

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE : February 7, 2011

TO : Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway

FROM : Kimberly Walker, Corporation Counsel
Mark Grady, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Terrence Cooley, Chief of Staff, County Board
Steve Cady, Fiscal and Budget Analyst, County Board
Carol Mueller, Chief Committee Clerk, County Board

SUBJECT : Recommendations for Chapter 1, Milwaukee County Ordinances – Rules of the County Board of Supervisors

Adopted County Board Resolution File No. 03-482 (attached) authorized “the creation of a work group consisting of Corporation Counsel and County Board staff to review and make recommendations for revisions pertaining to the rules of procedures for the conduct of meetings and the transaction of business, including the application of parliamentary procedures, by the County Board of Supervisors” and to report back to the Committee of Whole.

Considerable time has passed since this resolution was adopted. In the interim, the County has dealt with a number of major issues, including legal matters, and changes in staff, which have delayed the finalization of recommendations for revisions to Chapter 1 of the Milwaukee County Ordinances, as contemplated in the adopted resolution.

Staff has now completed its work and presents the attached revisions to Chapter 1 addressing updates to a number of provisions relating to rules of procedures for the conduct of meetings and the transaction of business. These ordinance revisions address several matters, including, but not limited to:

- Board and Committee meeting times and composition
- Board and Committee motions and voting procedures
- Procedures at annual and special meetings of the County Board
- the order of business, reflecting use of the new Legistar legislative tracking system
- the manner in which County Board citations are approved
- updates of the jurisdictions of Committees
- procedures regarding County Executive budget vetoes
- clarification of the general role of the County Board Chairman as a department head

In addition, there are a number of technical changes that reflect various departmental re-organizations, division name changes, new departments, etc. Also included is modernization and clarification of language and removal of archaic, unnecessary and / or redundant language.

It is worth noting that, County staff involved in developing these revisions over the last several years, in addition to those issuing this communication, have included former Corporation Counsel William Domina, Deputy Corporation Counsel Robert Andrews, Acting Corporation Counsel Timothy Schoewe, former County Board Research Analyst Robert Murphy, former Committee Clerk Maribeth Welchman and former Chief Committee Clerks Lauri Henning and Delores Hervey.

It should also be noted that the County Clerk has been solicited for, and has provided, input into these recommended ordinance revisions.

It is recommended that the County Board adopt these changes, following review by the Committee of Whole as stated in the adopted resolution.

Attachments