

**Walworth County  
Intergovernmental Cooperation Council  
(ICC)  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

---

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Mark Lubberda, County Administrator, at 6:04 p.m.

Roll was called by municipality. In attendance were Mark Lubberda, County Administrator; Dan Schoonover, Town of Bloomfield; Cecil Logterman, Town of Darien; Joe Klarkowski, Town of East Troy; Barbara Fischer, Town of Lafayette; Kevin Batz, Town of Lyons; Dave Robers, Town of Sugar Creek; Dan Aronson, Village of Bloomfield; Rob Umans, Village of Williams Bay; Charlene Klein, City of Lake Geneva; Nancy Russell, County Board Chair, Lynn Binnie, City of Whitewater; James Heilman, City of Elkhorn; Fred Winchowky, Village of Mukwonago; Scott Seager, Village of East Troy; Lindsey Peterson, Village of Darien; and, Mark Ruosch, Village of Sharon;

Others in attendance: Diane Dykstra, Village of Mukwonago Administrator; Cameron Clapper, City of Whitewater Manager; and, Richard Hough, Walworth County Public Works Director.

**Approval of October 27, 2020 ICC Meeting minutes.** Motion by Klein/Russell. Motion carried.

**American Rescue Plan Act Funding: Approaches and Strategies for Expenditures and Investments.**

The American Rescue Plan Act was a large piece of federal legislation with a small section for Coronavirus state and local fiscal recovery funds that distributes a significant amount of funding to local governments across the nation. Between the county and municipalities, a combined total of 30 million dollars of direct federal funding is coming to the community. That funding has to be contracted for by the end of December 31, 2024 and expensed by the end of December 31, 2026. The county started the discussion at the finance committee meeting last week, coming up with a list for what kinds of things would the county board want to pursue with the funding. Lubberda continued by summarizing five categories that would directly impact the local municipalities.

Louise Czaja from the Village of Walworth joined the meeting.

The first category is housing and homelessness. This category addresses the physical structure of the Twin Oaks homeless shelter; direct funding for the Housing Authority; and, getting a variety of community organizations all serving aspects of people on the homelessness continuum to address the best way to use funding if received. Lubberda's initial recommendation was to allocate about 2.5 million to this issue. His second recommendation was to consider just over 1.3 million for non-profit social service agency support. The County would use United Way as a sub-recipient to help get funding to agencies that provide support to individuals. A specific agency the County would include to help is Open Arms. They reach a lot of clientele that do not

necessarily respond to services provided by Health and Human Services and they were very essential during the early stages of COVID testing.

The next category was infrastructure/capital projects, specifically sewer and water projects. Another project identified in this category was broadband which 2 million would be allocated to. The starting total for capital projects would be 3.8 million. The County is also looking to allocate \$400,000 towards the category of tourism industry support. The two largest projects are within the intergovernmental and the direct county service provision categories. The intergovernmental category project would include new radio system portable radios for local agencies. The county is in the early stages of building a new background for the public safety radio system. Estimates from the study showed it was a 25 million dollar project in which each municipality would be paying for their portion of local radios. Luberda suggested the county board consider allocating as much as 2 million to offset costs those costs that the local governments would have.

Another project would be to allocate \$120,000 to consider cyber security support for local governments. The county took advantage during the pandemic with a grant from the state to get an assessment from an outside agency of the County's cyber security risks which was not cheap. The concept would be for the county may be use the same company to provide a uniform and consistent assessment of where municipality's biggest risks are. Looking for guidance from the ICC if it's worth the investment. Third area that direct effects municipalities is the crisis intervention program. The program is very well received and because mental health impacts ARPA funding, the County is looking to make it a full program through 2024. The purpose would be to see how well it works and if it's a program that really benefits all of the police departments. Looking to add two additional crisis intervention specialists and working supervisor to make a team of five. The intent of the \$300,000 allocated towards tourism is the Walworth County Tourism and Visitor's Bureau has a piece of software that links up and becomes the new website that can drive a county wide marketing pool that can target people who are using their own connection in the Visitor's Bureau. Also, a separate pool of money that all of the different agencies can get together and decide how it can be used to serve the whole county. The final project is broadband expansion. Looking to team with private industry partners to make sure they can extend broadband to places throughout the county that are lacking.

There was a general interest among the committee in the idea of the County being able to help provide some guidance and technical expertise in regards to how municipalities can use ARPA funding. Luberda suggested the possibility of contracting with an accounting firm in the area to help achieve this.

#### **5-Year Solid Waste Implementation Plan.**

Walworth County Public Works Director, Richard Hough conducted a survey with all the municipalities and based on the feedback, he decided to provide a new 5-year implementation plan based on modifications from the 1994 plan. The purpose of the new plan was to develop a new form approach to solid waste and recycling practices within Walworth County. It's not the intent of the County to take ownership of the program, but to identify the best practices and encourage collaboration and coordination between communities that might have developed ideas that another may not; promote the importance of efficient and cost effective solid practices; and, document changes to the 1994 plan. This lead to an assessment of what are the community

concerns and opportunities are. Three themes amongst the internal and external concerns were: education, notifications, and partnerships; disposal of special waste programs; collection containers and storage. A couple strategies developed to address these concerns include partnerships between various units of government; and, exploring and engaging solid waste program managers on market development needs. Some of the highlights of the 5-year plan include, better advertisement of the Jefferson clean sweep event; study further the feasibility of implementing either a permanent or mobile household hazardous waste collection alternative; study whether or not the county needs to re-establish its composite site; study of the establishment of a municipal tire recycling program; and, look at improving the market for recyclable materials.

**Walworth County Public Works' Municipal Outreach Engagement Meetings.**

Hough stated they are looking for leadership in common cause issues. Two years ago public began a municipal outreach engagement meeting to talk about policies, equipment strategies, winter maintenance, utility coordination, and solid waste programs. He would like municipalities to provide more concerns and solutions rather than just the county's public works department.

**Comment on State of the County Address presented to WCEDA.**

Luberda gave a speech to WCEDA in regards to the strong financial position the county is in. A highlight that would affect citizens as far as a direct service is the discussion on the County's Wal-to-Wal shared-ride program which may be a topic at a future meeting.

The next meeting of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council was confirmed for Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Klarkowski/Batz. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

*Submitted by Mark W. Luberda, County Administrator.*