

**Winnebago County Board  
Diversity Council Meeting**  
County Administration Building  
404 Elm Street, Room 509  
Rockford, IL 61101

Wednesday, November 30, 2022  
4:00 PM

**Present:**

Dorothy Redd, Chairperson  
Jaime Salgado  
L.C. Wilson  
Tommy Meeks

**Others Present:**

Dave Rickert, Chief Financial Officer  
Debbie Crozier, HR Director

**Absent:**

Tim Nabors  
Michele Caldwell  
Maria Fernandez

**AGENDA:**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Minutes
- D. Public Comment
- E. Treasurer Report
- F. Other Items
- G. Adjournment

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Redd called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

**Roll Call**

Chairperson Redd yes, Jaime Salgado yes, L.C. Wilson yes, Tommy Meeks yes.

**Minutes**

None.

**Public Comment**

Chairperson Redd omitted reading the Public Comment Section of the Agenda due to no one present to speak.

**Treasurer Report**

- Two checks were written, check #1079 written to RAMM for \$450.00 in payment for a banquet and a second check not named.
- A check needs to be issued for \$100.00, backup needs to be provided for the check.
- No issuance of checks since July 14, 2022.

- The checking account balance is approximately \$4,500.
- There was a brief discussion regarding an approval to purchase a table at the RAMM Banquet.

Motion: Mr. Wilson. Second: Mr. Meeks.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

### **Other Items**

- Chairman Chiarelli was sent a request to advise the committee on how to make improvements to the committee and what can be provided to help. Chairman Chiarelli was not in attendance.
- Mr. Salgado reported the Diversity Council is part of the Winnebago County as a whole with at least two board members. The committee needs to look at Bylaws for structure. The purpose is to ensure that the county as a whole has a representation of the whole county, by hiring practices, minority women's businesses, etc. Outside of the community, the committee has made donations to other causes, such as Juneteenth, promoting diversity, for the county as a whole, not just one organization but across the board with other organizations. The committee needs to have more diligence on meeting regularly and what to do going forward. In the past, the procurement officer was invited to the committee and spoke about best practices for bidding to attract minority and women in business and also HR when it comes to hiring. The committee is hoping the Chairman can work with the committee to attain the goals of the committee.
- Mr. Wilson spoke about the purchasing aspect of the County to try to include minorities and others. Mr. Rickert advised that Purchasing was directed to start tracking vendors for small business minority and women owned businesses that will be posted on the website. Mr. Wilson would like to see updated statistics showing a comparison of the past to the present for the past quarter through September 2022.
- Ms. Crozier noted on the HR application, race/ethnicity is a volunteer question and the majority of people do not respond to the question. A suggestion was made to utilize zip codes to collect statistics.

Motion made by Ms. Redd to have Tim Nabors act as the Chairman of the Diversity Council.  
Second: Mr. Salgado.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- The suggestion was made to have Maria Fernandez act as Vice Chairperson. Maria will be nominated and voted in at the next Diversity meeting.
- The Diversity Committee is a standalone committee. Board members discussed the establishment of the committee through a Resolution in the past. Chairperson Redd and other committee members will check to see if they have the paperwork that can be sent to the County Chairman's office. The Diversity Committee is looking for Chairman Chiarelli to recognize the Diversity committee as part of the Winnebago County Board.

Motion made by L.C. Wilson to meet quarterly. Second: All other committee members.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- Tommy Meeks mentioned his wife, Ms. Evelyn Meeks has received the School Board Member of the Year award for the State of Illinois. She is in the Harlem School District. Mr. Rickert will notify the Chairman's assistant to create a Proclamation recognizing the achievement and service of Ms. Evelyn Meeks.
- Mr. Rickert will pass on the information discussed during the committee meeting to Chairman Chiarelli.

**Motion to Adjourn.**

Motion: L.C. Wilson. Second: All other committee members.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bleile  
Administrative Assistant