

WRA PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

January 11, 2002
WRA Building – Madison

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Darren Kittleson, Larry Andrews, Dick Brockman, Chris Cramer, Richard Cromheecke, Deb Delwiche, Jan Edwards, Russell Endrick, Marv Hansen, Susan Hermes, Gail T. Howard, H. King Holley, Jeff Kitchen, Howard Loeb, Jerry Marchant, George Mark, Joe McLean, Fred Prassas, Mary Pangman Schmitt, Mike Siegel, Brian Stephan, Jim Tait, III, David Thomas, Dorothy Thompson, Fran Wajer. (25)

Absent: Kristin Anglehart, Steve Beers, Bill Benson, Bill Berndt, Bill Bonifas, Paul Brown, Hugh Burdick, Cherri Cape, Judy Carpenter, Margery Chapman, Mel Check, Bob Clark, Barbara Clinard, Joseph Cody, Renee Dettmann, John Dix, Char Glocke, Holly Grancorvitz, Judy Gull, Kathleen Hansen, Robert Hartman, Bruce Hayhoe, Jr., Terry Hilgenberg, George Huxhold, Janet Johnson, Michael Jones, Margo Katterhagen, Karen Kloida, Barb Knickel, Russ Korpella, Aaron Korsmo, Matt Krasowski, Dwight Kruse, Robert LaFond, Dan Lee, Shel Lozoff, David Mays, Mike Mulleady, John O'Day, Joanne O'Dwyer, Milton Olson, Mary Pangman Schmitt, Cindy Patterson, Anne Paulus, Fred Prassas, Roxanne Reynolds, Todd Richmond, James Rounding, Mike Ruzicka, Corey Scholtka, Mike Siegel, James Somers, Brian Stephan, William Stone, John Struthers, David Thomas, Mark Wagner. (57)

Staff/Local GADs: Al Arnold, Deb Conrad, Larry Gleasman, Tom Larson, Rick Staff, Michael Theo, Jodie Tierney, Chad Zuleger.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman Darren Kittleson, who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Minutes

M/S/C – To approve the minutes from the October 12, 2001 meeting as presented.

III. Issues Update – WRA Lobbyists

Condominium Law Revisions

Deb Conrad provided the committee with an overview of the recommendations for revising state condominium laws from a special Legislative Council study committee. In addition to reviewing specific provisions, the committee discussed philosophical questions regarding the melting of landlord-tenant law and rental issues with condo law and private property rights issues. The committee was in general agreement with the direction of the legislation but directed staff to provide a list of pros and cons regarding the final draft when the introduced legislation is brought before the committee for a vote. No motions were offered.

Lead Based Paint (LBP) Rules

Rick Staff briefed the committee on the final draft of the LBP administrative rules which have been in the development stage for nearly two years. The rules will become effective March 1, 2002. Beginning in mid-February, the WRA will provide a series of educational courses and press releases regarding the new rules to inform our members, apartment owners and the general public about the new laws and its benefits. No motions were offered.

Campaign Finance Reform (CFR)

Michael Theo presented a memo from Joe Murray recapping the status of legislative efforts to reform state campaign finance laws. The WRA continues efforts to defeat SB 104 and to draft acceptable CFR legislation with Assembly Republican leaders. The following motion was adopted.

M/S/C – To give conditional support to the provisions of draft legislation being developed by Rep. Marc Duff and others as presented and direct staff to continue efforts to draft campaign finance reform legislation that provides meaningful reforms while protecting the constitutional rights of individuals and organizations to effectively participate in the political process.

State Budget Deficit

Michael Theo briefed the committee on developments regarding the pending \$1.3 billion state budget deficit and Governor McCallum's plan to address to shortfall without raising state taxes. He also discussed other major issues impacting the balance of the legislative session including reapportionment and the on-going criminal investigations. No motions were offered.

IV. Pending Legislation

The committee discussed numerous bills and took separate votes on several items (highlighted). The following positions were adopted.

Senate Bills

- SB 290 (AB 580) (Moen) – Wetlands (No Position)
- SB 291 (Grobschmidt) – Roadside maintenance (No Position)
- SB 304 (Decker) – Use value penalties (Oppose)
- SB 311 (Burke) – TIF restrictions (Oppose)
- SB 313** (AB 622) (Grobschmidt) – Graffiti penalties (Support) (*Note: motion to take No Position failed on a 12-15 vote.*)
- SB 316 (AB 624) (Plache) – Historic rehabilitation tax credits (Support)
- SB 322** (AB 601) (Erpenbach) – Park tax (Oppose)
- SB 326 (AB 658) (Kanavas) – Capital gains taxes (Support)
- SB 342 (Huelsman) – Transfer tax exemption (Support)
- SB 347** (Law Revisions Committee) – Reg & Licensing revisions (No Position)
- SB 350 (AB 684) (Breske) – Town board powers (No Position)
- SB 361 (JCRAR) – Wetland mitigation (No Position)

Assembly Bills

- AB 518** (Kedzie) – Telecommunication service (Support)
- AB 525** (M. Lehman) – Mobile phone tax (Tabled) (*Note: Directed staff to bring back with additional information.*)
- AB 533 (Schneider) – Outdoor sign regulations (No Position)
- AB 551** (Gunderson) – Private septic systems (Support)
- AB 573** (Steinbrink) – Residential heat detectors (Oppose)
- AB 580 (AB 290) (Gronemus) – Wetlands (No Position)
- AB 599** (Gunderson) – Tax delinquent property (Support)
- AB 601 (SB 322) (Huber) – Park tax (Oppose)
- AB 602 (Gunderson) – Pier and boathouse regulations (Support)
- AB 605 (Jensen) – Estate tax repeal (Support)
- AB 606** (Gard) – Construction contracts (No Position)
- AB 621 (Personal Privacy Committee) – Privacy laws (Oppose)
- AB 622 (SB 313) (Plale) – Graffiti penalties (Support)
- AB 624 (SB 316) (Freese) – Historic rehabilitation tax credits (Support)
- AB 629** (Ainsworth) – Use value (Support)
- AB 658 (SB 326) (Owens) – Capital gains taxes (Support)
- AB 680 (Boyle) – Inland lake regulations (No Position)
- AB 684 (SB 350) (Freese) – Town board powers (No Position)
- AB 687 (Owens) – Town zoning (No Position)
- AB 688 (Grothman) – Building materials tax (Support)
- AB 689 (Huber) – State land sales (No Position)
- AB 692 (Schneider) – Tenant security deposits (Support)

V. REALTOR and Government Day

Chairman Darren Kittleson directed the committee's attention to promotional materials regarding this year's REALTOR and Government Day on Thursday, January 24, 2002 and strongly encouraged committee members to aggressively promote attendance in their market areas.

VII. Miscellaneous – Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 25, 2002 at the WRA in Madison.

VIII. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee, the meeting was at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted By:

Approved By:

Michael Theo
Vice President for Public Affairs

Darren Kittleson
Chairman