

**CORRECTIONS TO BE MADE TO
JULY 11, 2017, JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Page 34:

Lines 26 through 34 should be justified to the right margin.

Page 37:

Line 31 – Insert an apostrophe in Potters Field so it reads Potter's Field

Page 38:

Line 11 – Insert an apostrophe in Potters Field so it reads Potter's Field

Line 20 – Insert an apostrophe in Potters Field so it reads Potter's Field

Line 26 – Insert an apostrophe in Potters Field so it reads Potter's Field

Page 43:

Line 38, 39 and 41 – The \$ sign should be aligned with the \$ sign on line 37 and the figures 32,850, 256,000 and 121,716 should be aligned with 199,630 in Line 37.

Page 45:

Line 31 – The figure under H&H Civil Construction should be \$51,055.00 not \$1,055.00

Page 51:

Line 36 – Line 36 should read as follows: **Board adjourn.** Seconded and carried at 8:18 p.m.

Washington County Executive Committee

Rick Gundrum, Chair

Mark T. McCune, First Vice-Chair

Donald A. Kriefall, Second Vice-Chair



July 17, 2017

County Chairperson and Executive

Dear County Chairperson and Executive,

On behalf of the Washington County Executive Committee of the County Board, we are writing today to indicate our interest in partnering with your County in applying to be a part of the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin's (LGI) Future Regions Initiative. We are specifically inquiring to engage in this process to seek any and all opportunities to develop cooperative partnerships, shared service arrangements, and even the possibility of implementing Wis. Stats. §59.08 *Consolidation of counties; procedure; referendum*, all of which we believe could help ensure the long term viability of the essential services our citizens rely upon.

Similar to other counties, in recent months and years our county has undertaken several initiatives to analyze and plan for the future. We have developed detailed financial projections and have prioritized programs congruent with our County's values and statutory responsibilities. As a result of this work we have developed a Five Year Financial Plan, Strategic Priorities for the Quality of Life of the Citizens of Washington County and new Vision, Mission, Values and Results. The culmination of this work is our acknowledgement of the stark reality that in order to survive, local governments in Wisconsin must fundamentally reinvent themselves.

It is our sincere belief that the existing climate is grim for county government in Wisconsin, the long term outlook is financially and politically unsustainable. We agree with LGI's assessment that if all things remain the same "the highest potential for local government" is to "maintain existing service levels."¹ However, we believe that maintaining existing service levels, with the perpetuation of tax levy freezes and stagnant State Aids, is only achievable if counties create new fees, new debt, exercise tax levy referenda or reduce staff support or services to our constituents. We believe this to be true, because we are seeing it in all corners of the State, and are experiencing it firsthand here in Washington County.

Rather than continuing to contemplate these largely untenable options we excitedly welcome the opportunity provided by LGI to partner with one of our bordering counties to "rethink and refresh our organizations to work better for a new era."² We see this initiative as an opportunity to fully embrace an alternative to the less than desirable options of raising taxes or reducing services. We strongly believe that partnering with one of our bordering counties toward the concept of 'counties without borders' provides the brightest opportunity for this reinvention.

Do you believe, as do we, that the existing level of services provided to our citizens, although there is always room for improvement, is good and right? Do you believe, as do we, that the State of Wisconsin is not likely to initiate any significant reforms or relief to fiscally sustain these levels of service? Do you believe, as do we, that the Future Regions Initiative is a unique opportunity to "be proactive and shape the futures (we) want"?³ Then, if you believe, as do we, and as does LGI, that the way to do this is through "three factors that will make Wisconsin (counties) more resilient and vibrant in the future: 1) Collaboration 2) Engagement 3) Accountability,"⁴ then we implore you to join us in rejecting a grim outlook, instead embracing a bright horizon and imploring 'Strategic Foresight' to reinventing ourselves for the posterity of our region.

As LGI suggests in their program summary, "We don't have to wait for the other shoe to drop. We don't have to believe that the sky is falling. We can choose to make the sun rise."⁵ We anxiously and excitedly await your formal reply to join us in our choice to "make the sun rise." We respectfully request that you reply at your earliest convenience, but no later than Friday, August 11, as this will provide our counties sufficient time to put together and submit an application to LGI by their next deadline of September 30, 2017.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely and Respectfully,



Rick Gundrum
County Board Chairman



Joshua Schoemann
County Administrator

Footnotes

1-5: Local Government Institute - *Future Regions Program Summary*



LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE OF WISCONSIN

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"The Local Government Institute of Wisconsin will collaborate with others to find solutions for the efficient delivery and funding of local government services consistent with the needs of our citizens."

