

**Walworth County  
Intergovernmental Cooperation Council  
(ICC)  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.  
Walworth County Government Center  
County Board Room  
100 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

---

The meeting was called to order by Moderator David Bretl, County Administrator, at 6:03 p.m.

Roll was called by municipality. In attendance were David Bretl, County Administrator; Nancy Russell, County Board Chair; Rich Brandl, Chair-Town of Sharon; Dan Schoonover, Chair-Town of Bloomfield; Ken Monroe, President-Village of Bloomfield; Bill Mangold, Chair-Town of Lyons; Joe Pappa, Supervisor-Town of Lafayette; Joe Klarkowski, Chair-Town of East Troy; Dave Duwe, Chair-Town of Sugar Creek; Bill Antti, President-Village of Genoa City; John Kendall, Chair-Town of Troy; John Weidl, Administrator-Village of Mukwonago; Randy Timms, President-Village of East Troy; Mark Ruosch, President-Village of Sharon; Cecil Logterman, Chair-Town of Darien; Tim O'Neill, Police/Fire Chief-City of Delavan; Jeff Johnson, Alderman-City of Delavan; Al Kupsik, Mayor-City of Lake Geneva; and Gary Grolle, Trustee-Village of Bloomfield. Also in attendance was Jim Dayton of the *Janesville Gazette*.

Approval of agenda on motion by Pappa/Brandl. Motion carried.

Approval of October 27, 2015 ICC meeting minutes on motion by Mangold/Monroe. Motion carried.

**Brief overview of Geneva Lake Conservancy's upcoming presentation on conservation easements at the October 25, 2016 ICC Meeting – Merilee Holst.** County Administrator Bretl introduced Merilee Holst from the Geneva Lake Conservancy. Holst stated the Conservancy is going to be hosting a panel at the October 25, 2016 ICC meeting where they will be explaining, discussing and answering questions about conservation easements. There are currently 40 properties totaling 2,246 acres in Walworth County that are under a conservation easement. These easements range in size from a fifth of an acre to 415 acres. Those easements are on public property, such as the Town of Linn Park, and they are also on privately owned property. The protected properties range from woodlands to wetlands to agricultural lands. The largest easement, which is 415 acres, is on a farm to ensure that in perpetuity that farm will be farmed organically. She encouraged members to attend the October ICC meeting to learn more about conservation easements.

**Overview of Emergency Management – Lt. John Ennis, Walworth County Sheriff's Office.** Bretl introduced Lt. John Ennis from Walworth County Emergency Management. Lt. Ennis explained the role of Emergency Management, which consists of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Mitigation is how to stop an event, such as a wild fire. For preparedness, Walworth County has a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). In terms of response, Lt. Ennis gets called out for fires, spills, etc. Recovery can be long term; for example,

it can take a town three to five years to recover from a tornado, and Emergency Management is there to assist the municipality during the recovery. Lt. Ennis stated that every city, village and town should have an emergency action plan, which identifies the main players of each municipality and their line of succession during an event, and it should be reviewed at least annually.

Lt. Ennis explained Incident Command and Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Incident Command is who is in charge during an event and runs the incident. Walworth County EOC's is located at the Judicial Center, but an EOC can be anywhere. The EOC supports operations in the field during an event. The individuals that staff the EOC must have decision-making authority, and these individuals' back-ups should have also have that same authority. The EOC also designates a Public Information Officer who is responsible of notifying the public during an event, such as severe weather or a road closure due to an accident, and is also responsible for working with the media.

Lt. Ennis said Walworth County has an emergency alert system called Alert Sense. The public can stay informed by choosing which alerts they would like to receive, ranging from missing persons alerts to severe weather alerts. These alerts can be sent via text, e-mail or phone.

**Discussion regarding county funded Fire/EMS study.** Bretl stated the cities have passed resolutions asking the county to fund a study to look at Fire/EMS. It is not the county's desire to take over Fire/EMS. The County would consider funding a study if it would assist the towns and municipalities. The next step in this process is to determine the scope of the study. The County's Executive Committee directed Bretl to include funding for the study in the 2017 budget. Tim O'Neill, Police/Fire Chief-City of Delavan, stated they have been working with the Town of Darien and Village of Darien and other municipalities on mutual aid agreements. O'Neill stated he was on the original Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) committee in Wisconsin. He said what they are finding out is that MABAS is being used more and more for everyday incidents. When MABAS was started 12 years ago and when they wrote the bylaws, MABAS is not for everyday incidents; it is for the incidents that happen occasionally.

Ken Monroe, President-Village of Bloomfield asked what the cities were asking for when they came to the county regarding this study, i.e. more help, equipment. Bretl said the resolutions were a template, which is the only guidance they have to go on. Some of the issues that came up are there are fewer people volunteering and employers are not allowing volunteers to leave work to respond to a call. Monroe stated that Genoa City and Bloomfield merged several years ago, and they have also hired a company that sends two people. Monroe stated they also went to pay on call; however, they still do not have the number of volunteers that they would like. Dave Duwe, Chair-Town of Sugar Creek, and Cecil Logterman, Chair-Town of Darien, both stated that their respective townships have impact money that can be used to help with the study. O'Neill said the county has the capability to compile data through its dispatch center, such as response time and concentration of calls. Randy Timms, President-Village of East Troy, said county's dispatch process needs to be included as well. Mark Ruosch, President-Village of Sharon, suggested looking at another county, such as Dane County as they dispatch the closest vehicle to a call. It was asked if the county has the capability to dispatch throughout the county.

O'Neill stated demographically if you are in the city, you will get city dispatch center; however, the county could provide the service of dispatching throughout the county.

Nancy Russell, County Board Chair, asked if the current Fire/EMS training and education requirements are too comprehensive and restrictive as to the time that it takes and if that is discouraging people from getting into the field. O'Neill stated State Senator Stephen Nass will be chairing a study legislative committee on volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician shortages and this is one of the issues that could be reviewed.

**Discussion regarding transportation for senior and disabled persons.** Bretl provided an update on the county's transportation program. Transportation services for senior and disabled persons were outsourced to VIP Services, Inc. in 2014. From the listening sessions conducted out in the communities, it was discovered that the program is underutilized. Also, some of the criticisms are that the copays were too expensive and the requirement of providing two-day advance notice. The county has expanded the types of rides available including social trips. The county also applied for its first mass transit grant to provide a shared-ride taxi service for any resident in the county.

Next meeting of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council was confirmed for Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Monroe/Brandl to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Motion carried.

*Submitted by David Bretl, County Administrator.*