

1 **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

2  
3 Government Center  
4 West Bend, WI

October 7, 2009  
8:30 a.m.

5  
6 Present: Ralph R. Hensel, Joan A. Russell, Richard L. Bertram, Leslie J. Borman and William  
7 Meyers.

8  
9 Also Present: County Board Chair, Herbert J. Tennes, Administrative Coordinator Douglas A.  
10 Johnson, Finance Director Susan M. Haag, County Clerk Brenda Jaszewski, and Judy Steinert,  
11 Administrative Assistant.

12  
13 Chairperson Hensel reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. and read the affidavit of posting.

14  
15 **County Treasurer**

16 The County Treasurer budget was presented by Treasurer Janice Gettelman. Mr. Johnson  
17 presented the base level budget of revenues more than expenses of \$354,518 and the  
18 recommended level of revenue more than expenses is \$408,598. The requested budget is  
19 revenues more than expenses of \$354,518.

20  
21 **OTHER ADJUSTMENTS TO REQUEST:** \$54,080 has been added to the 2010 budgeted  
22 interest on delinquent taxes above the requested budget for this revenue source. Based on the  
23 2008 actual and August 2009 year to date experience with this revenue source, and the volume of  
24 outstanding delinquent taxes to be paid, the recommended budget of \$751,983 appears realistic  
25 for 2010.

26  
27 **ONE MORE THING:** Interest on Investments is impacted by continuing low interest rates.  
28 The Fed rate has dropped ten times since September 2007, keeping the benchmark rate at 0% to  
29 .25% for the overnight lending rate between banks for short-term interest rates.

30  
31 Moved by Mr. Meyers, seconded by Mr. Bertram, to tentatively approve the County Treasurer  
32 2010 budget and levy, including user fees, for an amount of revenues more than expenses of  
33 \$408,598, plus Interest on Investment revenue of \$700,000. Motion carried.

34  
35 **Finance**

36 The Finance Department budget was presented by Finance Director Susan Haag. Mr. Johnson  
37 presented the base level funding of \$1,420,390 and both the recommended and requested budgets  
38 are \$1,420,072 (+1.0% from 2009).

39  
40 **OTHER ADJUSTMENTS TO REQUEST:** It is recommended that the amount of budgeted  
41 funds to offset property tax from the General Fund be reduced from last year by \$100,000, to a  
42 total of \$1,400,000. This is to reflect concern over reductions to this fund which may be required  
43 for a year or more while the amount of delinquent taxes uncollected grows.

44  
45 **ONE MORE THING:** Washington County has earned a reputation for very sound financial  
46 operations. The Finance Department has received the GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial  
47 Reporting. The County has maintained Aa1 rating with Moody's Investor Service. Coping with

1 the recession of 2008-09, the County is projected to close out 2009 within budget and without  
2 need for imposing furloughs of county employees.

3  
4 Moved by Mr. Hensel, seconded by Mr. Meyers reduce the out of state travel Collaborate 10  
5 conference attendees from 2 to 1 and the GFOA Annual Conference attendees from 3 to 20 for  
6 Finance, with a net reduction of \$3,500. Motion defeated with Mr. Bertram, Mr. Borman, and  
7 Ms. Russell voting no.

8  
9 Moved by Mr. Borman, seconded by Mr. Bertram to tentatively approve the recommended  
10 Finance Department 2010 budget and levy, including out of state travel as presented, and user  
11 fees, in the amount of \$1,420,072, plus Indirect charges of revenues more than expenses of  
12 \$932,028, for a total net levy of \$488,044. Motion carried with Mr. Meyers and Mr. Hensel  
13 voting no.

### 14 15 **Samaritan Health Center**

16 The Samaritan Health Center budget was presented by Administrator Ed Somers. Mr. Johnson  
17 reported the base level funding is no county levy and the recommended level budget is no county  
18 levy. The plan to operate this \$14 million health center without a county levy continues to be  
19 both welcome and realistic. In addition to strong management of expenses and reliance on  
20 effective collections from public and private sources, the budget depends on about \$900,000 of  
21 funding through the Federal Intergovernmental Transfer Program. This target is consistent with  
22 2009 expectations and State plans for 2010.

