

# **JOAN BALLWEG**

STATE SENATOR · 14TH SENATE DISTRICT

## Madison Update | August 21, 2023

#### **About Me**

I am the state senator for the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District and reside with my husband, Tom, in Markesan. This session, I serve in Senate leadership as the caucus vice-chair. I was once again appointed chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Tourism. I was also reappointed to the budget-writing Joint Committee on Finance. Additionally, I serve as a member of the Senate Committees on Mental Health, Substance Abuse Prevention, Children & Families, Universities & Revenue, and the State Building Commission.

#### 2023 Legislation

The 106<sup>th</sup> Session of the Wisconsin State Legislature began January 3, 2023. Since Inauguration Day, I have been working on legislation. So far this session I have had two bills signed into law, six resolutions pass, and worked on the largest piece of legislation passed each session, the state budget. I have several bills introduced and working their way through the legislative process.

Legislation I am authoring this session will impact the following areas:

#### Agriculture

On August 4, 2023, the governor signed my second bill of the session.
 2023 Act 32 clarifies who can serve as a member of county land conservation committees. This change was necessary to align state law and federal regulations.

#### Veterans

o I am working on a bill that will help eligible spouses of veterans who would like to receive long-term care at one of the state run veteran's homes. Currently the service member must be admitted prior to their spouse to receive care.

#### Child Protective Services

I am authoring a bill to expand kinship care to include 'like-kin'. This
change will make a big difference for older children who are in need of
care, and increase the amount of foster parents who can care for
children.

#### Local Government Aid

This session, I have introduced a bill that will help counties and municipalities who host a power plant with the transitional period when the power plant is decommissioned. I worked on similar legislation last session. In the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, this bill will specifically help Columbia County as the Alliant Energy coal-fired power plant, in the Town of Pacific, prepares to be decommissioned. This bill will provide stability in state aid as the plant moves toward closure. One of the fixes needed was to ensure county and municipal governments do not have their utility aid payments cut in half when one of the power producing units is no longer producing power.

## 2023 Act 12: Shared Revenue Funding Updates

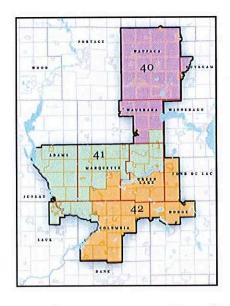
This year the legislature introduced and passed a shared revenue proposal to increase state support for local governments. This legislation was negotiated between community leaders, the Wisconsin State Assembly, Wisconsin State Senate and the governor. Assembly Bill 245, now 2023 Wisconsin Act 12, makes policy changes necessary to implement the increase to shared revenue funding. However, the actual funding for the provisions under this bill were included in the Wisconsin State Budget. The table below shows the funding that will be provided to Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Jefferson, Marquette, Sauk and Waushara counties as seen in the July 10<sup>th</sup> projection.

County	Existing County and Municipal Aid	Supplemental County and Municipal Aid	Total Aid	Aid Increase %
Columbia	250,171	647,426	897,597	258.8
Dodge	2,378,647	1,207,529	3,586,176	50.8
Green Lake	70,209	354,817	425,026	505.4
Jefferson	1,177,235	965,947	2,143,182	82.1
Marquette	62,231	286,669	348,900	460.7
Sauk	474,842	841,256	1,316,098	177.2
Waushara	55,115	369,007	424,123	669.5

#### **New Legislative Districts**

Effective January 2023, the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District shifted northwest affecting parts of Columbia, Dodge, Outagamie, Sauk, Waupaca and Waushara Counties. The existing parts of Adams, Green Lake, Marquette and Fond du Lac Counties will remain in the district.

To view an interactive map of the new legislative districts, visit legis.wisconsin.gov.



#### Office Services

**Legislative Citations** – my office can produce commemorative plaques for Eagle Scout presentations, retirements, business milestones and more. Contact my office for details.

**State Agency Case Work** – If you have questions on state statues, need help with a license or state application or trying to get information on other issues relating to state government, my staff can help connect you with those answers.

Scan the QR code below to sign up for my weekly e-update Follow Me on Facebook | <u>Facebook.com/WISenBallweg</u> Follow Me on Twitter | <u>Twitter.com/SenBallweg</u>





# Wisconsin Certified Public Manager® Program

Are you an ambitious public manager looking to take the next step in your career?

The Certified Public Manager® Program provides the education and training you need to meet the unique demands and challenges of your profession. Strengthen your administrative, technical, and interpersonal skills through our broad-based, 18-month learning experience and learn alongside other public sector professionals as you hone your leadership skills.

