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**WASHINGTON COUNTY
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Government Center
West Bend, WI

September 28, 2012
8:10 a.m.

Present: Ralph Hensel, Leslie Borman, Marilyn Merten, Robert Milich and Todd White.

Also Present: Administrative Coordinator Douglas Johnson, Finance Director Susan Haag, County Clerk Brenda Jaszewski, Deputy Finance Director Paul Labonte, Assistant Finance Director Rich Abbott, Richard Bertram, and Supervisors Rick Gundrum, Donald Kriefall, Dennis Myers, and Paul Ustruck.

Chairperson Hensel reconvened the meeting at 8:10 a.m.

Highway

The Highway Department budget was presented by Highway Commissioner Jon Edgren, Assistant to the Commissioner Tom Wondra, and Transit Manager Joseph Steier. Mr. Johnson presented the 2013 base level funding of \$3,450,022 and the recommended budget is \$3,439,381 (-2.3% below 2012 levy). The Requested budget is below the Base level set by the Finance Committee on June 6.

OUTLAY: Highway vehicles, equipment @ \$598,000 funded by Highway Equipment. Replacement Fund Vehicles for taxi fleet @ \$213,000.

ONE MORE THING: The situation for the Washington County Commuter Express (WCCE) is considerably better than it was in the 2012 Budget. Record ridership, new operating efficiencies, and increased revenue from both fare increases and additional federal and state funding are positive developments during 2012 and anticipated to continue for 2013. This allowed the Transportation Committee to recommend a reduction in county levy for Transit with no service cuts or fare increases. This reduction accomplishes a combined budget below Base, while funding maintenance of county highways at the same level as 2012.

Mr. Edgren explained the reason for the request of out-of-state travel and noted that at this time, no specific individual has been selected and it would be up to the Transportation Committee to make that decision. If the Finance Committee does not approve the out of state travel but retains the funding in the 2013 budget, the Highway Department would be required to present the request for out of state travel to this Committee prior to selecting a person to attend.

Moved by Ms. Merten, seconded by Mr. White to tentatively approve the Highway Department 2013 recommended budget, including Outlay and User Fees, for a total net levy in the amount of \$3,439,381. Motion carried.

Health Department

The Health Department budget was presented by Director Linda Walter. Mr. Johnson presented the 2013 base level funding of \$1,170,441 and the recommended budget is \$1,170,441 (-2.% below 2012 levy). The Requested budget is at the authorized Base level set by the Finance Committee on June 6.

ONE MORE THING: The work of the Health Department continues to change, adapting to community needs. Food Safety and Recreational Services have met department expectations,

1 increasing environmental health capacity and generating revenues to cover more than planned.
2 Coalitions and partnerships remain critical for planning and implementation of public health problem
3 solving. Optional adult vaccine programs are being eliminated, now widely available in the
4 community. With more coverage through private and public insurance, the demand for free childhood
5 vaccine is expected to decrease. Amid the changing service landscape, staff turnover is also a
6 significant issue.

7
8 Moved by Mr. Milich, seconded by Ms. Merten to tentatively approve the Health Department 2013
9 recommended budget, including Out of State Travel and User Fees, for a total net levy in the amount
10 of \$1,170,441. Motion carried.

11 **ADRC**

12 The Aging and Disability Resource Center budget was presented by Director, Linda Olson. Mr.
13 Johnson presented the base level funding of \$163,021 and the recommended budget is \$183,349
14 (+10.2% above 2012 levy). The ADRC was impacted by an unexpected decrease in Indirect Costs,
15 which created a proportional decrease in State revenues. This impact was not known until after the
16 ADRC Board approved continuing current services at what they thought was a Base level budget.
17 Pending their recommendation from a September 27 meeting, I am recommending three adjustments
18 and funding of the rest of the Requested budget. The 2009 levy for the ADRC was \$345,175 before
19 much higher Indirect cost revenues allowed for three years of very low levy.
20

21
22 **DECISION ITEMS FUNDED:** 1. Continue current operations @ \$20,328 levy above Base
23

24 **OTHER ADJUSTMENTS TO REQUEST:** Reduced earned revenues @ \$69,083; Recalculation
25 of home delivered meals expense @ -\$38,000; Reduction of WC Senior Center building costs due to
26 efficiencies @ -\$10,755
27

28 **ONE MORE THING:** Census reports a population of 25,468 aged 60+ years. The 85 and over
29 population has increased 33% since 2000.
30

