



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Executive Committee

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Thursday, May 5, 2022

5:30 PM Virtual Meeting: See top of agenda for instructions on
how to join the webinar or call in by phone.

**Virtual Meeting: See top of agenda for instructions on how to join the webinar or call in
by phone.**

Interpreters must be requested in advance; please see the bottom of the agenda for more information.

*Los intérpretes deben solicitarse con anticipación; consulte el final de la agenda para obtener más
información.*

*Yuav tsuam tau thov txog cov neeg txhais lus hau ntej; thov saib hauv qab kawg ntawm qhov txheej
txheem rau cov ntaub ntawv ntxiv.*

The May 5, 2022 Executive Committee meeting is being held remotely. The public can access the meeting either with the Zoom application or by telephone.

To register for the meeting in Zoom, click the following link (after you fill out the registration form, the meeting link and access information will be emailed to you):

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0y3ZZcMDSmmM10XFZYXoTw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. This link will be active until the end of the meeting.

To join the meeting by phone, use one of the following three toll-free phone numbers:

1-833-548-0276

1-833-548-0282

1-888-788-0099

When prompted, enter the following Webinar Meeting ID: 984 6784 7926

PROCESS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: ANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO REGISTER TO SPEAK ON/SUPPORT/OPPOSE AN AGENDA ITEM MUST REGISTER USING THE LINK ABOVE (even if you plan to attend using your phone).

If you want to submit a written comment for this meeting, or send handouts for committee members, please send them to: MacKinnon@countyofdane.com with subject "Executive Committee meeting comment/handout".

In order to testify (speak to provide public comment), you must be in attendance at the meeting via Zoom or phone; you will then be promoted to a panelist or unmuted and provided time to speak to the body when the item(s) comes up on the agenda.

****Registrations to provide public comment will be accepted until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting.****

If you join the meeting with Zoom, when the item you have registered for is before the board/committee, you will be promoted to a panelist. Once a panelist, you can turn on your webcam and you will be able to unmute yourself.

A. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. Also present: Supervisors Kigeya, Erickson, Huelsemann, Kiefer, Wright, Wegleitner, and Andrae; Staff present: Carlos Pabellon; Wesley Sparkman; Carrie Braxton; Kabura Mukasa; Greg Brockmeyer; Jeff Kostelic; Scott McDonell; Kristin Moala; Brian Standing; Erik Andersen; Derek Wallace; Neil Rainford; Karin Peterson-Thurlow, Lindsay Menard; Colleen Clark-Bernhardt; and Lisa MacKinnon.

Present: 6 - PATRICK MILES, MICHELE DOOLAN, ANTHONY GRAY, LARRY PALM, ANDREW SCHAUER and SARAH SMITH

Excused: 1 - MATT VELDRAN

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2022
MIN-004](#)

MINUTES OF THE 4-7-22 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Attachments: [2022 MIN-004](#)

A motion was made by SCHAUER, seconded by GRAY, that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote.

C. Fund Transfers

NONE

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2022
RES-001](#)

ESTABLISHING AN EQUITY FOOD PROGRAM FOR 2022

Sponsors: RITT, PALM, RATCLIFF, HATCHER, ENGELBERGER, ROSE, KIGEYA and HUELSEMANN

Attachments: [2022 RES-001](#)

Supervisors asked questions re: the purpose of the proposed Food Equity Program and whether it was intended to add additional funds. OEI Director, Wesley Sparkman, replied that the program will fill the food security gap for recently identified classes of people (e.g., seniors, families, targeted geographic areas of the county, etc.). Related to the work of the PIE Grant administered by OEI over the last 5 years. There is no intention to increase funding for the Food Equity program, although additional funds could be utilized given the food security needs in the county.

A motion was made by SCHAUER, seconded by PALM, that the resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote.

E. Items Requiring Committee Action

DISCUSSION OF AND POTENTIAL COMMITTEE ACTION ON POSSIBLE COUNTY BOARD RESPONSES TO MANAGEMENT AND EQUITY CONCERNS AT HENRY VILAS ZOO

NO COMMITTEE ACTION TAKEN ON ITEM. Chair Miles mentioned the likelihood of scheduling further discussion on the topic at a future meeting.

*Public Comment: **See attached Registration Report** for positions on agenda item discussion.*

For detailed information about the committee and other comments, see the meeting audio/ video posted with the agenda in legistar.

Those who spoke to the committee:

*- In support of an independent investigation of the Henry Vilas Zoo:
Travis Thomas, Brian Standing, Erik Andersen, Derek Wallace*

*- Neither supporting nor opposing:
Neil Rainford*

Chair Miles opened up the discussion by enumerating a number of possible options for the County Board to address the recent workforce equity issues at Henry Vilas Zoo:

- 1) Establish an independent outside investigation at the zoo*
- 2) Evaluate internally the management analysis completed by OEI and Human Resources in response to the personnel complaints at the zoo.*
- 3) Evaluate externally--with an outside reviewer--the management analysis completed by OEI and Human Resources in response to the personnel complaints at the zoo*
- 4) Conduct program evaluation/operational audit as a part of the County Board Office function.*

Supervisors Erickson, Kigeya, Gray, Palm, Doolan, Wright, Schauer, and Smith all spoke to the topic and indicated an interest in restoring the public trust in the zoo and/or supporting Dane County employees. Several argued in support of an independent investigation and others argued for first receiving more information about the jurisdiction of the County Board and a comparison of options presented. On this second point, Corporation Counsel indicated it would be available to analyze the options for action and weigh in from a legal perspective on the pros and cons of the various options enumerated.

Corporation Counsel Carlos Pabellon indicated that the County Executive is charged with the management of county personnel and that this authority cannot be diluted by the County Board. His opinion is that the County Board cannot usurp the role of the Executive in managing and investigating specific allegations regarding personnel issues and that such a move would constitute a conflict that limits the County Executive's authority. There is also a question of how differing opinions from multiple investigations would be resolved.

However, Pabellon indicated that the County Board does have authority to conduct investigations/analyses of county affairs and operations, e.g., a more general investigation of overall hiring and retention practices, policies, and work environment--just not specific personnel issues and active legal cases, which are in the purview of the Executive branch.

Supervisors asked further questions and commented. See meeting recordings for detailed discussion.

F. Presentations

NONE

G. Reports to Committee

NONE

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Chair Miles will reach out to committee members re: scheduling a meeting to continue the discussion of the options for the County Board to respond re: Henry Vilas Zoo.

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee on May 19th will begin at 5:00 p.m. in order to accommodate the 6:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole.

I. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

NONE

J. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

NONE

K. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

A motion was made by SCHAUER, seconded by GRAY, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote.

NOTE: If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please call the phone number below at least three business days prior to the meeting.

NOTA: Si necesita un intérprete, un traductor, materiales en formatos alternativos u otros arreglos para acceder a este servicio, actividad o programa, comuníquese al número de teléfono que figura a continuación tres días hábiles como mínimo antes de la reunión.

LUS CIM: Yog hais tias koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, ib tug neeg txhais ntawv, cov ntawv ua lwm hom ntawv los sis lwm cov kev pab kom siv tau cov kev pab, cov kev ua ub no (activity) los sis qhov kev pab cuam, thov hu rau tus xov tooj hauv qab yam tsawg peb hnuv ua hauj lwm ua ntej yuav tuaj sib tham.

County Board Office (608) 266-5758 TTY RELAY 711