

## **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Monday, March 8, 2010

County Administrative Center, Room 3220

11:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ann Fisher, Sharon Hampson, John Medinger, Charles Spiker

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Roger Plesha

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bridget Flood

**STAFF & GUESTS:** Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Jerry Huber

### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Ann Fisher called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None requested.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2009**

**MOTION** by Spiker/Hampson to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2009. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused; Flood absent.

### **RESOLUTION RE: SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION TO CREATE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITIES (RTAS)**

The Resolution calls for support of a Regional Transit Authority to invest in transit, spur development, create linkages that draw workforce and build the regional economy, and make the state more competitive in attracting business and jobs. The Resolution also directs the County Clerk to send a copy to area legislators, Governor Doyle, and other interested parties. Steve O'Malley reported that the County has lobbied on behalf of RTA's for quite some time. A similar Resolution will go to the La Crosse City Council. RTA's would not be automatically instituted if legislation passes, but would go to a public referendum. Supervisor Spiker asked about clarifying the powers of a Regional Transit Authority, and stated he would like to receive more information. O'Malley explained that a Board could be set up, but taxes could not be imposed except by public vote. He will bring more information to the Executive Committee. **MOTION** by Medinger/Hampson to approve the Resolution Re: Support of Legislation to Create Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs). **Motion carried 3-1-2.** Plesha excused; Flood absent; Spiker opposed.

### **2010 WCA CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS DEADLINE – COMMITTEE PRIORITIES**

Steve O'Malley reported on the June, 2010, deadline to submit items for consideration for the WCA's annual conference. Supervisor Medinger asked about Resolutions involving legislative issues that go to the standing committees, and that could also come to the Legislative Committee. Discussion was held about having the County Board consider rules and procedures for bringing items to the Legislative Committee at its retreat. Jerry Huber spoke about the need to be more proactive. Supervisor Medinger suggested department heads could suggest issues that require lobbying. Supervisor Hampson suggested polling the County Board about which Resolutions should go to the Legislative Committee. O'Malley will put the matter in the administrative report to the County Board and on the agenda for a department head meeting.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

WCA legislative platform

Suggestions for bringing Resolutions to Legislative Committee

**NEXT MEETING DATE: APRIL 12, 2010**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Fisher declared the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Approved,** June 7, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder