Minutes

Iowa League of Cities Executive Board Meeting by Electronic Means (conference call) Tuesday, April 14, 2020 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Present on phone: Tom Lazio, President

Quentin Hart, President-elect

Scott Naumann, Immediate Past President

Matt Walsh, Past President John Lundell, Past President

David Jones, Director
Jessica Kinser, Director
Dawn Meyer, Director
Alison Osweiler, Director
Al Roder, Director
Chris Taylor, Director
Ashley Vanorny, Director

Shirley McAdon, Director Corrin Spiegel, Director Donny Hobbs, Director Tim Schmidt, Director Tom Cope, Director Greg Piklapp, Director

Absent: Bob Scott, Director

Also Present: Alan Kemp, Executive Director

Shannon Busby, Office Manager Jeff Hovey, Director of Risk Services Alison Deiter, Senior Accountant Dana Monosmith, Controller

Robert Palmer, General Counsel and Director of Government Affairs

Heather Roberts, Director of Information Services Mickey Shields, Director of Membership Services Jessica Vogel, Communications Coordinator

Erin Mullenix, Research Director

Daniel Stalder, Government Affairs Outreach Coordinator

1. Call to Order

President Lazio called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. COVID-19 Discussion

a. Social Distancing Impacts

The President and executive director opened it up to the board to discuss closures best practices, employee mental health, telecommuting, pool and summer programs and reopening of city facilities. The board discussed enforcement of closures and monitoring areas in the city. Cities will follow guidance from the state on how to reopen facilities and guidance from the state on pools and summer programming.

b. Electronic Meetings

Electronic meetings seem to be going well. Most are doing a test run before the meeting. Some are concerned about using Zoom for their meetings. Board spoke on addressing quorum issues via emails.

c. Support for Small Businesses

Fundraising to support small businesses. Some cities approved using their revolving fund as emergency fund for businesses.

d. City Budget Impacts

The executive director and research director reported that we are currently reaching out to cities to see where impacts will be so they can assist with finding resources to help cities recover. The Board asked the League to research internet sales tax and the collection of the revenue from the tax. The board expressed concern on the backfill and property taxes.

e. Management of Staff

Cities are currently trying not to lay off staff and are either moving forward with interviews for seasonal employees or waiting to hear from the Governor.

f. Federal and State Financial Support for Local Government

Some cities are receiving pre-paid transit funds to assist them with the shortfall during the pandemic. The executive director addressed the CARES Act funding. While the state is receiving \$1.25 billion in federal funding, there remains no direction on if the state can use the funds to directly help cities with their revenue short-falls. The executive director also noted that the National League of Cities is addressing a letter that the National Association of Counties sent to Congress requesting changes to the CDBG distribution formula.

3. Adjourn

The executive board adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ala W. Keys

Alan W. Kemp Executive Director