

Government Relations Committee

Monday, July 15, 2019

PRESENT: C. Guy, D. Gray, D. Moore, E. Harriss, J. Kuhn, D. Holliday
ABSENT: J. Dodd, N. Petrillo
OTHERS: M. Madison, D. Ming-Mendoza, C. Ellis

Minutes from the April meeting were approved by all members present.

Discussion: Amendment to County Board Rules to Codify Committee Members Right to Speak in Committee.

Mr. Madison voiced his belief that since County Board Representatives that are acting Chairpersons are not supposed to engage in discussion, their respected district loses their voice. He said a Chairperson is there to be unbiased and to lead the meeting. Mr. Madison voiced that he thinks a Chairperson should be able to be involved in discussion in committee meetings.

Mr. Madison also voiced the issue of the Chair voting. He said that a Chairperson only votes in the events of making or breaking a tie; if a tie is created, the topic is shut down in committee. There was discussion if the topic would still go to Board if a tie occurred; there was a general consensus that it would not.

Ms. Kuhn inquired how committees are formed and how the number of members impact the vote. Mr. Guy agreed there is room for improvement on how the number of committee members operate.

Mr. Gray inquired if a Chairperson were to engage in discussion, if members could disallow him/her to speak; Mr. Madison said you can call Point of Order.

Mr. Moore noted that he looks to Robert's Rules of Order as a guideline and often speaks in his committee as Chairman.

Ms. Ming-Mendoza said she believes the rule that is being discussed is geared towards County Board and not Committees. She said if you can vote on an issue you should be able to discuss it.

Discussion: Census 2020 Complete Count Committee.

Mr. Guy said he has spoken with the Administration and C. Ellis on starting discussions pertaining to the 2020 Census. Mr. Guy said the IL Complete Count Commission (ILCCC) appropriated \$29mil to build awareness for the Census. He said the ILCCC is encouraging local governments to create Complete Count Subcommittees and highlighted several functions of the subcommittee. C. Ellis said you can participate in the Census online, mail in a form or speak with a representative that goes door to door. She also said participating in the Census is important because it can bring money to Madison County. Marine Township is currently the only township in Madison County that has a Census Committee. Census Day is April 1, 2020.

Ms. Harriss noted that \$29mil is a significant amount of money just to bring awareness to the Census; Mr. Guy and other members mentioned different things that may be included in the project for that amount of money.

There was discussion if a committee is formed, if the State would provide resources.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Madison spoke about the difficulty of pointing out changes to ordinances/resolutions that have been amended. He voiced that it would be much easier to have the text highlighted, struck out or displayed in a way that signifies a change. Mr. Madison said as an individual that votes on legislation, all of the information new and old should be provided. Mr. Guy said in the House, changes are often underlined.

E. Harriss agreed with how changes should be highlighted but inquired if it should be legislated.

Mr. Gray moved, seconded by Ms. Kuhn to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

/mds