

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

August 2, 2016

The Finance and Personnel Committee met on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., in the County Board Room, located on the Third Floor of the Courthouse, 181 West Seminary Street, Richland Center, Wisconsin.

Committee members present included: Jeanetta Kirkpatrick, Fred Clary, Bob Bellman, Linda Gentes, Buford E. Marshall, Jr., Larry Sebranek and Don Seep.

Others present included: Victor Vlasak, County Clerk, elected officials, department heads and employees.

Committee Chairman Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order.

The Clerk verified that the meeting had been properly noticed. Copies of the agenda were sent by email to all Committee members, department heads and WRCO; a copy was posted on the Courthouse Bulletin Board and County website; and a copy was faxed to The Richland Observer.

Motion by Marshall, second by Sebranek to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Gentes, second by Marshall to approve the printed copies of the minutes for the July 5th meeting. Motion carried.

Casey Peterson from the Wallace, Cooper & Elliott Insurance Agency reviewed the health reimbursement account option of employee health insurance coverage through Unity with deductibles of \$1500 single/\$3000 family, 10% co-insurance and \$20 office visit co-pay. Employee Benefits Corporation would be the HRA third party administrator. The employee would meet part of the deductible and the County would decide on their amount of contribution towards the deductible. The savings to the County would be on the premiums. Unity's final rates are \$588 single and \$1,441 family. The Unity rate cap for the second year is a not to exceed amount of 9%.

Chairman Kirkpatrick noted that the annuitants would lose their eligibility for coverage if the County leaves the State plan. Ms. Peterson explained the annuitant plans were administered by the State. They would be placed in a retiree opportunity. Annuitants who currently have their premium deducted from their monthly pension payment would be direct billed for the premium. Annuitants would be offered the same health coverage plan as the County plan.

Ms. Peterson will bring back information on the total premium savings the County will realize based upon a contribution of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of the deductible option of \$1,500 single and \$3,000. Clary noted that the HRA option gives the County flexibility. The County would be setting aside the premium savings to pay for employee deductibles.

Notification will need to be given of the County's intent to withdraw from the Wisconsin Public Employers Group Health Insurance program by October 1st. Motion by Bellman, second by Sebranek to present a resolution to notify the State that the County intends to withdraw from the program. Motion carried. It was noted that the County could not get back into the State plan for three years if the withdrawal option is taken. The County has until December 1st to rescind action to withdraw from the State plan.

Motion by Bellman, second by Gentes to go into closed session under Wisconsin Statutes section 19.85 (1) (c) and (e) to meet with counsel for the purpose of preparing for and discussing negotiations with the Wisconsin Professional Police Association, the representatives of the Richland County Deputy Sheriff's Association and that the County Clerk, Sheriff Bindl and Attorney Anderson be allowed to remain. Motion carried.

Closed session.

Motion by Sebranek, second by Marshall to return to open session. Motion carried.

Health and Human Services Director Patrick Metz reported that the probationary period has been extended an additional three months beyond July 4th for Lisa Burns an internal applicant for the Confidential Administrative Secretary position.

The Committee met with the representatives for the Wisconsin Professional Police Association representing the Richland County Deputy Sheriff's Association. Attorney Anderson reviewed the ground rules for the bargaining sessions. The Union indicated that the ground rules are acceptable. Attorney Anderson reviewed the initial proposals from the County for a successor agreement to the 2015-2016 Agreement. Michael Goetz, WPPA Business Agent, reviewed the proposals from Local # 253 for a successor agreement. The following dates were set for bargaining sessions: August 29th at 1:00 p.m., September 19th at 1:00 p.m. and October 11th at 1:00 p.m.

Copies of the job description for the position of CBRF Administrator at Pine Valley were distributed to Committee members. The duties of the position would be covered by the Pine Valley Administrator. Pine Valley Administrator Kathy Cianci noted that the duties outlined in the job description and the position itself is a requirement for the CBRF unit of 16. Motion by Sebranek, second by Clary to present a resolution for approval of the creation of the position. Motion carried.

Copies of the job description for the position of Resident Assistant at Pine Valley were distributed to Committee members. Pine Valley Director of Nursing Angie Alexander explained that position is being created to assist in performing tasks that do not involve direct patient care. All tasks will be performed under the direct supervision of a LPN or RN. Motion by Seep, second by Bellman to present a resolution for approval of the creation of the position. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed a request from part-time Veterans Benefit Specialist Joann Scribbins for compensation for additional hours accumulated while attending training in South Carolina for accreditation. Motion by Marshall, second by Bellman to table the agenda item. Motion carried.

Motion by Bellman, second by Clary to grant approval for the County Clerk to sign the contracts with Genuine Telecom, Inc. for data support and internet services and the contract for telephone services. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the Professional Services Agreement from Carlson Dettman Consulting LLC for a Compensation Study. Chairman Kirkpatrick noted that the study will begin with a presentation at Pine Valley on August 15th. Motion by Clary, second by Bellman to approve the Agreement contingent upon its review by Corporation Counsel Southwick. Motion carried. Chairman Kirkpatrick will contact Mr. Carlson regarding the timetable for the Study.

Supervisor Gentes, a member of the ContinuUs Board, addressed the correspondence received announcing the merger of Community Care Connections of Wisconsin, ContinuUs and Western Wisconsin Cares. The Department of Health Services has been monitoring ContinuUs because of funding issues and the investigation of a death. The ContinuUs Board decided to contact Community Care Connections of Wisconsin and Western Wisconsin Cares. Gentes noted that a private entity desires to come into the state and take over managed care. The other two entities would back ContinuUs financially and the three entities would move towards a non-governmental type of situation. Meetings have been taking place. The goal is that they become one unit by January. The new entity will pull out of the County's purview. It will be a half billion dollar organization. Presently, the person from Western Wisconsin is the interim CEO with a portion of each county's boards all meeting every two weeks to work out the details. The purpose is to keep managed care here to better meet the needs of the local people and be more locally run and personable. Chairman Kirkpatrick noted that the move to go towards a non-governmental means reductions in employee benefits. It was noted that Family Care sends about 25% of the residents to Pine Valley.

Veterans Service Officer Karen Knock addressed the Committee regarding the compensation request from part-time Veterans Benefit Specialist Joann Scribbins for compensation for additional hours accumulated while attending training in South Carolina for accreditation. Motion by Clary, second by Marshall that the request be approved. Motion carried.

The Committee will be meeting with departments on the following dates to formulate the 2017 County budget:

Friday, September 2nd – 9:00 a.m.
Friday, September 9th – 9:00 a.m.
Friday, September 16th – 1:00 p.m.
Friday, September 23rd – 9:00 a.m.
Friday, September 30th – 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Kirkpatrick reported that a recommendation was made to the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee to eliminate the open Extension Agent position and to reduce support staff. The continued need for a County rifle range was questioned. Departments should be asked that vacant positions not be automatically filled. Departmental credit cards were briefly discussed. The collection of an additional one half percent of county sales tax for highway purposes was briefly discussed. Highway Commissioner Chitwood noted that the State Legislature has not approved the additional tax. Bonding for highway projects is another optional funding mechanism.

The Committee will review and address one at a time the findings in the Risk Management Analysis Report received from Gander Consulting Group, LLC. The Committee will begin the review process in the afternoon of the September 2nd meeting.

Motion by Bellman, second by Gentes to adjourn to September 2nd at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Victor V. Vlasak
Richland County Clerk