

Sauk County Town Association Unit Meeting
November 15, 2012
Town of LaValle, LaValle

Chairman Jim Huebsch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The officers of the host township, LaValle, were introduced. The pledge of allegiance was recited. The minutes of the August 16th meeting were approved as read. The treasurer's report, showing a balance of \$323.58 was approved as presented. Roll call was taken and 27 board members representing 11 of the 22 townships were present. Chairman Huebsch gave a report on the recent state convention held in Appleton. He pointed out the low attendance of Sauk County Representatives.

Marty Krueger, chairman of the Sauk County Board, gave an update on county issues. The last intra-governmental meeting held at Reedsburg Area High School was a success. The next intro-governmental meeting will be held in March at a place to be determined. No county budget has been officially set because of errors in meeting publishing deadlines. The levy has been cut but one should expect no change in services. County workers, who have not had a pay raise in several years, will have contracts open to negotiations this year. There is a project to expand broadband and mobility services that Sauk County would like to work in conjunction with Fond du Lac and Adams Counties. Mr. Krueger has been working on this for several months; the issue needs to be resolved for bonding issues by the end of November. Questions from the audience were answered.

Lee Turonie, attorney for the Towns Association, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the WTA website. The website is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Sample ordinances, links to other organizations, legislative issues, current event calendars, lists of informational videos and much more is available.

Art Reese also reported on the state convention. The comments the WTA receives about the convention are the same every year. A meeting will be held in Dodgeville December 5th on roads and heavy traffic. The UW System is providing the information. District meetings will be in February and March.

Jerry Derrs report centered on the legislative issues to be dealt with at the state level. As usual transportation is the biggest issue with farmers' heavy use and frac sand hauling being very important. Boundary issues, levy limits, and election recalls may be dealt with as well as frac mining and siting of wind generators.

Representative Ed Brooks mentioned the reorganization of the legislature. 73 of 99 representatives have four years or less of experience. The public will dictate the agenda.

Representative Howard Marklein pointed out that the transportation funds need to be solely used for transportation issues. The new budget will be introduced by the Governor on February 12th. The tax code needs to be reformed so that Generally Accepted Accounting Principles are used for the state budget as they are for business.

The 4 county board members present were introduced. The next meeting will be held February 21st at the Town of Westfield Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m. and a delicious lunch was provided by the Town of LaValle.

Respectfully submitted,
John Pearson, Secretary/Treasurer