



LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING – Thursday, January 9, 2020

The Legal Affairs Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Leis, at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in Room 102 of the Courthouse Annex.

Members Present: Mike Leis, David Eggen, David Strudthoff, Justin Running and Kay Stanek by telephone.

Others in attendance were Ron Hoff, Nikki Swayne, Dennis Brault, Garrick Olerud, Roger Call and Rachel Hanson.

Affirmation of proper public notice of meeting was given.

4. Review of the December 12, 2019 minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as written by Eggen second by Running. Motion carried by roll call vote.

5. Review/approval of vouchers/budget status. Motion by Strudthoff, second by Eggen to approve the vouchers presented at the January 9, 2020 meeting. Motion carried by roll call vote.

6. Discuss and Review Offers on Properties owned by Vernon County. Hanson stated we received two more offers. The first one was a parcel in the Town of Wheatland. We requested \$10,000 and received a bid for \$11,150.00. Motion by Running, second by Eggen to approve the bid and send to the January 28, 2020 County Board for approval. Motion carried by roll call vote. Hanson stated the second five acre parcel we were asking \$20,000 and received a bid for \$20,000. Motion by Eggen, second by Running to approve the bid and send to the January 28, 2020 County Board for approval. Motion carried by roll call vote. Hanson stated we still have two properties left.

7. Audience to visitors – None

8. Committee members reports/questions – None

9. Rules of the Board – Advisory Referendums – Swayne stated she has drafted a resolution. The committee discussed different options on the number of signatures needed for an advisory referendum. Olerud feels a percentage of the last Governor election is a good way to establish the number of signatures needed. Ten to fifteen percent is logical. Strudthoff feels 2,500 signatures may be too high. Brault feels 1,000 signatures could be doable. Motion by Running for ten percent of the last Governor's election of residents ~~over 18 years old~~, **18 years of age or older**, second by Strudthoff. Strudthoff made motion to amend the resolution to five percent for number of signatures, second by Eggen. Roll call vote on amendment to motion; Leis – no, Eggen – no, Strudthoff – yes, Stanek – no and Running – yes. Amendment failed. Roll call vote for original motion not amended passed with roll call vote and all voting yes. Swayne will have resolution prepared for the January 28, 2020 County Board meeting. Leis was excused from the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

10. Ron Hoff, County Clerk – Loss Control Report & Workers Compensation report - Hoff reported loss control stating we still have open claim for the Nursing Home (1), Volten case trial date is set for July 13 – July 18, 2020 and Human Resources (2). For 2019 Workers Compensation we have 52 claims, zero lost time and \$27,441.95 total paid.

11. Corporation Counsel Update with Nikki Swayne, Abt Swayne Law, update on current work including for Sheriff and Highway Department – Swayne stated she has been working with the Sheriff Department and Zoning Department on different issues. Swayne stated she is still working with the Highway Department. Swayne stated she has been working with the Treasurer on Rem Tax Program. Swayne stated she is researching the County getting larger portion of fines and stated this is mandated through State Legislators. Roger Call asked if we have any rules of how the money can be paid for taxes and was told no, if the payment was made in all change we would need to accept it.

12. Set next meeting. Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 102, first floor Courthouse Annex.

Motion by Eggen, second by Strudthoff to adjourn at 12:22 p.m. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Ron Hoff, County Clerk