

Meeting of the Wisconsin Utility Tax Association held Wednesday, July 29, 2009 at the Esquire Club - Madison.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Oium at 11:10am.

Present: Village of Pleasant Prairie City of Alma (2) Town of Beloit Jefferson County Town of Watertown Town of Paris Village of Kronenwetter Town of Genoa Town of Neenah Town of Two Creeks Town of Lincoln Town of Carlton Town of Morrison  
Lobbyist Jolene Plautz Administrative Assistant Marge Pearce

\*Membership and Financial Status Reports \*were reviewed.

\*Discussion re dues structure\*. Operating budget need is \$35,000. Myles (Kronenwetter) drafted a proposal based on each member paying dues at the percentage of total 2009 utility payments made to the members. Myles stated this is the practice for establishing dues in Marathon County organizations. County dues was figured both at the percentage base and at the established \$100 annually based on also having membership in the County Utility Association. Changes were varied between decreases and increases both small and large. Torres (Jefferson County) stated this could force counties into choosing membership between organizations Members stated any large increases would be difficult at this time due to budget shortfalls and the taxation limits placed by the State. An increase in membership would provide a financial cushion should there be extra expenses, but, too many municipalities receiving payments are "taking a free ride"[Gentz. T. Paris]. \_Motion by T. Carlton, second by V. Pleasant Prairie to retain the 2009 Membership dues for the fiscal year 2010-11. Aye 9. Opposed 4. {T. Neenah, T. Watertown, Jefferson Co, T. Genoa} Motion carried. \_

Based on the vote the 2010-2011 Dues will be:

\$ 2,750 for payments of \$150,000 or more 1,000 for payments of \$75,000 to \$150,000 500 for payments of \$50,000 to \$75,000 250 for payments of \$25,000 to \$50,000 100 all others 100 Counties

\* Legislative Update \*

- G. Kruck, T. Genoa, stated the issues between the Town and Village of Genoa regarding dry storage of nuclear casts are in-house and any negotiation should not be a matter for the organization.
- State lawmakers are considering a Bill which would require the Public Service Commission to set uniform rules for wind power siting and would prohibit municipalities from adopting stricter rules. At this time, no financial impact has been mentioned. \_By consensus, Plautz was instructed to register 'no' in PSC siting of wind towers.\_ • AB309. Dry cast nuclear storage. Currently, utilities make payments to the federal government for storage. Bill would require utilities to make specified amount payments directly to the host municipalities and counties in addition to the monies paid to the state and federal government. \_Motion V.Pleasant Prairie, second T.Lincoln in support of the efforts of the towns seeking compensation for nuclear storage under AB 309. Unanimously approved.\_ • AB 270 would change the current split of utility payments for wind turbines [2/3 County / 1/3 Town] to 50/50 split. Hearing before the Assembly Energy and Utility Committee on the Bill has been requested.
- WPS is purchasing properties around V. Kronenwetter and V. Rothschild for the purpose of providing a buffer to the production facility. Result is a loss of tax

base to the municipalities. \_Motion T. Neenah, second T. Two Creeks to approve Plautz participation in meetings between WPL and Village of Kronenwetter relating to effects of land purchases on tax base. Unanimously approved.\_ • Currently utility payments to three member towns [Neenah, Paris, Watertown] remain under a depreciation schedule. How long that will remain before moving to the valuation formula varies. Towns are requesting Plautz pursue efforts to introduce legislation to move these municipalities to the valuation formula on a common date.

\*Next meeting \*will be at the call of the Chair. \*Annual Meeting \*is set for April 21, 2009.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:noon.

Marge Pearce  
Administrative Assistant 7.30.09