31 Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Milich to tentatively approve the Aging and Disability
32 Resource Center 2013 recommended budget of \$183,349, including Outlay, plus Indirect Charges in
33 the amount of \$118,888, for a total net levy in the amount of \$302,235. Motion carried.
34

35 **Human Resources**

36 The Human Resources budget was presented by Director Peter German. Mr. Johnson presented the
37 base level funding of \$774,204 and the recommended budget is \$774,204 (-2% below 2012 levy).
38 The Requested budget is at the Base level set by the Finance Committee on June 6.
39

40 **ONE MORE THING:** Funding for contracted legal services for labor negotiations have been
41 reduced by nearly half, resulting from the total change in collective bargaining for represented
42 employees. With the legal challenges to Act 10 continuing and new pay plans and work practices still
43 sorting out, both in our county and elsewhere, appropriate funding for these services is needed in
44 2013.
45

46 Ms. Merten questioned the need to budget for outside legal counsel for labor negotiations in the
47 Human Resources budget and would like to discuss the possibility of assigning this to the County
48 Attorney's office in order to avoid having to pay to contract out for these services.
49

1 Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Borman to tentatively approve the Human Resources 2013
2 recommended budget and levy in the amount of \$774,204. Motion carried.

3
4 Mr. Hensel recessed the meeting at 9:56 a.m. and reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

5
6 **Human Services**

7 The Human Services budget was presented by Program Director Jim Strachota and Accounting
8 Manager Angela Schickert. Mr. Johnson presented the base level funding of \$9,613,695 and the
9 recommended budget is \$9,809,893 (same as 2012 levy). The Requested plan gives the County a
10 choice for how to fund the high cost of specialized care placements which are the responsibility of the
11 Human Services Department. The Base level budget defines the 2013 community services plan for
12 the department and includes funding for those placements at the 2012 budget level. Actual costs have
13 been significantly more than that this year. The Requested budget proposes funding for these
14 placements below 2012 projections, but corresponding to average experience in recent years. The
15 Requested level offers the County less risk of deep reliance on the General Fund in 2013 and more
16 adequately funds HSD for expected service levels going forward. The Requested level is
17 recommended.

18
19 **DECISION ITEMS FUNDED:**

- 20 1. More funding for behavioral health inpatient and emergency detentions @ \$100,000
21 2. More funding for juvenile out of home placements @ \$96,198

22
23 **OUTLAY:** Used vehicles @ \$15,000

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25 **ONE MORE THING:** During the years of a persistent struggling economy, demands for helping
26 services have continued to grow. Child abuse and neglect referrals have increased 57%; the number
27 of families receiving Food Share, Medical Assistance and Energy Assistance has increased 23%; the
28 number of emergency detentions has increased 13%; and waiting time to see a psychiatrist has grown
29 to an average of six weeks out.

30
31 Moved by Mr. Borman, seconded by Mr. Milich to tentatively approve the Human Services 2013
32 recommended budget of \$9,809,893, including Outlay and User Fees, plus Indirect Charges of
33 \$603,025, for a total net levy in the amount of \$10,412,918. Motion carried.

34
35 **County Clerk**

36 The County Clerk budget was presented by County Clerk Brenda Jaszewski. Mr. Johnson presented
37 the base level funding of \$490,455 and the recommended budget is \$456,964 (-11.5% below the 2012
38 levy). The Requested budget is below the Base level set by the Finance Committee on June 6.
39 Changing Property and Liability Insurance to an Internal Service Fund resulted in a significant
40 reduction in the proposed levy.

41
42 **ONE MORE THING:** The cost imbalance between “four election” years (even numbered) and “two
43 election” years (odd numbered) requires a new approach. This budget proposes the establishment of
44 added election costs to be funded in the odd numbered years and carried over to the even numbered
45 years. In the even numbered years, a similar amount will be budgeted in higher election costs. Based
46 on typical increased costs of \$55,000 above the low years, this new election cost is budgeted with
47 \$27,500 for 2013. The Administrative Services Committee endorsed this new approach and funding
48 on September 17.

1 The Committee discussed the new method of budgeting for elections and agreed that the proposed
2 new procedure of additional funding in odd numbered years that would be non-lapsed to the even
3 numbered years is a viable option.

4
5 Moved by Ms. Merten, seconded by Mr. Milich to tentatively approve the County Clerk 2013
6 recommended budget, including User Fees, for a total net levy in the amount of \$456,964. Motion
7 carried.

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9 Mr. Hensel recessed the Finance Committee meeting at 11:35 a.m. until Monday, October 1 2012, at
10 8:00 a.m.

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Brenda Jaszewski, County Clerk