

LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING - Friday, June 13, 2008

The Legal Affairs Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Kevin Gobel at 1:31 p.m. on Friday, June 13, 2008 in the conference room of the Banta Building.

Members Present: Kevin Gobel, A. Richard Brose, Jerry Cade and Sherman Erlandson. Others in attendance were Greg Lunde, Tena Fredrickson, Nancy Wittoff – Vernon Manor Director.

Affirmed proper public notice of meeting.

Review of the previous meeting minutes: Motion by Cade/second by Brose to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2008 meeting as corrected. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to excuse Robert Johnson from the meeting made by Cade/second by Brose. All in favor. Motion carried.

Review of vouchers and Corp. Counsel expenditure budget: Cade questioned \$1,700 on the expenditure budget sheet and Lunde stated that is the codification non-lapsing fund and will go down considerably in the next month or two as it is currently at the printer. Lunde reviewed voucher requests.

Motion by Cade/second by Brose to approve vouchers. All in favor. Motion carried.

Audience to Visitors: n/a

Change Rules/Resolution of Vernon Manor Board Election with Vernon Manor Director, Nancy Witthoff: Witthoff explained how Vernon Manor is off-cycle with everyone else as far as election dates, which does create issues, such as someone always has to sit in on a partial & if someone had interest in April, they'd have to wait until December & so believes it should be changed to that of other election cycles to eliminate confusion. Cade believes Vernon Manor opened originally in December, and that is where the election cycle stemmed from.

Motion by Erlandson/second by Cade to approve the resolution. All in favor. Motion carried. Resolution to change board of trustees election from December to April passed: 4 yes votes - 0 no votes, Johnson absent.

Corporation Counsel Activity Update: Lunde stated most of last week was spent at the EOC regarding flood activity. He stated Pam Eitland has set up additional training regarding chapter 34's, getting some of the group homes more involved as law enforcement has a good understanding of the program but the group homes need a little more training. Lunde stated there was only 1 mental health issue this past week that involved law enforcement & was a direct result of the flooding. Gobel questioned Lunde on Dept. head meetings. Lunde stated there is a monthly meeting for dept. heads, but not everyone always attends. Lunde also stated that he does attend the meetings which basically started when Linda Kica was hired and they usually last no more than an hour. Gobel questioned Lunde on committee meetings, and whether he ever asks himself what he was there for, and Lunde stated not very often, as he is usually asked to be there for a reason. He stated Pam Eitland emails him with an agenda & whether he needs to attend or if it's just for his information; Land/Water however, has asked him to attend pretty much every meeting. Lunde stated there are a lot of meetings he's never attended, including law enforcement, Veterans Service, & Vernon Manor meetings. Gobel stated he wanted to clarify & at least bring it up because someone mentioned to him that Lunde may be becoming more like a county administrator rather than a corporation counsel, and just wants to be sure that when Lunde is at a meeting it's because he's been asked by the board or department head to be there. Lunde stated that he usually only goes to committee meetings if asked & will not impose himself. At Zoning meetings for instance, Trent will put him on the beginning of the agenda & then he's gone, but he's available to any committee that would want him to go. Cade spoke of Lunde keeping members under control for their own good, as meetings are tape recorded, and how specifically at Zoning, they would have to wait for an issue to be handled, and now they don't, so it is a big plus that Lunde is there to handle it right away. Lunde noted that currently there is \$9,800 left out of a \$10,000 budget for outside counsel expenses, so there is a lot being saved by hiring full time counsel, and hopefully next year the budgeted amount for that expense can be cut way down.

The next meeting date was set for Friday, July 11, 2008 at 1:30 pm in the Banta Bldg. Conference Room. Committee agreed.

Motion by Brose/second by Cade to adjourn the meeting at 1:52 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Tena M. Fredrickson, Corporation Counsel