23  
24 **OUTLAY:** Resident equipment and other outlay @ \$63,900

25  
26 **ONE MORE THING:** Though remodeling of the skilled nursing facility and the community  
27 based residential facility is completed, various aspects of these changes will impact Samaritan  
28 during the year ahead. The east and west CBRF are being combined in the budget and going  
29 forward to respond to licensing needs. There is a lag in Medicaid rates following remodeling  
30 expenses, contributing to 2009 operating losses. The improved rates will become effective July  
31 2010. Also awaiting resolution is the pending circuit court case on our appeal of rulings on the  
32 outsourcing of housekeeping and laundry services.

33  
34 Moved by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Bertram to tentatively approve the recommended  
35 Samaritan Health Center 2010 budget and levy, including outlay and user fees, in the amount of  
36 no county levy. Motion carried.

37  
38 Mr. Hensel recessed the meeting at 9:25 a.m. and reconvened at 9:38 a.m.

### 39 40 **County Clerk (continued from Monday, October 5)**

41 Mr. Johnson explained that the State Shared Taxes figures have been changed due to information  
42 just received from the state. The 2010 State Shared Taxes will be \$ 953,205, which is \$14,080  
43 less than the previously estimated amount of \$967,285. The tentatively approved County  
44 Treasurer's budget reflects an increase of \$14,080 in revenue for Interest on Delinquent Taxes to  
45 offset this reduction.

46

1 Moved by Mr. Bertram, seconded by Mr. Borman to adjust the State Shared Taxes revenue to  
2 \$953,205. Motion carried.

3  
4 Ms. Jaszewski reported that she met with Administrative Coordinator Doug Johnson and Finance  
5 Director Sue Haag regarding the county's Insurance Deductible account. The need to establish a  
6 working fund to pay deductibles on 2010 property claims was discussed. The recommendation  
7 is to provide \$100,000 to \$150,000 in funds for paying the deductibles on the property claims.  
8 The County Clerk's proposed 2010 budget includes \$57,734 of levy for this fund, which could  
9 be transferred to the general fund and designated for Insurance Deductible payments of property  
10 claims. In addition, early next year a resolution would be presented to the Administrative  
11 Services and Finance Committees with a proposal to transfer \$42,266 to \$92,266 from the  
12 undesignated portion of the general fund, to the designated Insurance Deductible account to  
13 obtain the \$100,000 to \$150,000 desired amount in that fund. Each year, a portion of the County  
14 Clerk's budget would include levy to be transferred into the designated Insurance Deductible  
15 portion of the general fund to replace funds that have been used. Because of the two-year  
16 election cycle, more funds would be levied in odd numbered years when there are only two  
17 elections and less funds would be levied in even years when there are four elections.

18  
19 Moved by Mr. Bertram, seconded by Ms. Russell to tentatively approve the County Clerk 2010  
20 recommended budget and levy, including outlay and user fees, in the amount of \$527,449.  
21 Motion carried.

### 22 Review Budget/Set Levy

23  
24 Due to the reductions made by this Committee for the 2010 budget levy, it is recommended the  
25 amount of the levy support from the General Fund by reduced by \$100,000 from \$1,400,000 to  
26 \$1,300,000.

27  
28 Moved by Mr. Bertram, seconded by Mr. Borman to approve the 2010 General Fund amount of  
29 \$1,300,000 to offset tax levy. Motion carried with Mr. Meyers voting no.

30  
31 Mr. Hensel recessed the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 10:43 a.m.

32  
33 Moved by Mr. Borman, seconded by Ms. Russell to approve and forward to the County Board,  
34 the 2010 budget with total expenses in the amount of \$118,386,741 and total revenues in the  
35 amount of \$79,398,003, for a total levy of \$38,988,738. Motion carried with Mr. Meyers voting  
36 no.

37  
38 Moved by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Borman to approve the 2010 County tax rates as  
39 follows: County - \$2.7717, and County Library - \$0.2330. Motion carried with Mr. Meyers  
40 voting no.

41  
42 Moved by Mr. Borman, seconded by Mr. Meyers, to adjourn at 11:07 a.m. Motion carried.