## **Program Overview**

Facilitated by an experienced team of public sector veterans and hosted through UW-Madison's Division of Extension, our program is designed for managers in local, tribal, state, and federal governments and nonprofit organizations. The 18-month, colleague—cohort learning experience includes classroom time, guided activities, individual and group written projects, and ongoing peer-to-peer learning.

#### **CORE TOPICS:**

- Ethics
- Management practices
- Leadership theory
- Communication skills
- Strategic planning
- Productivity and quality improvement

- Complex problem solving
- Project management
- S Budgeting
- Policy analysis
  - Leading for equity and inclusion

## **Program Benefits**

- Strengthen your critical thinking and leadership skills
- Improve your interpersonal awareness and effectiveness
- Build resiliency and communication skills
- Enhance problem-solving and project management abilities
- Develop a peer-to-peer learning network
- Use your individual capstone project to focus on a long-term priority for your employer
- Add the nationaly recognized Certified Public Manager<sup>®</sup> to your resume or CV

## Core Learning Phases

The experience is divided into three core learning phases and can be completed in 300 total instructional hours.



PHASE 2 130

PHASE 3 98

Management

Executive

## **Cost and Timing**

**\$4,400 per participant**, discounts available for organizations with multiple participants. New regional cohorts are starting soon. Please visit our website for details.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM, VISIT: localgovernment.extension.wisc.edu/cpm-program/

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Amanda Lang, CPM Program Assistant
alang6@wisc.edu
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daniel.foth@wisc.edu

## BY-LAWS of INTERCOUNTY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

## SECTION I. DEFINITION OF AREA

All territory in Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Jefferson, Marquette, Sauk and Waushara Counties Wisconsin, is hereby in the Intercounty Coordinating Committee area.

#### SECTION II. NAME

A committee to coordinate planning is hereby designated as the Intercounty Coordinating Committee.

#### SECTION III. MEMBERSHIP

The Intercounty Coordinating Committee shall consist of twenty-one (21) members. Three (3) members from each of the following counties: Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Jefferson, Marquette, Sauk and Waushara. The membership from each county shall be constituted as follows: each county (Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Jefferson, Marquette, Sauk and Waushara) select two (2) voting members and one ex-officio (non-voting) member. The first member would be the County Board Chairman or designee of their choice; the second member would be an elected official of that respective county. The ex-officio (non-voting) member could be the County Administrator, County Planner, Extension Educator, Zoning Administrator, Planning or Finance Committee Chairman, etc.

#### <u>SECTION IV. COMPENSATION</u>

All members of the Intercounty Coordinating Committee shall serve without compensation from the Intercounty Coordinating Committee.

#### SECTION V. OFFICERS

The Intercounty Coordinating Committee shall elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman must be voting members of the Intercounty Coordinating Committee. The term of these officers shall be for one (1) two-year term and shall run concurrent with the term of county supervisors. No more than two (2) officers shall be elected from the same county. The Secretary-Treasurer may appoint an assistant Secretary.

#### SECTION VI. MEETINGS

The Intercounty Coordinating Committee shall meet as often as the Chairman calls a meeting or at the request, in writing, of any three (3) members. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public. Meeting locations shall be distributed throughout each of the seven (7) counties.

#### SECTION VII. QUORUM

A minimum of five (5) voting members, with at least three (3) counties represented, shall constitute a quorum.

#### SECTION VIII. RULES

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep and transmit a copy of the minutes of every meeting to each member of the Committee. The Secretary-Treasurer to be responsible to the Chairman to send out an agenda prior to meeting.

#### SECTION IX. RESERVED FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

## SECTION X. PURPOSE, FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The purpose of the Committee shall be to foster a cooperative effort in resolving problems, establish program priorities, coordinate planning, exchange information and provide educational programs.



# Intercounty Coordinating Committee

Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Jefferson, Marquette, Sauk & Waushara Counties

#### **MEETING AGENDA & PROGRAM**

DATE:	Monday, August 21, 2023
TIME:	9:30 AM
PLACE:	Waushara County 209 S. Saint Marie St., Room #1 (Demo Room, Lower Level) Wautoma, WI 54982

9:00 AM	Gathering		
9:30 AM	1. Call to Order		
Than	2. Pledge of Allegiance		
Ballues	3. Certification of Open Meeting Notice		
Report -	4. Adoption of Agenda October Meeting Notice  4. Adoption of Agenda October Minutes  6. Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials		
(Handout)	5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes		
	8. Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials		
	7. Update of County Issues - WCA 2. Wayshar		
	8. Program: 2023-24 Topic Planning		
	9. Open Discussion of County Issues		
	10. Next Meeting – October 16, 2023; TBD		
,	11. Adjourn		
	Mailing Address		
	UW-Extension,127 E Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039		

