

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

September 24, 2019

The Finance and Personnel Committee met on Tuesday, September 24 2019, 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, Marty Brewer, Marc Couey, Linda Gentes, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Larry Sebranek, Don Seep and Dave Turk. Buford Marshall was absent.

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

Committee Chair 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, WRCO and County department heads, a copy was posted on the Courthouse Bulletin Board and a copy was faxed to The Richland Observer.

Motion by Sebranek, second by Gentes for approval of the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Kirkpatrick explained that 2020 proposed departmental budgets were recalculated to reflect a change in 2020 health insurance premiums by increasing the employee deductibles from the current \$1,500 single/\$3,000 family to \$3,000 single/\$6,000 family.

Casey Peterson, Wallace Cooper & Elliott Insurance Agency, explained that the increase in the deductible will mean a premium increase for 2020 of 1.55% instead of the 7% increase if the deductible amounts remain unchanged. The deductible change will result in the removal of the co-insurance requirement after the deductible is met. The deductible change will not result in a change in the prescription drug benefit. The County health reimbursement will remain at the current level of \$1,000 single/\$2,000 family. The premium savings with the \$3,000/\$6,000 deductible will only be in effect for the policy year 2020. The County contribution of 88% of the monthly premium cost will remain the same under the increased deductible option. The employees will continue to pay 12% of the monthly premium cost.

The Committee received a request to authorize Sirena Tukiendorf to be a personal health information user with Employee Benefits Corporation, the County's third party HRA administrator. Ms. Tukiendorf explained the billing issues that employees bring into her office requesting assistance. EBC will not communicate with Ms. Tukiendorf unless the employees is physically setting in her office to give verbal consent. This consent must be given each time a call is made regarding a billing issue. Signing the authorization form will give Ms. Tukiendorf the ability to call EBC regarding billing issues without having the employee being present in the office. Motion by Seep, second by Sebranek that Ms. Tukiendorf be authorized as a contact with EBC. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion continued on the proposed 2020 budget. Departmental budgets were changed to reflect the 1.55% health insurance premium increase that results from increasing the employee annual deductible. Originally, departmental budgets reflected a 7% health insurance premium increase. Capital items were removed from budgets. The new equipment amounts removed from the budget are as follows: \$1,000 Circuit Court; \$500 Coroner; \$300 Property Lister; \$700 Treasurer; \$2,000 District Attorney; \$220 Register of Deeds; \$39,500 MIS; \$800 Zoning; \$5,000 Courthouse; \$56,000 Sheriff's; \$8,000 Police Radio; \$1,100 Emergency Government; \$4,000 Jail; \$400 Veteran Service; \$1,000 Extension; \$1,178 LEPC; \$500 Fair. The total is \$122,198 removed from the proposed 2020 levy increase.

Sales tax projections by the Wisconsin Counties Association are for increased revenues in 2020. The anticipated sales tax revenue amount in the proposed budget will be changed from \$1,150,000 to \$1,250,000. The Pine Valley Board of Trustees has taken action to allocate \$200,000. Those funds will be applied to the Contingency Fund. It is anticipated that two million dollars will be borrowed to cover capital items in 2020. \$2,000 will be added to the proposed budget for the Wellness Committee. The Sheriff's departmental budgets will include funding for one new jail/dispatch employee.

The County Parks proposed budget was discussed. The request included \$12,000 for a new well at the Viola Park and \$1,000 for inspection of the well. \$12,000 will be removed and funded through borrowing.

Chair Kirkpatrick reviewed the listing of items that will be considered for borrowing: iPads for County Board, \$2,500; Parks, \$13,000 well and \$25,000 bike trail gravel; \$10,000 courthouse cleaning equipment; \$20,000 Emergency Management shed; \$20,000 fairgrounds electrical; \$330,000 Community Services Building roof; \$800,000 Highway equipment and capital improvements; \$194,000 Sheriff's squad cars; Symons \$65,000 for plastering pool, rubber roof and tile drains; and \$304,000 campus roofs.

Chair Kirkpatrick recommended that \$50,000 be taken from the proposed Sheriff's Department budget and be allocated to the 911 Outlay.

Funding in the amount of \$145,000 for the Administrator position and \$72,000 for the Economic Development position will come from the General Fund.

The following 2020 levy request reductions will be made: \$50,000 from the Extension; \$9,720 from Symons; \$10,000 from the Soil Conservation Cost Sharing for the water study; \$20,000 from the UW Outlay; \$30,000 from Land Conservation; and \$17,000 new equipment requests from the Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Turk, second by Brewer to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Victor V. Vlasak
Richland County Clerk