

**MINUTES OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Friday, March 3, 2017  
9:00 A.M.

**Members Present:** Chair Matthew Budde; Supervisors Heather Gibler, Ed Kleckner, Dave LaShay, and James Stecker.

**Also Present:** County Board Supervisors Merlin Gentz and Patrick Laughrin; Todd Romenesko, County Administrator; Brian Glaeser, Highway Commissioner; Mary Kohrell, Community Economic Development Director; Tony Reali, County Conservationist; Rep. Jesse Kremer; Rep. Paul Tittl; Rep. Tyler Vorpapel; Senator Frank Lasee; Senator Devin LeMahieu; Levi Gibler; and Patricia Winkler, Assistant to the County Administrator.

Chair Budde called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was properly announced, roll call taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES**

**Moved** by Supervisor LaShay and seconded by Supervisor Kleckner to approve the agenda and the minutes of the Jan. 6, 2017 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

County Board Supervisor Patrick Laughrin came before the committee to support a resolution proposed by Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) that would oppose “dark stores” or big box stores appealing their assessed values in order to pay lower property taxes, a move that would shift taxes to residential property owners.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

There were no reports.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications.

**DISCUSS THE 2017-2019 WISCONSIN STATE BIENNIAL BUDGET**

Department Heads provided talking points on the following topics:

- Support for increase in General Transportation Aids (GTA)
- Support for legislation on heavy loads/protecting our infrastructure investment
- Request for additional funding to be allocated to the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP)
- Support the increases to counties for doing state highway maintenance work with our forces
- Support for legislative action promoting safety in work zones
- Support two specific proposals related to additional funding proposed for Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) as follows:
  - Modifies the current limitations on WEDC’s lending programs to allow the corporation to initiate new loans, but only if the loans are funded through the repayment of existing loans and not supported by new state funds. In addition, the WEDC would be prohibited from offering forgivable loans.
  - Increases WEDC funding by \$6,300,000 (GPR) to provide the corporation with greater ability to assist Wisconsin businesses. It also modifies WEDC’s funding structure to allow larger amounts of the Economic Development Surcharge to fund the corporation’s operations vs. general fund dollars.

These Minutes **HAVE BEEN APPROVED** by the Legislative Services Committee

- Support funding for Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Soil and Water Resource Management Staffing Grant

Copies of the talking points were distributed and placed on file. Discussion was held.

Further discussion was held concerning other budget items presented by county officials including: support for elimination of state prevailing wage, support for returning County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) grant to its original use to strictly supplement the salary of the CVSO, and support for an increase in DCF funding.

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE**

No meeting date was set.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 10:32 a.m., **moved** by Supervisor LaShay and seconded by Supervisor Stecker to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Patricia Winkler  
Recording Secretary