

**JOINT MEETING – CALEDONIA VILLAGE BOARD and
CALEDONIA STORM SEWER UTILITY DISTRICT COMMISSION
July 20, 2010**

President Coutts called the meeting to order at 8:48 p.m., at the East Side Community Center, 6156 Douglas Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin. Present were

Board Members: Trustee Griswold, Trustee Wanggaard, Trustee Weatherston, Trustee Bradley, Trustee Wishau and President Coutts.

Absent: Trustee Burton was excused.

Others: Village Administrator Tom Lebak and Attorney Tim Pruitt.

Commission

Members: Joyce Brainard, Tom Kandathil, Tony Minto, Kathy Trentadue, Gale Morgan, and Attorney Joseph Muratore, Jr.

1. Discussion and possible action regarding supervision and direction of Village engineering employees by individual trustees.

President Coutts started the meeting by announcing that Trustees should not be interfering with employee related matters such as job duties, etc. They are also not to contact employees directly regarding changes in procedures that are not approved by the entire board. Those should be filtered through the Department Heads and Administrator.

Various members of the Drainage Commission expressed their concerns related to comments, emails and accusations made by Trustee Griswold, who is board liaison to the Commission. Some of the concerns dealt with Trustee Griswold's wish to abolish the Commission, his inappropriate conduct at meetings and an email that he sent to President Coutts stating that a trustworthy source told him that the Commissioners were taking bribes. Many Commissioners felt that was a slanderous statement and stated it was not true and wanted a public apology from Trustee Griswold. Further discussion involved Trustee Griswold having some good ideas but lacking in presenting them in a positive manner. Trustee Griswold defended himself and gave various reasons why he acted the way he did. He went into details about how certain projects could have been handled differently with more cost savings. He felt he has history and knowledge in Caledonia and is only trying to pass it on to the Commission.

Attorney Pruitt explained that as Trustees and Commissioners, all decisions and work needs to be done as a group. Further discussion was held regarding how board members should not be giving employees direct instructions. He talked about open records and

how emails need to be handled with caution. They also talked about bringing ideas to the board especially at budget time. Attorney Pruitt touched on the ordinance procedure for disbanding a Commission. Trustee Wanggaard reiterated that there is a time, place and way to conduct business. Trustee Griswold made a formal apology to the Commissioners by stating he should have never sent the email and that he was sorry.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding request by trustee to explore reorganization of engineering and public works departments, and disbanding of storm water utility districts

Trustee Weatherston suggested having Trustee Griswold put together a formal proposal of his ideas for the board to review. Trustee Wishau concurred.

3. Discussion and overview of ethical standards applicable to public officials and employees, as set forth in the Wisconsin Statutes, and the Village's Code of Ordinances

No further discussion took place on this topic.

Trustee Wishau moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karie Torkilsen, Clerk