

Richland County Administration Transition Committee

Agenda Item Cover

Agenda Item Name: Discussion and possible action on authority of county personnel and functions

Department	Administration	Presented By:	Melissa Luck
Date of Meeting:	December 4 th , 2020	Action Needed:	None/Information, Discussion Only
Disclosure:	Open	Authority:	
Date submitted:	December 1 st , 2020	Refer to:	Attachment 3 Only to Finance & Personnel Committee

Recommendation and/or action language:

No action necessary. Review and discuss.

Background:

Attachment A is an email from Mr. Southwick entitled “Richland County Government: Personnel Administration” that frames his opinion on the County Administrator’s authority to supervise employees. This email, although sent to this committee for review, should not be reviewed or discussed by this committee because it’s content addresses issues that are not a part of this committee’s designated tasks.

Attachments B and C are emails from Mr. Southwick stating his opinion on the authority of the County Board to assign personnel to the County Clerk’s office.

After consultation with the Wisconsin Counties Association attorney Andrew Phillips, the following statute was referenced as the primary statute giving the County Board authority to establish the number of employees for any department or office, including deputies to elective officers.

Per Wisconsin Statutes [59.22\(2\)\(C\)\(1\)](#)

(2) APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS; DEPUTY OFFICERS; AND EMPLOYEES.

(a) Except for elective offices included under sub. [\(1\)](#), supervisors and circuit judges, and subject to s. [59.794 \(3\)](#), the board has the powers set forth in this subsection, sub. [\(3\)](#) and s. [59.03 \(1\)](#) as to any office, department, board, commission, committee, position or employee in county service created under any statute, the salary or compensation for which is paid in whole or in part by the county, and the jurisdiction and duties of which lie within the county or any portion thereof and the powers conferred by this section shall be in addition to all other grants of power and shall be limited only by express language.

(c)

1. Except as provided in subd. [2.](#) and par. [\(d\)](#), the board may do any of the following:

a. Provide, fix or change the salary or compensation of any office, board, commission, committee, position, employee or deputies to elective officers that is subject to sub. [\(1\)](#) without regard to the tenure of the incumbent.

b. Establish the number of employees in any department or office including deputies to elective officers.

c. Establish regulations of employment for any person paid from the county treasury.

Attachment D is a document that was provided by Clerk Vlasak as an explanation of the current roles for his staff.

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Attachments and References:

Attachment A – Corporation Council email “Richland County Government: Personnel Administration”

Attachment B – Corporation Council email “Richland County Government Personnel Administration”

Attachment C – Corporation Council email “Richland County Government Personnel Administration”

Attachment D – County Clerk’s Explanation of Financial Structure in Clerk’s Office.

Financial Review:

(please check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	In adopted budget	Fund Number	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apportionment needed	Requested Fund Number	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other funding Source		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No financial impact		

(summary of current and future impacts)

Approval:

Review:

Department Head

Administrator, or Elected Office (if applicable)
