

Wisconsin Association of Municipal & County Assistant Managers
(WAMCAM)

Meeting Notes
March 20, 2001
Village of Elm Grove
12:00 (noon) – 2:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Bridget Bannon, Ozaukee County
Larry Bierke, City of West Allis
Patrick Boyle, Village of Whitefish Bay
Leeann Butschlick, Village of Shorewood
Peter Coffaro, City of Wauwatosa
Ray Ellingen, Village of Whitefish Bay
Rebecca Finn, Village of Elm Grove
Eric Kirk, UW-Milwaukee
Jeannie Kolter, City of Milwaukee
Jeff Landin, Waukesha County
Todd Schmidt, Village of Brown Deer
Angela Sheehan, City of Janesville
Bob Simi, City of Elm Grove
Jeanette Wardinski, City of West Allis

- I. Introductions
- II. Recap of Professional Conference:

Pete Coffaro gave a brief overview of the Wisconsin City / County Municipal Manager's Association Training held March 8 and 9 in Madison. The training focused on the recommendations of the Kettle Commission. Some of the recommendations of the Kettle Commission were incorporated into the budget. The budget is currently in the Joint Finance Committee where they would conduct public hearings. City Administrators and locally elected officials are encouraged to go to the various budget hearings and speak on how would effect their respective municipalities.

Jane Wood and Wally Thiel, members of the Kettle Commission, gave an overview of what they thought were the major issues. The report was guided by the following principles / issues: Economic growth, a seamless approach to government services, high-performance results oriented government, and shared revenue. Wally Thiel emphasized the importance of understanding: equalization, regionalism, and collaboration. He reiterated how important it was to learn the five elements of revenue

sharing. Pete concluded by saying that Assistant's would be well advised to read the full report if they had not done so yet.

III. Old Business

A. WAMCAM Purpose & Goals

1. Sub-Committee recommendation

The sub-committee presented the recommendations for the mission statement and the goals. In order to help facilitate discussion, we broke into small groups and discussed potential changes. There were a few minor suggestions and the sub-committee will incorporate those into a revised mission statement and goals. Overall, the mission statement and goals were excellent and our appreciation went out to the subcommittee that worked on this important step in our development.

B. Membership Promotion Efforts

1. Statewide
2. Municipal and County
3. Professional Interns

A statewide membership promotional effort will be made after the Mission Statement and Goals are established.

C. Technology Watch (Internet resources, etc)

Ray Ellingen pointed out that UW – Milwaukee's Library, website (www.uwm.edu) is an excellent place to search for articles related to public administration and various municipal issues.

IV. New Business

A. Recap of WCMA Professional Seminar (See above)

B. WAMCAM By-Laws

Those present thought that By-Laws would be helpful for the future development and organization of the Association. We can borrow from the By-Laws of the Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants. A sub-committee was formed to develop By-Laws for WAMCAM to be considered at our next meeting (Todd, Rebecca, and Jeff)

B. Letter of Affiliation (WCMA, WCA, ICMA, others?)

Once the mission statement and goals are agreed upon at the next meeting, we will send a letter to WCMA, WCA, and ICMA to receive official affiliation status. These groups will probably be quite receptive.

C. Brown Bag Luncheon Program

This program is quite popular with the Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants. A City Administrator and an Assistant from a different community meet for lunch and talk about career development on an informal basis, and other things. At the WCMA Training Conference, many administrators signed up to meet with Assistants as part of this program. A sub-committee will help implement this program.

D. WCMA & WAMCAM Joint Website Considerations

Todd Schmidt and Ray Ellingen were volunteered by their bosses to develop the WCMA website. In return, they were told that they could use the same server for a potential WAMCAM web site. There was some discussion as to whether there were other options available, perhaps working with UW-Milwaukee.

V. Next Meeting

A. Todd will invite Doug Irke, of UW-Milwaukee's MPA program to speak at the next meeting.

B. Next Meeting

Will be held at **Brown Deer Village Hall, Thursday, April 26th, at noon.** It was decided that regular meetings will be on the last Thursday of every month at noon.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Coffaro