

CHAPTER 109.

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.

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109.01 Department created. There is created a state department to be known as the department of resource development. Its purpose shall be to promote development and the maximum wise use of the natural and human resources of the state so as to provide a balanced and dynamic economy. To this end it shall prepare, maintain and regularly review long-range plans; have general authority to administer planning, development, and promotional activities of the state; function in an advisory capacity to the governor and state agencies; assemble and provide information, ideas, and research results to individuals and agencies; and have authority to do research and advance proposals in its own right to stimulate an expanding economy.

109.02 Director. The chief executive officer of the department shall be the director, who shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The director shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The director shall:

(1) Be responsible for organizing the department in a manner efficiently to achieve the objectives of the department.

(2) Determine the broad plans for the accomplishment of the objectives of the department with the advice of the resource development advisory committee created by s. 109.07, and the advice of such other advisory committees as the governor shall appoint under this section.

(3) Select such staff as are required for the operation of the department.

(4) Employ within the department a recreational specialist who shall, among other things, provide advice and assistance to persons or groups engaged in the recreation industry, continuously survey the facilities and needs of the recreation industry and provide such information to the university co-ordinator of research on the recreation industries, coordinate his survey and counseling activities with the University of Wisconsin extension resource specialist, and work closely with other state agencies serving the recreation industry.

109.04 Development. The department shall foster and encourage resource development programs designed to broaden and strengthen the economy of the state and it shall provide specific leadership in the following instances, among others, and shall:

(1) Support and assist the efforts of state, regional, and local development corporations, industrial committees, chambers of commerce, labor organizations and other similar public and private agencies to obtain new and foster expansion of existing agricultural, commercial, industrial, mining, and recreational facilities or enterprises.

(2) Study the impact of the St. Lawrence Seaway on the economy of the state, conduct research on port development and new businesses for port communities, communicate the results of such studies to appropriate port, public and business agencies, and formulate, coordinate and direct a program of port development for the state. The department shall serve as a liaison agency between local port authorities, state and federal agencies, and individuals or private agencies who need or request information relative to the ports of the state. The department shall appear before federal, state and local agencies, whenever it deems such action advisable, in the matter of the welfare of the ports of the state.

(3) Promote the orderly development of the recreation industry and make recommendations as to the protection and development of the resources on which that industry is based.

(4) Assist in the formulation and implementation of integrated development programs for northern Wisconsin and other areas or regions of the state.

(5) Assist in the formulation and development of a more intensive program to aid and expand the mining industry.

109.05 Planning. (1) The department shall make and coordinate plans with federal, regional, local and other state agencies for the efficient development of the state's human and natural resources. It shall coordinate the activities of and give assistance to state and local private organizations and committees interested in obtaining new economic enterprises. It shall be concerned with matters confronting local units of government and shall provide planning assistance as herein provided. The department is directed to perform the following specific planning functions, among others:

(a) Prepare and maintain co-ordinated plans for the state's economic and resource development, including therein a description of the development objectives, a statement of recommended means of achieving those objectives, and integrated individual plans for land use, highways and transportation development, and capital improvements. For the purpose of making these long-range plans for the economic and resource development of the state and its subdivisions, the department shall assemble and correlate information relating to, among other things, the labor supply, markets for Wisconsin products, power development, highways, watersheds, waterways, waterfront and harbor developments, water freight rates, tariffs, demurrage charges and state and federal regulations affecting ports, river basins, flood prevention, parks, reservations, river valleys, forests, wildlife refuges, aviation facilities, drainage and sanitary systems, waste disposal, waterworks, soil conservation, railroad right of ways, power transmission facilities, urban development, food, housing and water supplies, and factors which influence the development of new economic enterprises such as taxes and the regulation of industry.

(b) Provide advice and assistance to Wisconsin business and labor and bring to the attention of the governor those significant problems which may be relieved by state action.

