

**Walworth County
Intergovernmental Cooperation Council
(ICC)
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Mark Lubberda, County Administrator, at 6:00 p.m.

Roll was called by municipality. In attendance were: Cecil Logterman, Town of Darien; John Olson, Town of Delavan; Derek Steffen, Town of LaFayette; Jim Hurley, Town of Linn; Steve Wade, Town of Richmond; Dan Aronson, Village of Bloomfield; Jane Stiles, Village of Darien; Louise Czaja, Village of Walworth; Robert Umans, Village of Williams Bay; Adam Swann, City of Elkhorn; Dave Nord, City of Lake Geneva; Dan Schoonover, Town of Bloomfield; Joe Kopecky, Town of Geneva; Fred Winchowky, Village of Mukwonago; Mark Ruosch, Village of Sharon; Lisa Dawsey Smith, City of Whitewater; and, Rick Stacey, Walworth County.

Others in attendance: Mark Lubberda, County Administrator; John Weidl, City of Whitewater Interim Manager; Mallory Swenson, Walworth County Community Health Supervisor; Richard Hough, Walworth County Public Works Director, Al Stanek, Walworth County Board Supervisor; and, Brian Holt, Walworth County Board Supervisor.

Approval of October 26, 2021 ICC Meeting minutes. Motion by Stacey/Aronson. Motion carried.

Community Health Assessment.

Mallory Swenson, Public Health-Community Health Supervisor presented the Community Health Improvement Plan. Last year she presented to the committee to receive feedback on the top health needs and issues. Over the past year, they took the data from their Community Health Assessment and working closely with community partners to create their 2022-2025 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Swenson discussed the plans for the next three years which were included in the packet (pages 5-8). Over the next couple months they will be finalizing action plans and action steps under each of the priorities. Public Health will be rolling out the plan to the community in the start of 2023 and publishing regular updates on their work and where they are headed.

Robert Umans, Trustee of the Village of Williams Bay questioned if there was a transportation system in place and if it was going to expand. Swenson replied the goal relative to expanding active transportation is in relation to bike and walking networks. That objective will be looking at the route of the badger which is currently a bicycle network that runs Milwaukee to Walworth County and there are some opportunities to connect it between different municipalities. Umans questioned how to get people to places if they don't have a mode of transportation. Swenson replied they heard that a lot from the community and they will be looking further into that.

Fire/EMS Study Committee and EMS Dispatching.

Mark Luberda, County Administrator stated his intent was to update the committee on where the County was with this. The Fire/EMS Study committee originally started by resolution in 2016 and they were given the charge to study the delivery options for fire/EMS services in Walworth County. A draft report was prepared in December 2019 and was scheduled for consideration at the next meeting; however, the pandemic made it unable to have additional meetings. During that time, a significant number of the members moved on, leaving many vacancies. In August, the County Board passed a new resolution requesting the committee be re-established by filling the vacancies and once started, they may request a professional analysis firm be engaged relative to improving EMS services within Walworth County. The County Board appropriated \$22,000 to complete the EMS study. The committee members were listed in the packet (page 9).

Luberda introduced Al Stanek, County Board Supervisor for a comment as he was a primary individual on the County Board that moved forward the resolution and appropriation. Stanek expressed his concern for the lack of available EMS volunteers. The County has 15 or 16 different Fire/EMS providers, all with their own sets of equipment to purchase and maintain as well as policies affecting levels of service. Stanek stated this is an outdated service model that's ripe with opportunities for more cost effective emergency response times and cost savings for each individual unit of government. The COVID money that the County has appropriated could be used to provide incentives to EMS units to cooperative. He stated it would be nice for every municipality to have ready access to paramedic service and the first step would be to bring in an outside examiner/consultant.

Umans commented that this is an extremely hot topic in Williams Bay. The Village of Williams Bay and the Village of Fontana will have a referendum that says for the voters, if they could vote yes for almost a million dollars adding to the bottom line and that was decided after lengthy discussions. The conclusion was there are no volunteers and if a community wants service, they have to go to paid service and preferable paramedics for advanced care which is very expensive. The State of Wisconsin has a 4.2 billion surplus which is more than last year when then had 2.7 billion dollars and what the municipalities get is a flat amount and has been for years. It is a big problem everywhere.

Walworth County Radio Project and Municipal Radio Funding.

