

Walworth County  
Intergovernmental Cooperation Council  
(ICC)  
Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114  
100 West Walworth – Elkhorn  
Minutes

County Administrator David Bretl called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Roll was called by municipality. In attendance were officials representing the towns of Bloomfield, Darien, East Troy, LaFayette, and Lyons. Village representatives were in attendance from Bloomfield and Williams Bay. See attached attendance sheet. County Board members Ken Monroe and Nancy Russell were in attendance. Others in attendance were Gina Carver, Lead Investigator/Deputy Medical Examiner, Walworth County Medical Examiner's office, Kevin Brunner, Walworth County Director of Central Services, David Bretl, County Administrator, and Brett Wallace, Director of Southeastern Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Approval of agenda on motion by Logterman/Mangold. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes of June 23, 2015 on motion by Monroe/Schoonover. Motion carried.

**Gina Carver, Lead Investigator/Deputy Medical Examiner Walworth County Medical Examiner's Office – Role of the Medical Examiner's office.** Bretl introduced Carver and stated with the recent changes that have taken place; this is a county service everyone should be aware of. With the death of long time coroner John Griebel, Walworth County took a new approach to the office of Coroner. We partnered with Waukesha County's Medical Examiner office. We changed from an elected coroner to a Medical Examiner. Various counties have been changing to the Medical Examiner system, as it is appointed position rather than elected. Carver stated some of the reasons for the collaboration include the shortage of pathologists, and the advantage to affiliate with a larger office. Gina explained she is member of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (AMBDI) and has 7-8 years of experience. The Medical Examiner's office provides investigation, documentation and medical evaluation of reportable cases. Dr. Lynda Biedrzycki, M.D. provides services in Waukesha, Walworth and Washington Counties. Deputy Medical Examiners Ron Wilson and Tom Miller are still with the department; in addition David Fladten, Gary Rowland and Dawn Kiernan have joined the Department as Deputy Medical Examiners. Nancy Russell inquired about what has changed for the County. Gina stated one change is having a full time investigator with regular hours. She currently has an office in the Law Enforcement Center. Photographs are now taken at all autopsies. The Medical Examiner is notified of a death after law enforcement and rescue has responded. A question was raised regarding budget for the Medical Examiner and why weren't all salaries eliminated. Bretl stated one of the concerns raised by law enforcement was the loss of a local contact with the medical examiner being located in Waukesha County. Bretl quantified that Gina is full time and the assistants are part time. The payment to Waukesha County includes charges for the morgue and a pathologist's time. Bretl acknowledged that while he believes the Medical Examiner arrangement is working well; it will be more expensive for the County than the former coroner's office. Both counties agreed to a 5 year intergovernmental agreement, during years 3-5, Walworth County pays actual costs.

**Discussion of county-wide transportation issues, including Walworth County road and bridge program and jurisdictional transfers.** Kevin Brunner, Director of Central Services, will discuss the 10 year county bridge and road program. Brunner mentioned that the County has chosen to be very proactive, but a great number of bridges need to be replaced. The County has decided to budget for reconstruction work on a bridge every year. The County plans on reconstructing 5-6 miles a year of roadway surface, next year's project will be CTH NN from the Government Campus to CTH H in Lake Geneva. The County has a 10 year plan for reconstructing County Highways.

Russell asked Brunner to explain how the County decides which road to be worked on. Brunner replied the County passed an ordinance in 2013 requiring roads to meet certain standards, incorporating the requirement that County Highway Trunks must average a 7 or above PASER rating. Brunner mentioned the latest Walworth County bridge inspection indicated 13 bridges below 50 rating sufficiency. Logterman inquired about the possibility of the County helping municipalities obtain money for road projects. Brunner suggested municipalities involve the County early in the process of planning road projects.

Brunner reviewed jurisdictional transfers between the County and Local government. A transfer requires a resolution to be adopted by both county and local, with approval by the WisDOT. The change becomes effective on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following adoption and approval. Brunner reviewed the necessary contents of the resolution and stated a memo of agreement should be prepared. Brunner emphasized the need for accurate legal descriptions, deeds for right-of-way and accurate and detailed drawings. After submittal, WisDOT reviews all documents, and will issue a letter either approving the transfer or indicating inconsistencies. WisDOT will then issue a letter confirming the effective date of the transfer.

**Brett Wallace, Director of Southeastern Wisconsin Department of Transportation with a presentation on future State highway projects in Walworth County and 15 year vision of the Southeastern Wisconsin freeway system.** Wallace provided some background. During the last budget Southeast region was asked to provide information regarding the Southeastern Wisconsin freeway system. An urban freeway section is very expensive to reconstruct versus a rural section. Some freeway segments are now 63 years old, and at the existing pace they will turn 95 before reconstruction takes place. Bridges in the area are in rough shape. A few reasons for the accelerated wear and tear to the system include higher traffic volumes, heavier trucks and the outdated pavement design. At the current pace reconstruction will be complete by 2047. There are 7 key commerce corridors; comprising of the Zoo interchange, I-94 North-South Project, I-94 East-West (MIL), I-894 bypass, I-94 East-West (WAU), I-43 Howard to Silver Spring, I-41 Burleigh to Richfield IC. Facts regarding the freeway system include 20% of all jobs and nearly 25,000 employers are within 2 miles of these corridors and 43% of statewide cargo value moves in or out of SE Wisconsin. 64% of Illinois visitor trips enter Wisconsin through the southeast region, it is the state's highest volume freeway system (11.2 million vehicle miles driven daily). The Southeast freeways have reached the end of their useful lives, in their current condition they require frequent maintenance, 27.8 million hours of user delay each year and the outdated designs need safety upgrades.

WisDot is proposing a 15 year plan for rebuilding the freeways instead of the current 30. The 15 year program maximizes efficiency, reduces administrative costs, saves time and reduces construction impacts. A cost-benefit analysis was performed comparing the 30 year program to a 15. They evaluated travel time, safety, reconstruction and maintenance costs, operations and truck traffic. Using a conservative 5% discount rate the analysis found a \$5.4 billion total user benefit savings from improved travel time, operations, maintenance and safety. Bretl thanked him for coming.

**2016 Town, municipal and county budget updates** Bretl asked for any questions on the budget handouts and asked for any comments on the municipalities' budget. Logterman from Darien mentioned their road construction projects.

**Discussion of County Board supervisor candidate class** Bretl announced that an informational meeting will be held on Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. for anyone interested in becoming a County Board Supervisor. Topics to be covered include the time commitment necessary, committee assignments, and the role of a County Board Supervisor. The purpose of the meeting is to allow candidates an opportunity to evaluate the position and ask questions.

**Update on Wisconsin Farm Technology Days – July 19-21, 2016** Bretl mentioned fundraising is going well, 6 non-profit groups have applied to staff food tents with the ability to raise funds for their organizations. Field demonstrations scheduled include alfalfa mowing, baling processing, corn robot technology, drones, wheat combining and possibly tiling. Zenda Road will be closed for the duration of the show. Tours will be offered of both the Snudden Farm and Farm City Elevator. Plans are to make Farm Technology Days appeal to both non-farm and farm attendees by having educational attractions for all ages. Next meeting of the ICC will include additional information regarding Walworth County's hosting of Wisconsin Farm Technology Days.

Next meeting of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council was confirmed for Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Monroe/Marra to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. Motion carried.