Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council

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DEVOTED TO PROTECTING WISCONSIN'S TRADITION OF OPEN GOVERNMENT

Quarterly Meeting Wednesday, 7/13/17 Capital Newspapers Auditorium, 2 PM

- 1. Call to order and introductions
- 2. Approval of minutes from 4/20/17 meeting
- 3. Treasurer's report Drechsel
- 4. President's report
- a) Council joins Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin State Journal and WNA in successfully rebuffing effort to exclude public from court hearing due to un-redacted use-of-force video.
- b) Portage County event Sept. 21.
- c) Invite to WNA student seminar in February; could we produce a short student-oriented educational video like Florida?
- d) Lueders' changing job role.
- 5. Legislative news: Language to eliminate the need to post most local government notices in newspapers removed from budget; standalone bills stall in Legislature. WNA working on compromise bill to address continuing redactions of local law enforcement records due to DPPA. Verbatim recording bill to require bodies that go into closed session to make an audio recording will be circulated for sponsors after budget is passed.
- 6. Legal update: Wisconsin Supreme Court <u>rules against</u> DOJ for providing criminal history reports that include information on someone who has used their name as an alias. State Supreme Court <u>rules</u> 7-0 that Appleton school district should have opened curriculum meetings to public; big win for WILL. Pending Madison Teachers vs. WERC <u>case</u> raises the issue of whether a custodian can consider the identity of the requester. Other issues: DOJ declines to provide records on decertified law enforcement officers; DHS <u>withholds</u> the names of people offering public comments on Walker's plan to drug-test Medicaid applicants.
- 7. Issue for discussion: DOJ now posting a <u>snapshot</u> of pending records requests, updated weekly, and is considering providing online access to entire responses, including records. Is there such a thing as being too open?
- 8. Issue for discussion: Can government officials with Twitter accounts engage in "blocking" (as opposed to "muting") and selectively deny access to certain individuals? Issue raised by Scot Ross of One Wisconsin Now.
- 9. Issue for discussion: How can the Council expand its reach? Report from Jonathan Anderson
- 10. Other issues: Colorado <u>passes</u> records modernization bill. Vilas County DA <u>files complaint</u> against Boulder Junction town board, alleging open meetings violation; DA Martha Milanowski <u>lauded</u>. State Dept. of Veterans Affairs <u>blows handling</u> of records requests. Wisconsin Supreme Court <u>votes</u> to stop holding its administrative rules conferences in public.
- 11. Web site Foust
- 12. Council membership
- 13: Your Right to Know: Need offerings for August, September and October.
- 14. Other business including next meeting date: October 12, 19, 26
- 15. Adjourn.