5813 PIPING ROCK RD.
MADISON, WI 53711
608.960-2850
www.localgovinstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gary Becker

Phone: (608) 444-0836

Email: exec_dir@localgovinstitute.org

NINE WISCONSIN COMMUNITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE FOCUSED GRANTS

Madison, WI April 18, 2017 - The Local Government Institute of Wisconsin ("LGI") is accepting applications through June 30th from Wisconsin communities that are committed to working across government and stakeholder boundaries to design ambitious and resilient futures.

The three-year effort, called "Future Regions", will fund a total of nine regional planning processes – three in 2017, three in 2018 and three in 2019. LGI will underwrite up to 50% of the project cost; the participating communities are expected to contribute the balance. A region may be self-defined, but it must include at least two local units of government, key community organizations, key businesses and members of the community not normally involved in community leadership roles.

Future Regions will use a six-step foresight process facilitated by a professional futurist to:

- Identify critical trends that will shape their communities in the future
- Design a compelling vision and supporting strategies that are responsive to trends
- Execute strategy through a dynamic multi-sector configuration of stakeholders.

"Business-as-usual, where governments work in their silos independent of each other and other community actors, is not a sustainable strategy," says Gary Becker, LGI's Executive Director. Research conducted by LGI in 2016 determined that communities that flourish in the future will be collaborative, highly engaged across multiple jurisdictions and stakeholders, and accountable. The Future Regions initiative was designed with that in mind: to help Wisconsin communities be proactive and collaborative in designing their futures.

The Future Region competition is open to any community in Wisconsin. Grant recipients will work with Rebecca Ryan, a Wisconsin-based futurist and economist. Applications will be available May 1st. More information is available at http://www.localgovinstitute.org/future_regions.

The Local Government Institute of Wisconsin is a not-for-profit, non-partisan corporation created to conduct research, enhance collaboration, and educate the public and policymakers on ways to improve local government's ability to serve the people.

Rebecca Ryan is the Resident Futurist at the Alliance for Innovation and the Association of Government Risk Pools. She is a senior advisor at the Governing Institute and the author of several books and major reports on the future.

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*"The Local Government Institute is the only one
collaborating with all levels of local government for the
effective delivery and funding of local government
services consistent with the needs of our citizens."*

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Future Regions

The Local Government Institute of Wisconsin is excited to announce the kick-off of Future Regions!

What are Future Regions?

It is an initiative to bring key community stakeholders together to discuss the future of their community and prepare a plan for addressing an important issue that involves multiple organizations.

We will be using a planning process called Strategic Foresight. This entails looking at the future through a lens of multiple scenarios – different events that might unfold in the community over the next 20 years. Most planning processes look at the future through a single lens – the shared vision, the single desired future for the community. We believe the act of key stakeholders discussing multiple possible futures and then together creating a plan to address an important issue affecting them will make communities better able to deal with any issue that arises over time.

One of our objectives, since we are the Local Government Institute, is to engage local units of government as key community stakeholders. Future Regions will model the characteristics that local governments need to remain relevant to their communities:

- Collaboration
- Engagement
- Accountability

Why this project? Why now?

When you think about the future of local government in Wisconsin, do you feel like the sky is falling or the sun is rising?

In spring 2016, the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin surveyed over 40 subject matter experts about their predictions for the future of local government in Wisconsin. The survey was part of a yearlong project to explore the future of local government in our state. When subject matter experts were asked, "What's the highest potential for local government?" half responded, "Maintain existing services levels."

For many, the sky is falling.

The Local Government Institute of Wisconsin (LGI) is not satisfied with this grim, potential future. We believe we have a choice: we can continue to bemoan our current existence, or we can take a cold, steely look at the future and ask, "How can we reinvent ourselves? How can we rethink and refresh our



organizations to work better for a new era?" The Local Government Institute of Wisconsin has chosen the latter road, with some inspiring and positive outcomes.

LGI used the process of strategic foresight to get beyond the day-to-day, budget-to-budget, crisis-to-crisis mode of running our cities and villages. In a one-day session in Stevens Point on June 28, 125 people gathered to explore the question, "What is the 20-year future of local government in Wisconsin?" The results were inspiring.

