

Richland County

Finance & Personnel Standing Committee

July 5th, 2022

The Richland County Finance and Personnel Standing Committee convened on Tuesday, July 5th, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. at the Phoenix Center, 100 S Orange Street, Richland Center, WI in person, via videoconference and teleconference.

Committee members present included County Board Supervisors: Marty Brewer, Steve Carrow, Timothy Gottschall and Gary Manning. Melissa Luck and Shaun Murphy-Lopez by teleconference. Steve Williamson arrived at 11:03 a.m. and Marc Couey arrived at 11:17 a.m. David Turk was absent.

Also present was Administrator Clinton Langreck, County Board Members Linda Gentes, Ken Rynes and Don Seep (teleconference), several department heads, county employees, general public, Corporation Counsel Michael Windle and Tammy Wheelock taking minutes. Barb Scott and Jason Marshall from MIS running the teleconferencing.

1. **Call to Order:** Committee Chair Brewer called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.
2. **Proof of Notification:** Langreck verified that the meeting had been properly noticed. Copies of the agenda were sent by email to all Committee members, County Board members, WRCO, County department heads, Richland Observer, Valley Sentinel and a copy was posted on the Courthouse Bulletin Board.
3. **Agenda Approval:** Brewer asked for approval of the agenda. Moved by Gottschall to approve the agenda, second by Manning. All voting aye, motion carried.
4. **Previous meeting minutes:** June 7th, June 21st and June 22nd – Motion by Manning, second by Murphy-Lopez. All ayes, motion carried.

Consent items are procedurally necessary and routine in nature. The committee may take action to approve consent items 5-7 in one motion if desired or any committee member may object to a consent vote and request individual items or all items removed from a consent vote.

5. **June Vouchers:** Audit Report
6. **Financial Reports:**
 - a. Fund 75 – Capital Improvements
 - b. Fund 92 – Short Term Borrowing
 - c. Fund 93 – ARPA
 - d. Fund 93 – ARPA Childcare
7. **Employee Participation at the Fair Policy:** The policy allows willing employees the ability to substitute 8 hours of employment with their department to serve in support of the fair operations. This action requires employee willingness to initiate, department head approval to authorize and fund, and the fair coordinators consent to accept the offer of service.

Motion by Murphy-Lopez to approve all consent items, second by Luck. All ayes, motion carried.
8. **Treasurer – Investment Presentation and Proposal:** Proposal by the County Treasurer, Jeffrey Even, to invest county funds through PMA Securities as outlined and recommend in resolution to County Board. This proposal retains \$13.5 million in liquid funds (\$7.5 million in LGIP & \$6 million in WISC) while investing \$4 million in 4 individual \$1 million short-term portfolios with stepped maturities. Motion by Carrow, second by Gottschall. All ayes, motion carried.

9. **Discussion and possible action on items of Administrative Reports, Resolutions, and Recommendations from June 22nd Finance and Personnel Standing Committee:** Langreck points out following revisions in Administrator's reports: "04 Presentation Slide 60/67" Richland #FTE = 366-230 and "07 Richland County Financial Conditions and Recommendations Summary" page 2/5, paragraph 1. = 1.02BM.

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Gives overview of Administrator's recommendations and resolutions.

Motion to accept and file the Administrator's reports with amendments by Luck, second by Carrow.
All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Murphy-Lopez to amend motion to include deletion of pages 60 and 61 in the Capital Improvement Program, titled "Other Counties Data & Services." He feels that it confuses full time employees vs full time equivalent employees. Second by Luck. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Manning to bring forward the Administrator's recommendations and resolutions for discussion and public comment. Second by Williamson. All ayes, motion carried.

10. Public Comment: Brewer opened public comment.

The following citizens spoke regarding concerns with said budget proposals: Karen Knock, Carla Doudna, Linda Gentes, Stacy Kleist, Joan Bethke, Cindy Chicker, Eleisha Jones, Eileen Eberly, Ray Schmitz, Keith Behling, Gary Deaver, Denise Sebranek, Michael Duesterbeck, Andrea Rayner, Eric Siemandel, Clay Porter, Cathy Cooper, Richard Mckee, Tracy Gobin and Aaron Dettman.

Brewer moves to discuss recommendations among committee members. Langreck gives more overview of Administrator's recommendations and resolutions.

Motion to postpone any actions of resolutions until next Finance and Personnel meeting on July 13, by Williamson, second by Murphy-Lopez. All ayes, motion carried.

Break at 12:13 p.m. by Brewer.

Reconvened at 12:28 p.m. Called to order by Brewer.

Carrow questions Highway's portion of Capital Improvement budget, do we need to look at a 20-year cycle on highways? Langreck with consult Highway Commissioner, Joshua Elder.

Manning questions departments budgets being reduced by percentages whereas Fair and Parks are defunded 100%, what is the long term plan? Langreck reiterates resolution language stating levy reduction and how to own or partner without levy impacts. Brewer states some other county fairs are ran by committees.

Murphy-Lopez needs more time to go through plan, does not want to rush process. Brewer reminds the longer we wait the less time committees have to work on a plan of action. Murphy-Lopez thinks comparison of other counties staffing levels is good but needs more work. Recommends an operating referendum. Reminds citizens/committee members that report showing Health & Human Services making up 50% of the budget, actually includes PVCV also. HHS gets 2 million dollars of the 10-million-dollar property tax levy, Sheriff & Highway get more levy. Would like to see departmental revenues. Brewer agrees with departmental reports.

Luck questions if we go through with all cuts, we still have a \$883,000 gap? Langreck, yes, other reductions will be needed to help fill gap. Luck states the need to look at staffing levels and more time needed to process plan.

Seep commends Langreck and staff for their work putting together plan. Reiterates Strategic Plan importance. Appreciates the views and concerns of citizens. Recommends referendum.

Carrow questions Capital Budget jail portion showing no cost until 2032, believes there should be a cost there. Also, no IT costs past 2027? Have the dollar amounts in the plan been adjusted to reflect inflation? Questions if we should look at option 2 with True North radio tower project.

Gottschall reiterates importance of decisions of county board members. Agrees with staffing analysis, but believes current staff need to have up to market wages before FTE rates can be analyzed. There are 17

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open positions and many more on the books that are no longer recruited for. Initiative needs to be taken.

Couey questions how the referendum is going to affect tax payers, what will the cost be?

Brewer questions possibility of a creating an Ad Hoc Committee if a referendum is needed.

Carrow regarding Operational Budget, would like more information on it. Murphy-Lopez surprised that health insurance estimates aren't included. Questions if Sheriff Depts. is allowed to cut a position but then add a position using a grant by the DOJ.

Seep would like Langreck to produce dollar amounts needed to fill gaps for the next few years in the case of a referendum. Langreck states first the services the county will provide needs to be decided along with a time line. Brewer agrees with Seep needing dollar amounts.

Carrow questions why wording is different on some resolutions and only mentions expenses, not revenues. Langreck states resolutions are open for amendments and change of wording.

Gentes encourages committee members to read their emails. Windle requests the emails be forwarded to him as to comply with open records rules.

~~11. Contract renewal for Abt Swayne~~

12. Future Agenda Items: Discuss possibility of a referendum.

13. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 12:42 p.m. to Wednesday July 13, at 7:00 p.m. at the Phoenix Center, 100 S Orange Street, Richland Center, WI by Couey, second by Murphy-Lopez. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Tammy Wheelock

Richland County Accounting Supervisor