Luberda presented the radio system project overview on behalf of Captain Todd Neumann. The coverage that the County has now has some holes and it's not as efficient as needed for the best service. There's only one transmitter with eight satellite receivers and there's zero redundancy. The County went through a number of years to study the technology and determined it needs to be replaced with a modern system. The new system spills over the boundaries of the county providing very good coverage. The plan includes 11 towers to ensure full coverage to the borders and to make sure there were no gaps between Delavan and Darien. All towers it uses a new trunking system which allows many of the different users from different disciplines to share frequencies without interference from each other. Also built in are standards within the reason why there are so many towers so there'd be better coverage within building areas as well. The plan adds two redundant controllers instead of one current controller. The new system includes 24 hour monitoring so it can identify problems as they may becoming so they can get fixed and the system won't go down. A key component pertains to the trunking technology that uses six

frequencies and 12 talkpaths, it creates the ability to have a large volume of different talk groups whereas the current system was limited to 53. It does include one UHF that works with the MABAS group so they can all be on the same system. Had multiple consultants give the most current trunking system with all the overlap and support that is really needed.

The County's expense is about 15 million dollars; it was anticipated to be more. We'll have a \$500,000 cost per year for maintaining all the different pieces of the system. One constraint is the expectation that all communities participating are using the radio that works with the system. Placing orders and making a commitment before the end of the year secures a lower price. The County had in its 2022 budget 2M worth of ARPA money to help offset the radio cost by municipalities. In the 2023 budget scheduled for consideration and adoption on November 7th, includes an increase amount of \$2.4M. The County needs to take next steps to decide how that money will be allocated. The parameters Luberdia anticipates presenting to the Finance Committee are to focus money primarily on police and fire radios and consider establishing tiers of value of the proportion of reimbursement the County provides.

Louise Czaja, Village of Walworth President requested clarification on the timeline for ordering radios. Luberdia replied communities make commitment before the end of the year to secure pricing, but the order will be finalized later. If a community is unable to do that, they'll still get the 25% discount off the manufacturer price, but it may be based off of the increased 2023 pricing. Dan Aronson, Village of Bloomfield President asked when will communities find out how much the radios will cost. Luberdia replied the anticipated costs are: \$5,500 for a law enforcement multi-band portable radio; \$7,500 for a multi-band mobile; fire radios are about the same, but varies based on battery packs and carrying cases; and, \$2,300 for a DPW radio. Luberdia states Captain Todd Neumann shared that information with fire chiefs.

Czaja offered a motion, second by Swann to request the County prepare a memo outlining the anticipated radio costs. Motion carried 17-0.

Walworth County Puppy Mill Resolution and WCA Action.

Luberdia referred to the memo and resolution on pages 10-16 of the packet. The county was asked to adopt a resolution that prohibits commercial pet stores to sell puppies. The County Board did not pass the resolution as they concluded the issue needed statewide control; however, it was passed on to WCA. The WCA tabled it indefinitely which means they won't take up that cause.

ATV/UTV.

Director-Public Works Richard Hough stated he received a letter from township to look at the ATV/UTV issue. Hough discussed the working group that was formed to study the issue: what the law says and the existing challenges of the County potentially implementing a pro ATV/UTV ordinance. The final draft of the ordinance will be considered for approval at the November Public Works Committee meeting. Discussed ensued relating to public safety and jurisdiction challenges. Hough referred to the draft ordinance included on pages 17-21 of the packet. In relevance to the ordinance, present local officials confirmed whether or not their municipality already passed an ordinance authorizing ATV/UTV road access. Hough clarified implementation of the ordinance would begin July 1, 2023 since signage is back ordered. Additional discussion

on safety concerns continued. Hough indicated he would forward the link for WisDot Traffic Count website to the ICC committee.

Walworth County 2023 Budget and Budget Initiatives.

Luberda highlighted some information regarding the County's 2023 budget including levy and tax percent changes. An area of improvement evaluated was the county trunk highway system. A firm was hired to score the roads and look at the subsurface. The data revealed a need to increase the amount of annual maintenance by at least \$7,500,000-1M. The Lakeland Health Care Center was also evaluated to decide if it should still stay in the business as the building is 20 years old. The 2023 budget includes the necessary capital appropriations, but will be placed on an administrative hold on it until further direction is received. Luberda discussed changes with ARPA funding allocations for: health plan reimbursement for COVID-related tests; non-profit organizations; housing authority; transportation; broadband; deputy take home squad program; automated emergency dispatch; CTH-O; opioid settlement; retention and recruitment; and, strategic planning process.

Discussion on future topics.

The Tri-Troy Alliance discussion will be rescheduled to the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council was confirmed for Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Logterman/Dawsey Smith. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Submitted by Mark W. Luberda, County Administrator.