(c) Review long-range building programs proposed pursuant to s. 13.351 and construction and development programs of the various state agencies. In exercising this function the department shall serve solely in an advisory capacity to the governor and state agencies.

(d) Designate appropriate lands for consideration as to development as parks, parkways, recreational areas, historic sites, educational areas, natural scenic areas, and other projects within the scope of the objectives of the department.

(e) Co-operate with federal, state, regional, and state or local public and private agencies in the making of plans for flood control, the use, conservation, allocation and use of existing water supplies and the development of new water resources.

(f) Locate and maintain information on prime industrial sites and agricultural, forestry, commercial and residential areas, together with recommendations for protecting or preserving such sites and areas.

(g) Encourage, assist and advise regional, county and local agencies or bodies responsible for planning and zoning in the programs they administer or may wish to initiate.

(h) Administer state level platting regulations in accordance with ch. 236.

(i) Perform state and interstate comprehensive planning and research and other activities related thereto; planning for metropolitan or regional areas, or areas where rapid urbanization has resulted or is expected to result from a federal installation, including areas extending into adjoining states; and to provide planning assistance to any city, village, town or county, or to any combination thereof, having common or related planning or development problems or to any official state, metropolitan or regional planning agency however created determined by the director to have the resources and administrative personnel necessary to carry out such planning. The department is authorized to apply for, accept, administer and expend grants from the federal government and any other public or private sources for such purposes, to contract with reference thereto, and to enter into other contracts, including interstate compacts with respect to planning work involving an adjoining state where such compacts have been authorized by law by the adjoining state, and exercise all the powers necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. The term "comprehensive planning", as used herein, may include, but is not limited to 1. preparation of long-range general physical plans with respect to land use and the provision of public facilities, together with long-range fiscal plans for such development, 2. programming and financing of capital improvements, 3. co-ordination of related plans, 4. intergovernmental co-ordination of related planned activities.

(j) Advise, encourage and assist local units of government to engage in and participate in urban renewal activities.

(k) Assist the executive office in co-ordinating the activities and services of those departments and agencies of the state having relationships with local units of government to the end of providing more effective services to such local units of government.

(l) Keep the executive office and legislature informed as to the problems of local units of government and advise and assist in formulating policies with respect thereto and

utilizing the resources of the executive branch of the state government for the benefit of local units of government.

(m) Serve as a clearing house, for the benefit of local units of government, of information relating to their common problems and the state and federal services available to assist in the solution of those problems.

(n) Refer local units of government to the appropriate departments and agencies of the state and federal governments for advice, assistance and available services in connection with particular problems.

(o) Make studies and analyses of the problems of local units of government and to make the results thereof available for the benefit of local units of government as the director may deem appropriate.

(p) Encourage co-operative effort among local units of government in solution of their common problems, particularly in metropolitan and rapidly growing areas.

(q) Consult with and co-operate with local units of government, and officers, organizations, groups and individuals representing them, to the end of more effectively carrying out the functions, powers and duties of the department.

(2) To facilitate the planning function of the department the following offices of the University of Wisconsin shall co-ordinate their activities with the department and the department shall co-operate with them in providing facts and information necessary in the conduct of research or the providing of professional advice in their respective fields:

(a) The bureau of community development of the extension division.

(b) The faculty co-ordinator of research on recreational industries, who shall be appointed by the president of the university to co-ordinate research on problems confronting the recreation industries conducted by faculty members and financed by gifts and grants to the university from philanthropic and educational foundations, other private sources, and the federal government.

(c) The extension division resource specialist who shall be jointly selected by the directors of the general extension division and the agricultural extension service and who shall gather information from and provide assistance to individuals and groups concerned with economic development. This resource specialist shall be hired by the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin.

(3) The department shall receive applications for state aid in such manner as the department prescribes for metropolitan area park development submitted under s. 66.36 and allocate funds therefor within the limits of the appropriation established by s. 20.705 (42) in accordance with priorities based on comprehensive plans submitted with the application and on the ratio of population density to available recreational lands in the area to be served.

