The city of Platteville will attend some of the County Complete Count Meetings to help them set up a goal list that will work in their area. The city of Platteville would like to be informed when our next meeting will be held.

Dan went on to thank the committee for these suggested sites and assured the committee that if their community was not chosen to have a work site, their suggestions were very much appreciated.

Other points of interest: Dan gave the board other information that he felt the committee should be aware of. He explained that the "snowbird population" may be difficult to catch. He wanted to make it clear that the general rule to follow for snowbirds are; they need to use the address of where they live for six months and one day on the form. The snowbirds can assign a delegate, a neighbor, relative to fill

out the form for them, but then they would have to make sure the delegate had all their personal information.

Dan Elsass informed the committee that Post Offices, at this time; could not hand out the materials, maybe later in the process, but for now they were exempt from participating in the information process. Dan also informed the board that it was important to get the word out that the new short form was going to be used this time and there are 10 questions to answer taking about 10 minutes.

Materials were handed out to all the committee members about the 2010 Census to take back to their communities and use, pamphlets, posters, etc.

Adjourn: Jerry Wehrle, seconded by Margaret Sprague, made a motion to adjourn the meeting until Friday, January 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.