



MARATHON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

Employee Resources Conference Room, Courthouse, 500 Forest St, Wausau WI 54403

Attendance:	Present	Absent	Vice-Chairs	
Kurt Gibbs, Chair	X			
Craig McEwen, Vice-Chair	X			
Matt Bootz	W		Brent Jacobson	EX
Tim Buttke	W		Michelle Van Krey	W
Randy Fifrick	W		Sandi Cihlar	W
Sara Guild	W		Ka Lo	W
Jacob Langenhahn	W		Sara Guild	W
Alyson Leahy	W			
John Robinson	W		Alyson Leahy	W
E J Stark	W			

Also Present: Lance Leonhard, Scott Corbett, Mary Palmer; Web –Jean Maszk, William Harris, Dave Mack, Becky Frisch, Kim Trueblood,

1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Kurt Gibbs at 4:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment: The Public Comment portion of the agenda has been temporarily suspended, pursuant to Marathon County Resolution # R-18-20, dated March 17, 2020

3. Approval of April 7, 2020, Executive Committee Meeting Minute

MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY MCEWEN, TO APPROVE THE APRIL 10, 2020, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Gibbs asked each committee member and vice-chairs of the committees in attendance to introduce themselves and give a brief history. Other attending County Board members were asked the same.

4. Policy Issues Discussion and Committee Determination

A. Discussion on Objective 3.8 from the Marathon County Strategic Plan from the Diversity Affairs Committee

Discussion:

Administrator Leonhard gave background on the Strategic Plan. Objective 3.8 is *to Ensure Marathon County is an open, inclusive and diverse place to live and work*. Diversity Affairs was tasked with developing the strategies and the objectives. They are working on recruiting strategies, implementing the recruiting plan by 12/31/21 and have the number of discrimination reports decreased in the Life Report.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

Will be brought back in June.

B. Orientation of New Board Members and Committee Chairs

1. Thorough Review of Rules
2. Education on Current Issues

Discussion:

B-1 Thorough Review of Rules

Chair Gibbs went through the rules as related to the Committee Chairs. He encourages committee chairs to have an introduction of members at their first meetings.

Some of the Rules explained:

- How items get on the agenda and if questions arise, contact the Board Chair;
- How a committee is run, the importance of a quorum, posting the agenda minimum 24 hours prior to the meeting;
- Develop goals, chairs and vice-chairs discuss the Strategic Plan and vice-chairs will lead one strategy that the committee is assigned, and include all committee members opinions;
- Take recommendations from standing committee to board floor;
- Task Forces occasionally come up;
- All this information is on the website.
- If Board members have questions or issues, do not take it to the Administrator. Take any issues to a Committee Chair, Board Chair, or Board Vice-Chair.

Vice-chair McEwen, the change of standing committee days was a big rule change. The goals each standing committee should consider – Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Plan and the Administrator’s Work Plan. It may be beneficial to review the 2019 Administrator’s Work Plan. Remember we are a policy Board (and committees) not operations. The Administrator’s 2020 Work Plan is overloaded and will have to be re-prioritized.

Leonhard relayed that the draft minutes from standing committees will be in the Board packet.

B.2 – Education on current issues:

- Budget – we are staring at a shortfall of about \$5 million for 2020. We do have reserves which we have rarely used. Last year we used reserves funding for shoring up the jail. We currently have a \$1.6 million deficit according to the amount we should retain in our reserve fund according to our rules. The Administrator has to come back to the HR/Finance/Property committee with recommendations on how to cut \$2.5 of the \$5 million for the rest of 2020. The other \$2.5 million will come from reserves. What can departments do?
- Covid-19 is another item that was not anticipated. Leonhard acknowledged the strong team that is in place to address these issues. Employee policies, IT perspective, evaluating state policies, etc. are being review and revised as needed.
- Members need to get acclimated to the current Rules. Meet with the vice-chairs to mentor them. Vice Chairs will run the meetings if the Chair is not available and they should know Robert’s Rules of Order.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

None needed.