History: 1961 c. 427.

109.06 Promotion. (1) The department shall provide co-ordinating services to aid state and local groups in the promotion of new economic enterprises and shall conduct such publicity and promotional activities as are desirable to stimulate all facets of the economy and to this end it shall specifically:

(a) Collect and disseminate information regarding the advantages of developing agricultural, commercial and industrial enterprises in this state.

(b) Assist in the planning of programs designed to promote the tourist and recreational advantages of the state.

(c) Serve as the state's official liaison agency between persons interested in locating new economic enterprises in Wisconsin and state and local groups seeking new enterprises. In this respect the department shall aid communities in organizing for and obtaining new business or expanding existing businesses and shall process requests which reflect interest in locating economic enterprises in the state.

(d) Collect and disseminate information regarding the ports of the state and promote the advantages of developing new business for the ports of the state.

(e) Study and promote means of expanding markets for Wisconsin products.

(f) Encourage public and private agencies or bodies to publicize the facilities and attractions of the state.

(2) To enhance formulation of a co-ordinated program promoting the interests of the state, the publicity and promotion activities authorized by ss. 23.09 (7) (1) and 93.07 (3) shall, prior to promulgation, be jointly reviewed and approved by the governor, the director of the department of resource development, the director of the department of agriculture, and the conservation director.

109.07 Advisory committee. (1) The department shall have the advice and counsel of a committee appointed by the governor.

(a) *Composition of resource development advisory committee.* The committee shall

consist of 15 citizens who have demonstrated an abiding interest in the development, use and conservation of the state's natural resources. Members shall be appointed by the governor and serve at his pleasure. Each of the following 8 fields of interest shall be represented and members so appointed shall be persons qualified in their respective fields by either professional training and experience or by a high degree of avocational experience: commercial fishing, forestry, game control, land use, minerals, planning and zoning, sport fishing, and water resources. The remaining 7 members may be appointed at large from qualified and interested citizens.

(b) *Purpose.* The committee shall advise the governor, the department, and such state agencies as the governor directs relative to the wise development, use, promotion, and conservation of the state's natural resources.

(c) *Officers; meetings.* The officers of the committee shall consist of a chairman, vice chairman and secretary, selected by the committee from among its members. The committee shall meet in Madison at the call of the governor, and may also meet at such times and places determined by the committee by majority vote.

(d) *Remuneration.* Members of the committee shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses they incur in the performance of official duties as committee members. Payment of such expenses shall be made from the appropriation made by s. 20.705 (1).

History: 1961 c. 191.

109.08 Co-operation. (1) **LIAISON WITH STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES.** The department shall seek information and advice from all relevant state and federal agencies. The University of Wisconsin and other state agencies are directed to provide the department with such information and advice necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) **RESEARCH.** The department shall utilize and co-ordinate with research programs of other state agencies and shall make such agreements as may be necessary to effectuate its own research program. It may initiate research, but where possible it shall seek to make full use of and strengthen the research resources of state agencies, including the university or other institutions of higher learning as will enhance the work of the department.

(3) **COMMUNICATIONS.** The department shall establish strong lines of communication among all state agencies concerned with the economic development of the state to assure that all factors in such programs are given adequate consideration.

109.09 Reports. The department shall prepare an annual report of its activities for the governor and the legislature, and may issue special reports concerning any phase of its work and provide for adequate dissemination thereof.

109.10 Publicity contracts. The department shall have authority to enter into contracts with private agencies for promotion activities under this chapter but all such contracts shall reserve to the department the right to terminate the contract if, in the opinion of the department, the service is unsatisfactory.

109.11 Publications. The department may issue pamphlets and bulletins pertaining to the economy and the resources of the state.

109.12 Gifts and grants. The department may accept any gifts and grants, including grants from the federal government, relating to any of the functions of the department as described in this chapter.