

WCMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
January 15, 2009
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Meeting Minutes

Present:

<u>Attendee</u>	<u>Organization</u>
M. Rohloff	Oshkosh
T. Schmidt	Milton
M. Davis	Middleton
L. Kuss	Clintonville
L. Kutchenriter	Omro
P. Cannon	Sun Prairie
C. Whiting	St. Croix Co.
Ed Henschel	Executive Director

Call to Order: President Lisa Kuss called the meeting to order at 11:30AM

Ethics Matter: Ed Henschel reported that an ethics complaint has been received and at the same time this individual has applied for membership to WCMA. Since the individual is an ICMA member, ICMA will investigate the complaint.

The board asked the Executive Director to call ICMA to inquire if the individual has been notified of the complaint. If so, then in keeping with the WCMA rules of procedures, notify the applicant that no action on his membership will be taken until the complaint is resolved.

2009 ICMA Conference: Todd Schmidt reported that the ICMA conference in Montreal will have hotel rooms costing between \$180-\$200. Depending on the exchange rate of the dollar at that time, the cost in US dollars may be less. The Holiday Inn Select is the closest to the convention center and most reasonably priced.

He also suggested flying into Burlington VT, renting a car and driving to Montreal since airfare to Montreal is quite expensive. He also reports that a passport will be required.

Fee for Posting Job Announcements: Todd Schmidt suggested the Board consider charging a fee for posting jobs on the WCMA website. Ed Henschel reported that there were 95 positions posted in 2008 and 115 in 2007.

After a discussion of the matter, a motion was made by P. Cannon and seconded by T. Schmidt that non-WCMA member municipalities be charged \$30.00 to post

job ads on the WCMA website, but that WCMA member municipalities be allowed to post jobs at no cost. The motion carried unanimously.

Ranger Rider Activities: WCMA Range Rider Dick Farrenkopf has been contracting new members and members in transition. He has also been providing advice on specific issues raised by members.

Legislative Initiative: It has been noted that in recent years there have been several instances of elected bodies firing their administrator and appointing an elected official as the administrator. This can be interpreted as an abuse of power in some instances. Wisconsin statute 66.0501(2) prohibits this practice unless the elected official first resigns from elected office, which is viewed as a significant loophole.

The Board discussed proposing legislation that would require an elected official to vacate his/her elected office for at least one year before being eligible for appointment to an administrative position in those instances where the administrator is being forced out of his/her position.

After a lengthy discussion of the matter, Pat Cannon volunteered to have his City attorney assist him in developing specific legislative language. The legislative proposal will then be sent to the membership and discussed at the Winter Conference Business Meeting to determine if the general membership feels WCMA should pursue a legislative change.

Administrator Form of Government Presentation: Todd Schmidt contracted the League of Wisconsin Municipalities to determine their interest in having a presentation on the administrator form of government at their annual conference. They indicated that they would be very interested in such a program. Ed Henschel was directed to submit a speaking proposal to the League.

Appointments: Due to recent retirements, WCMA has vacancies on the following committees:

ICMA Best Practices Committee

ICMA Credentialing Committee

President Kuss will send out a PARC request asking for volunteers to serve on these committees.

Local Government Institute: Mike Davies reported that the Local Government Institute is currently working on three initiatives which include:

1. Working with the Office of Energy Independence and UW Extension to evaluate the lessons learned from the recipients of the Energy Independent Communities grants. They will be facilitating four meetings during 2009 and preparing a report at the end of the year. Middleton submitted an EIC grant request and as a result will be notified of these meetings. He did not yet know if Middleton was successful-the awards will

- be announced within the week. It is possible the announcements will be part of Governor Doyle's State of the State address.
2. Engaged with the Wisconsin Way in responding to the initial draft of their report and recommendations. Mike stated he is representing LGI on the Government Management and Spending Reform Committee.
 3. Engaged with the Department of Agriculture's Working Lands Initiative is a reform of the state's farmland preservation program and trying to take a broader perspective in linking the needs of urban areas for food and fuel to the preservation of working agricultural lands.

Mike also reported that the names of the three WCMA members were submitted to LGI for consideration for appointment to their board of directors. However, no action has been taken on those appointments.

WCMA Conference Site Selections: Ed Henschel reported that the 2010 Winter Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Wausau. A site for the summer conference has not been determined.

The Board requested the Executive Director obtain proposals from Stone Harbor Resort in Sturgeon Bay and a resort in Lake Geneva.

Year-End Financial Report: The Executive Director presented the unaudited year end financial report which showed total 2008 revenue of \$100,710.57 and 2008 expenses of \$88,838.42.

The financial report was accepted as presented.

With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Henschel
Executive Director