C. Committee Chair Responsibilities to New Board Members

Discussion:

See 4.B.1 above.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

None needed.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution

A. Appointments to National Association of Counties (NACo)

Discussion:

Two supervisors have contacted the Board Chair with interest. The application goes to the Board Chair for approval and then to WCA for final approval before submission to NACo. The County Board Vice-Chair (Craig McEwen) and the Public Safety Chair (Matt Bootz) have expressed interest. We have one more vacancy. If Gibbs is not elected to the NACo Board, he would like to fill the third vacancy. If he is selected, the third vacancy would be available if anyone has interest.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

None needed at this time.

B. Appointments to Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) Steering Committees

Discussion:

Chair Gibbs listed the WCA Steering committees: Agriculture, Environment and Land Use; Health and Human Services; Judicial and Public Safety; Personnel, Finance, and County Organization; and Transportation and Public Works.

Chair Gibbs serves on Personnel, Finance and County Organization committee and there are two other vacancies available for our county. You can go to the WCA website for more information on the committees. Let him know if you are interested.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

Let Chair Gibbs know if you are interested.

C. Appointment to WCA County Ambassador Program (CAP)

Discussion:

CAP program was explained. More information is available through the WCA website. Discussions with area Legislators are on those issues that affect the state, not just a single county. Let Chair Gibbs know if you are interested.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

Let Chair Gibbs know if you are interested.

D. Appointments to Task Force on County Board Size

Discussion:

Each standing committee was asked to bring a recommendation from their committee who is interested in serving on the County Board Size Task Force. Conservation, Planning & Zoning will staff this Task Force. Those interested from the Standing Committees are: HR/Finance, **Craig McEwen and John Robinson**; Public Safety, **Arnie Schlei**; Health & Human Services, **Tim Buttke**; Infrastructure **TBD**; Extension, Education, and Economic Development, Environmental Resources, **Rick Seefeldt and Gary Beaström**; Environmental Resources, **Allen Drabec and Jacob Langenhahn**;

The chair and vice-chair will meet to choose a diverse group with wide representation.

Action:

No action taken.

Follow through:

None needed.

E. Discussion on Parking in Lot E by Supervisors when at the Courthouse

Discussion:

Chair Gibbs' recollection was that when security went into effect, the Board decided that the parking in Lot E would be reserved for the public prior to 4:30 p.m. During courthouse hours board members are asked to park in the Mall parking ramp lot for meetings, unless you have handicap parking.

Stark said in the 2016 and 2018 sessions something changed and Board Supervisors were issued passes. He doesn't think it's an issue that they get a pass.

Encourage supervisors to park in the mall when we are fully operational. The clerk was told by the Sheriff's Department that she may not issue passes. They will not be recognized by the Sheriff's Department.

Everyone has a right to park in Lot E up to two hours, passes are not valid and all supervisors are encouraged to park in the mall during normal business hours at the courthouse. After hours anyone can park there.

Action:

MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY BUTTKE TO ENCOURAGE SUPERVISORS TO USE THE MALL PARKING STRUCTURE WHEN THE COURTHOUSE IS BACK TO NORMAL OPERATIONS, UNLESS THERE ARE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

MOTION WITHDRAWN BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY BUTTKE DEFERRING TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT POLICY.

Follow through:

None needed.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Update on Marathon County Government Operational Changes as a Result of COVID-19 and State/Federal Guidance

Discussion:

The Supreme Court decision just came through that there is no stay. The majority opinion says it's effective immediately. There could be an emergency rule coming out by the Governor to go to the Legislature. The local Health Officer may have authority to set orders. Discussions will have to take place with contiguous counties so we can enforce any upcoming orders. Hopefully the orders will be regional or state-wide and enforceable.

Follow through:

Put educational update where we are at on the educational meeting agenda.

7. Next Meeting Time, Location, Agenda Items and Reports to the County Board

- Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion and educational presentations for the County Board
- Next regular meeting: Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Employee Resources Conference Room and Webex

8. Announcements:

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, **CHAIR GIBBS ADJOURNED THE MEETING** at 6:07pm

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Palmer