

1 **EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

2
3 Court House
4 West Bend, WI

October 14, 2009
8:00 a.m.

5
6 Present: Marilyn H. Merten, Robert S. Adam, Raymond W. Heidtke, and Todd Healy. Excused:
7 Kenneth W. Brandt.

8
9 Also Present: Administrative Coordinator Doug Johnson, County Board Chairperson Herbert J.
10 Tennes, Historical Society Executive Director Chip Beckford, Interim Fair Park Director/Fair
11 Manager Sandy Lang, and Deputy County Clerk Karen Rupnow.

12
13 Washington County Historical Society Members Present: David Reigel, Ken Miller, Red Roskopf,
14 and Carol Poulos.

15
16 Chairperson Merten called the meeting to order and read the Affidavit of Posting.

17
18 **REVIEW OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2010 BUDGET**

19 Mr. Johnson reviewed the decision by the Finance Committee to reduce the Historical Society 2010
20 County support by \$95,000. He reviewed the Historical Society's financial situation in relation to
21 the economic recession and gave an overview of the events that led up to the amount of County
22 assistance that the Finance Committee set for 2010. He discussed several possible options for
23 action on the funding levels for the society in 2010.

- 24
25
 - Do nothing and accept the Finance Committee decision
 - Recommend a reduction of \$30,000 below the 2009 level of \$175,000
 - Recommend a reduction of \$15,000 below the 2009 level of \$175,000
 - Recommend the 2009 level at \$175,000

26
27
28
29
30 Ms. Merten gave an overview on the Historical Society budget and the situation with donations,
31 grants, and volunteers. Mr. Beckford read a letter of support from the director of the Wisconsin
32 Historical Society and commented that many donations were contributed by private individuals to
33 restore the Old Courthouse Building with the understanding that it would be used as a historical
34 museum. Committee members agreed that the Historical Society needs to have a sign of County
35 support.

36
37 Moved by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Heidtke to request the County Board increase the levy by
38 \$65,000 to bring the total Historical Society assistance to \$160,000 for 2010. Motion carried.

39
40 Moved by Mr. Adam, seconded by Mr. Heidtke that, if the County Board supports the higher level
41 of funding for the Historical Society, the Education and Culture Committee would recommend that
42 the County Board, in consultation with the Finance Committee, consider adjusting the General Fund
43 line of the budget by \$65,000 to preserve the tax rate recommended by the Finance Committee.
44 Motion carried.

45
46 **ADJOURNMENT**

47 Moved by Mr. Adam, seconded by Mr. Heidtke to adjourn at 8:47 a.m. Motion carried.

1
2
3
4
5
6

Brenda J. Jaszewski, County Clerk