#### Officers:

<u>Chairman</u> Tim McCumber 505 Broadway (Rm 142) Baraboo, WI 53913

Vice Chairman
David Frohling
127 East Oak Street
Juneau, WI 53039

Secretary Steve Nass N5692 CTH A Lake Mills, WI 53551

Treasurer
Dodge County Extension
127 E Oak Street
Juneau, WI 53039

#### Member Contacts:

Columbia County Chris Polzer 407 E. Washington St. Poynette, WI 53955

Dodge County
David Frohling
127 East Oak Street
Juneau, WI 53039

Green Lake County
David Abendroth
608 Airport Drive
Markesan, WI 53946

<u>Jefferson County</u> Steve Nass N5692 CTH A Lake Mills, Wt 53551

Marquette County Ken Borzick N6524 County Road Y Montello, WI 53949

Sauk County Tim McCumber 505 Broadway (Rm 142) Baraboo, WI 53913

Waushara County John Jarvis W6898 Porters Lake Road Wautoma, WI 54982

Daushara Co. August 2023 Courty Nelissa Pincel youshara Administrator BOHN JARVIS CTY BD. CHAIR WAUSHARA Columbia Cty Bd Co. Admin. Ron Barger Marquette Cen Scozick Marguette Dave Frohling Dodge Chr Dule Knapp WCA Sureh Diedrick-Kusdorf WCA Sonpoan Ballwel Distly Sty 911 an Jeffum Coy DAUS BOIS HARP Warshara Supervisor Podge CXy Columbia County WILLIAM ROSENAN WAUSHANLA CUSO CVSG Benise Brusveen Columbia Co. Via Chair Holam Field Columbia Co. Supervisor Exec. Com Pat Wagner Extension Arealy

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# Multi-Community Collaboration - A Wisconsin Example The Intercounty Coordinating Committee

## Prepared by

David C. Such
Resource Development Agent
University of Wisconsin - Extension
Jefferson County

For the
Multi-Community Collaboration:
An Evolving Rural Revitalization Strategy Conference
November 4 - 6, 1991
Chicago, Illinois

#### Introduction

Wisconsin has close to 3,000 separate units of government. Within the state's boundaries are 72 counties, 187 cities, 393 villages, 1,270 towns, plus a variety of other units such as school districts and vocation, technical, and adult education (VTAE) districts.

Generally speaking, there are three levels of government: federal, state and local. Unfortunately, governmental activity is not like a distinct three-layer cake, but rather somewhat more like a marble cake in which the layers are mixed to the point where it is difficult to sort them out.

Because of the large number of units of government, various attempts have been made to coordinate the activities of adjacent governing units. One such attempt involving several Wisconsin counties during the 1970's was the creation of a body known as the Intercounty Coordinating Committee (ICC).

## History and Background

The area represented by the ICC is located in south central Wisconsin and on the fringe of a major metropolitan area and state capitol (Madison). It is comprised of five counties: Columbia (45,000 - approximate 1992 population); Dodge (78,000); Green Lake (15,000); Jefferson (68,000); and Sauk (47,000). Small rural communities generally under populations of 10,000 are predominant within the five counties. Although communities are small, many have a strong manufacturing base. Rich agricultural land is farmed throughout the region.

Historically, the growth and settlement patterns of the region were fostered by a ready supply of raw materials from nearby farms and forests, by the influx of European immigrants who provided the area with a strong base of highly skilled and productive labor, and by a favorable location for serving growing eastern and Midwestern markets.

The primary past linkage that connected the counties was that they were all tied to Madison - a major urban market and cultural center. Obviously, there has been and continues to be, a tremendous gravitation towards the large urban center of Madison for employment, cultural activities, retail trade, etc. However, the outlying region is trying to break this gravitational attraction by entrenching itself and establishing an identity of its own.

During the past decade, the region has seen somewhat of a reversal in the gravitational attraction. Because of the quality of life afforded by the rural area and being on the fringe of a large urban center, the area has begun to experience moderate to substantial growth by those seeking a job in the city and a home in the country.

#### Emergence

The emergence of the Intercounty Coordinating Committee can be traced back to the early 1970's. During that period, regional planning commissions (RPC's) were being formed throughout Wisconsin. RPC's were created primarily to serve and address "regional" issues and interests, but could also provide local planning assistance. The Governor could create an RPC upon proper petition by local government units. Counties were encouraged, but not mandated by the state, to participate in RPC's.