What is the future of your community? What can you do to help shape it?

The key insight from last year's work is that the future doesn't just happen to our communities. Our communities can be proactive and shape the futures they want. We don't have to wait for the other shoe to drop. We don't have to believe that the sky is falling. We can choose to make the sun rise. Specifically, LGI discovered three factors that will make Wisconsin communities more resilient and vibrant in the future:

- Collaboration
- Engagement
- Accountability

Now, LGI is rolling out a new opportunity for communities in Wisconsin to understand and shape their futures. The LGI Future Regions program will help 9 self-determined regions over the next 3 years become future ready. Any configuration of towns, villages, counties, cities, etc. dedicated to working together to create a brighter future can apply to be a "Future Region." If selected, Future Regions will join Rebecca Ryan, LGI's Resident Futurist to engage in a strategic foresight process¹ that will:

- **Promote collaboration:** Future Regions will assemble and work with a dynamic and diverse group of participants to complete the Future Region process. This means going beyond the usual players! Successful Future Regions will build partnerships across the public and private sectors, engage multiple generations of thinkers, and solicit broad community feedback.
- **Deepen engagement:** Future Regions encourages participation from all major segments of the community – those demographics who have traditionally been in power and those not. We will conduct multiple professionally facilitated workshops. These workshops will engage Future Regions' teams in new and dynamic ways. The workshop process is aimed at learning a compelling and ambitious method to meet the future with your community intact. It is based on strategic foresight: identifying trends, imagining the region's possible futures, choosing a preferred future, and building strategies and teams to activate the future.
- **Build Accountability:** Future Regions will walk away from this process with a 20-year Vision for the future of their region.

How does the Future Regions program work?

Each year, for the next three years (2017, 2018 and 2019), LGI will solicit applications for potential Future Regions. Applications for the 2017 program are due on June 30th. If selected, Future Regions will engage in 4 key stages of the process with LGI's Resident Futurist, Rebecca Ryan:

¹ What is strategic foresight? Strategic Foresight is a multi-step process to help you and your community get a handle on your future. Foresight is based on trends that enable you to see what the future may be, and then build the future you want. It's a professional, multi-step process that's used by NGOs, the military, and Fortune 500s to anticipate the future and be future ready.



1. Identify Trends Likely to Impact our Region's Future;
2. Defining A Preferred Vision for the Future;
3. Create a Plan for the Future;
4. Implementation.

All told, Future Region's will work with LGI and Rebecca Ryan from August 2017 – September 2018.

What's the investment?

LGI is contracting with Next Generation Consulting to facilitate the Future Regions workshops. LGI will be underwriting 50% of the cost of each workshop. The cost of participating in the Future Regions initiative depends on the population of the communities participating. Costs are estimated as follows:

Population	Est. Cost	LGI Share	Local Share
Less than 150,000	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$17,500
151,000 – 499,999	\$48,000	\$24,000	\$24,000
Over 500,000	\$70,000	\$35,000	\$35,000

In addition to the costs shown above, the local share also includes expenses for hosting the events associated with the program. Participation in the program includes access to the Polco civic engagement platform - <https://polco.us/> - for each participating community group.

For example, let's assume a municipality and three of its surrounding townships and a community organization are interested in participating. Forty miles away, another set of communities is interested. They could both participate in a Future Region event for their region. The population threshold will be determined by adding the populations of all participating jurisdictions within the region. The cost to all participants will be the local share shown next to the population category. Within each region, participants will decide how to come up with their local share. Allocating the local share across the multiple jurisdictions participating should make this an affordable event for just about any locality wanting to participate.

How can I learn more?

To learn more about the Future Regions project, please visit http://www.localgovinstitute.org/future_regions. LGI and Rebecca Ryan will be hosting online Q&As on Wednesday, May 3rd from 12-1pm and Tuesday, June 6th from 12-1pm. Both sessions will be recorded and available for viewing at the website listed above.

If you have specific questions, please contact Gary Becker at gary@localgovinstitute.org or by calling 608-960-2850.

How do I apply?

After May 1st go to www.localgovinstitute.org/future_regions to review the Future Region criteria and to complete an application. All applications for the 2017 program must be submitted by 11:59pm on June 30, 2017. Applicants will be informed of the LGI Board's decision by the beginning of August.

Committee Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Committee/Board Name:

Date of Meeting:

[illegible]