

January 20, 2015 Revenue Generation Team

Co-Chair Steingraber called the meeting of the Waupaca County Revenue Generation Team to order at 11:15 a.m. in the Waupaca County Courthouse Room 1068.

Members present –Co-Chairs Highway Commissioner Dean Steingraber, Finance Director Heidi Dombrowski, Parks /Solid Waste Director Roger Holman, and Supervisor DuWayne Federwitz. Wisconsin Counties Association Director of Government Kyle Christianson joined by conference call. Co-Chairs Supervisor Dave Johnson was excused.

Also present, Jill Lodewegen, Administrative Assistant Highway Department and audience County Board Chair Dick Koeppen, County Board Supervisor Pat Craig and Jack Barry from WDUX Radio.

Co-Chair Steingraber presented the open meeting statement.

**MOTION Holman/Federwitz to approve the January 20, 2015 Revenue Generation Team agenda. Carried without a negative vote.**

**MOTION Federwitz/Dombrowski to approve the December 16, 2014 Revenue Generation Team minutes. Carried without a negative vote.**

Reviewed the team purpose stated in the Waupaca County Board of Supervisors strategic plan as the number one goal: How do we generate the Revenue to meet the Revenue needs of our citizens (present & future)?

Co-Chair Steingraber asked for public comment if any. Ms. Craig noted experience with wheel tax and car tax from her daughter's experience in another state. She had concerns that if a wheel tax was added, other car taxes may follow and she was opposed to that. She stated that she would prefer a gas tax. Mr. Koeppen stated his experience with a wheel tax in another state stating that it was significantly higher than Wisconsin however property taxes in that state were lower. Although he did state that sales tax was significantly higher in that state. He noted that although he owned a business with several vehicles that would be impacted by a wheel tax, he understood that the revenue needed to come from some place. He did also ask Mr. Christianson if a sales tax increase was being considered by the State of Wisconsin. Mr. Christianson stated that it was brought up to the Governor about two months before his re-election and at that time was turned down and Mr. Christianson didn't feel it would happen within the next 2 years.

Co-Chair Steingraber read the schedule for the committee for review.

The committee discussed the following list of options to be considered for review:

1. Bonding
2. Wheel Tax (Registration Fee)
3. Land Rental/Forest etc
4. Statutorily Set Department Fees
5. Non Statutory Department Fees
6. ½ % sales tax
7. Property Tax
8. Surplus materials and equipment
9. New Fees
10. Notice vs citations

The committee noted that of the above options, #3, 5, 8 and 9 were items that should be reviewed and discussed with the department head team for them to work on. And Option 4 was an item best taken on by the County Board because it was something that would have to be taken up with legislative members.

The four items that the committee felt should be studied by this team were items 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10. The committee agreed to prioritize them in the following manner with some items being combined:

1. Wheel Tax/Registration Fee
2. ½ % sales tax and property tax (10 year study)
3. Bonding
4. Notice vs citation

The committee set the next meeting for Tuesday February 17 at 11 a.m. or immediately following the County Board Meeting in Room 1068 at the Waupaca County Courthouse.

**MOTION Dombrowski/Holman to adjourn at 12:30 p.m. Carried without a negative vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Jill Lodewegen*

Jill Lodewegen  
Waupaca County Highway Department  
Administrative Assistant