

**MID-MORAINES MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION**  
**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 9, 2003**

Location: Jackson Village Hall

Present: Michael Kern (Cedarburg); Charlene Brady (Germantown); Scott Mittelsteadt, Ken Schuette and Del Beaver (Jackson); Bob Stoltzman (Kewaskum); Bill Cording (Newburg); Scott Huebner and Tom Hudson (Port Washington); John Dukelow (Slinger).

Also Present: State Representative Terri McCormick, Administrative Aide Jennifer Komassa, State Representatives Glenn Grothman and Daniel LeMahieu; and Mid-Moraine Executive Director, Ron Pugh.

**Speaker:** State Representative Terri McCormick  
**Topic:** Legislative proposals recommended by the Assembly Task Force on Local Government Health Partnerships. (Copies of Rep. McCormick's presentation are available by request to the Executive Director.)

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m. by Tom Hudson, Legislative Committee Chair.

**Program:** After a round of introductions Chairman Tom Hudson introduces Rep. McCormick.

Rep. McCormick noted that health care is a major issue in Wisconsin. She noted that the growing aging population and rising prescription drug costs are the major contributors to this problem. By 2020, health care costs will exceed salary costs if nothing is done.

Rep. McCormick pointed out that the task force recommendations have strong bi-partisan support. The task force recommendations were considered based on four areas: total compensation; insurance compensation; open bidding for insurance coverage and access to quality data on insurance data. She noted that the task force recommendations included 1) allowing local governments to change insurance carriers for like coverage without bargaining unit consent; 2) establishing fair market practices which would require access to health insurance experience ratings for bidding purposes (this would require that bids be posted for public viewing); 3) a state-wide buying pool including a tier system with various co-pays and deductibles, a competitive prescription drug program and long term care and 4) a quality control system of standards where communities can view provider ratings on-line and make comparisons. Rep. McCormick indicated that the estimated cost savings would be about \$26 million over all plans statewide.

Rep. McCormick responded to numerous questions from the committee and closed by noting that this bill is a work in progress and she would be happy to receive comments and suggestions on improving these recommendations. Chairman Hudson thanked Rep. McCormick for joining us and for the very informative presentation.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the March 12, 2003 meeting were submitted for approval. It was moved by Bill Cording, seconded by Mike Kern to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Rep. LeMahieu indicated that the budgetary public hearings have been on going with the last one being held in Milwaukee this evening. He noted that the day after Easter, the Joint Finance Committee will start making changes to the bill one area at a time without the ability to go back and reconsider an area. He pointed out that there are still about \$1 Billion of deficit that has not been addressed.

Rep. LeMahieu indicated that the subject of Shared Revenue is still in flux and currently is still based on a per capita basis. There will be some consideration of some percentage allocations.

Rep. LeMahieu also noted that a suit has been filed in an attempt to regain legislative oversight of any Gaming Compacts.

Scott Mittelsteadt asked that the committee look into AB 189 (Residency Pre-emption) and consider it at a future meeting.

Rep. Grothman pointed out that while some rating agencies have indicated that Wisconsin is the 6<sup>th</sup> worst state in the country for taxes, some other agencies may consider Wisconsin the 2<sup>nd</sup> worst only following California.

**Resolutions:**

Bill Cording moved to adopt Resolution # 2003-01, opposing the transfer the responsibility for assessment of manufacturing property from the state to local governments. The motion was seconded by Scott Mittelsteadt and approved by a unanimous vote.

Bill Cording moved to adopt Resolution # 2003-02, requesting the Department of Revenue to approve a statewide exemption from the state mandate for communities to publish in the local newspaper, minutes, ordinances and certain resolutions. The motion was seconded by Mike Kern and was approved by a unanimous vote.

Scott Mittelsteadt moved to adopt Resolution # 2003-03, opposing granting “Charter Town” authority, violating currently rights assigned to cities and villages. The motion was seconded by John Dukelow and was approved by a unanimous vote.

**Adjournment:** It was moved by Scott Mittelsteadt, seconded by John Dukelow to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved

Submitted,

Thomas Hudson, City of Port Washington