WASHINGTON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Courthouse - Government Center April 26, 2011
West Bend, WI 9:00 a.m.

Present: Herbert Tennies, Mark McCune, William Meyers, John Stern, and Daniel Stoffel.

Also present: Administrative Coordinator Doug Johnson, County Attorney Kim Nass, Finance Director Susan Haag, Supervisor Roy Justman, Supervisor Michael Bassill, Supervisor Peter Sorce, Human Resources Director Peter German, Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Samaritan Campus Administrator Ed Somers, and Administrative Assistant Judy Steinert.

Chairperson Tennies called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and read the Affidavit of Posting.

MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Meyers, seconded by Mr. McCune to approve the April 5, 2011, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE AMENDMENT ON THE BUDGET PROCESS (§4.01(2)(d))

The Committee discussed the proposed ordinance to amend the budget process. The amendment directs the Administrative Coordinator to present preliminary funding levels to the County Board for the upcoming budget process. Mr. Johnson will meet with the Finance Committee in May to review and set the department funding levels, and this information will then be presented to the County Board in June.

Moved by Mr. Stoffel, seconded by Mr. Stern to approve the Ordinance amendment on the Budget Process and forward to the County Board. Motion carried.

REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON SALES TAX CONTINUATION

Mr. Johnson reviewed the Sales Tax Accountability Report, 2006-2010. The County Board enacted the half-cent sales tax in August 1998, effective January 1999. In February 2006, the County Board continued and amended the county sales tax purpose and established minimum allocations for major purposes. Reduction of property tax levy is to be accomplished by using sales tax revenues as an alternative funding source for approved Capital Improvement Program; debt retirement from capital projects; and a direct offset to the county property tax levy in the annual operating budget. The Code requires that at least 40% of the sales taxes be allocated each year for the direct offset, and no more than 60% for the capital plan. The February 2006 Ordinance also includes a requirement that the County Board Chairperson initiate an ordinance for Board action no later than July, 2011 to either continue or repeal this tax. The report also includes information on revenue results, capital projects that were funded, outstanding debt levels, borrowing that was avoided, debt service levy, offset to levy, property tax rates by year, and the county's financial condition.

A second report "Sales Tax Prospects Report, 2011 Forward" was distributed and reviewed by Mr. Johnson. Other aspects addressed in this report include: Cabela's development agreement and reliance on sales tax revenues to repay principal and interest; proposed State budget with levy limits that would prohibit the replacement of sales tax offset dollars with property tax levy; use of sales taxes for economic development projects, starting in 2011; and revisiting allocations between capital and operational offset purposes. The Finance Committee will review and discuss this report at their meeting on April 27. Based on the two reports, a County Board ordinance update on the sales tax will be prepared for consideration of Committees, and for County Board action as early as May 10.

DISCUSS POSSIBLE BUSINESS REQUEST FOR IMPACT LOAN IN 2011

At the April 5 Executive Committee meeting, EDWC presented their ideas about the establishment of a Washington County Impact Loan Fund. The Committee gave direction that it was interested in considering this proposal in the preparation of the 2012-2017 Capital Update. As a follow-up question, Christian Tscheschlok asked if the County would consider a 2011 request from a current Washington County business for a loan to support expansion using the $500,000 Impact Fund, authorized to be used for business attraction. The majority of the committee agreed that they are not ready to consider a business proposal until further clarification and guidelines are set for the Impact Fund.

REVIEW STATUS OF WISCONSIN RETIREMENT SYSTEM EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS RELATED TO WISCONSIN ACT 10

Mr. Tennies reported that the County is in its second cycle of the WRS deductions for ordinance employees. If no action is taken by the Legislators soon, refunds to employees will be considered.

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR, CHAIRPERSON AND COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS

Ms. Nass reported that the Redistricting Committee is scheduled to meet on May 3 to review the tentative plan. When a tentative plan is approved by the Committee, a public informational meeting will be held. The plan will then be advanced to a Public Hearing and then to the County Board.

Mr. Johnson gave an update to the State Budget. WCA is requesting information from counties on the difference between the amount of savings they expect from benefits compared to the cuts in State funding. Most counties are reporting the cuts are beyond the amount of savings from benefits. For Washington County it is estimated that there will be a savings of approximately $200,000.

Mr. Tennies reported that he attended a dedication ceremony for the Kraemer Cancer Care Center at St. Joseph's Hospital. The WCA Board of Directors' meeting will be held in Random Lake next week. The WCA Convention is September 25—27 at Wisconsin Dells. Resolutions will need to be approved at the June County Board meeting and need to be submitted to WCA by June 27. Washington County is hosting the Milwaukee 7 District Meeting on June 8 at West Bend Mutual Insurance Co.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Executive Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was recessed at 10:58 a.m. and reconvened at 11:03 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mr. McCune, seconded by Mr. Stern to move into Closed session at 11:03 a.m. in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction exercises responsibility; namely to conduct annual performance reviews of County Attorney and Administrator. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. McCune, seconded by Mr. Stoffel to return to open session at 1:35 pm. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. McCune, seconded by Mr. Stern to adjourn the meeting at 1:36 p.m. Motion carried.

Brenda J. Jaszewski, County Clerk