During 1972, county board chairs and interested county board members form the counties of Columbia, Dodge, Jefferson, and Sauk petitioned state government to create a four county RPC. The petition was rejected on the basis that the RPC should also include the urban counties of Dane (which includes the city of Madison) and Rock (which includes the cities of Janesville and Beloit).

Recognizing that an RPC had certain advantages in obtaining funding, including eligibility for various state and federal grants, the county board supervisors again submitted a petition for a four county RPC. Their decision to not include Dane and Rock counties was largely based on the perception that the majority of funding and services would go to the two urban counties.

The event that triggered formation of the ICC was the state's second rejection of the petition to create a four county RPC. State policies also hindered the beginning of the ICC from the perspective that state grants and aids were only available for organizations such as RPC's and not the ICC.

Funding was a major problem and one of the reasons to initially create an RPC. It took some time before the four counties got off the funding issue and put their efforts into creating an informal structure to address the problems and concerns of the area. From the point the idea to form a four county RPC was conceived and subsequently rejected, to the creation of the ICC, approximately two years had elapsed.

Rock and Dane counties, which were to be included in the RPC according to state government, were not asked to join the ICC. Leaders of the four rural counties felt that the two urban counties were so different from their region that they would not make a good "fit" with the group. In 1974, Green Lake County asked to join the ICC after it withdrew from the RPC which was formed to serve its area.

## Organizational Structure/Operations/Money

The ICC consists of 15 members: three members from each of the five counties. Each county selects two voting members and one nonvoting member. The voting members are the county board chair and a county board supervisor. The nonvoting member could be the county administrator, planner, or Extension agent. The governing board consists of a chair, vice-chair and secretary-treasurer. The chair and vice chair must be voting members of the ICC.

According to the by-laws, the purpose of the ICC "shall be to foster a cooperative effort in resolving problems, establishing priorities, exchanging information, and providing educational programs". All five counties share in benefits and duties. Each county hosts the monthly meeting on a rotating basis.

Although the ICC does not have paid staff, the University of Wisconsin Extension Community Resource Development agent from the hosting county is given the responsibility of planning and implementing the monthly educational programs. One of the five UW Extension agents also serves as secretary-treasurer.

Each of the five member counties is assessed a one hundred dollar annual fee for obtaining resource persons, materials, and meeting locations. While all members of the ICC serve without compensation from the ICC, they are eligible to collect travel and meal expenses from their respective counties. The ICC is fiscally and politically accountable to the individual county boards.

#### Organizational Relations

The ICC is recognized by each of the five participating county boards as a standing committee. Therefore, the ICC is in effect, an extension of county government. The legal ability of the ICC to initiate joint ventures both within the organization and with outside entities lies with each of the five county boards.

A primary linkage the ICC has to other organizations, units of government, and private firms is connecting with resource persons to present educational programs and exchange information. Participating county governments use the ICC as a medium for influencing state government on issues that impact the five counties. At least one meeting per year is designated as a legislative session where state legislators are invited to discuss issues likely to have an impact on the counties.

Being a unique organization, no current or foreseeable competition threatens the ICC. However, if a regional planning commission ever formed, the ICC would probably be dissolved or the members incorporated into the RPC's board of commissioners.

#### Impacts and Outputs

For the most part, the ICC has met the expectations of participating counties. Members use the organization as a sounding board for ideas and methods to deal with concerns as well as being updated on current issues which have an impact upon their individual counties. Board members appear to be satisfied with the results based upon their investments.

Success of the ICC is measured by the individual success of the member counties, which in turn is based upon the information they have learned via ICC educational programs and put to practical use.

One of the standout examples of a major success the ICC achieved for its constituents was the formation of an ICC Data Processing Commission. Three of the counties - Dodge,

Jefferson and Sauk - collectively purchased computer hardware and software. The commission was formed on the premise that the computer needs of three counties could be handled cheaper collectively than on an individual basis. Various applications common to the three counties such as payrolls, tax billings, and real estate transactions are included in the computer system.

While the ICC has had few perceived problems or failures, member counties have missed opportunities to use the organization to better coordinate regional issues such as solid waste management, groundwater protection, etc. Another potential problem area is that over the years, many of the ICC members have come to believe that the organization is an equal substitute for a regional planning commission. This perception could inhibit long range planning for the region.

Perhaps the greatest virtue of the ICC is that, in this age of fax machines and electronic mail, there is an opportunity for five units of government to meet on a regular basis, talk face-to-face, and learn from each other's successes and failures.