

Richland County

Finance & Personnel Standing Committee

August 10th, 2022

The Richland County Finance and Personnel Standing Committee convened on Wednesday, August 10th, 2022, in the County Board room at the Richland County Courthouse, in person, via videoconference and teleconference.

Committee members present included County Board Supervisors Marty Brewer, Steve Carrow, Timothy Gottschall, Gary Manning with Shaun Murphy-Lopez by Web Ex.

Also present was Administrator Clinton Langreck, Attorney Mike Windle, County Board Members Donald Seep, Ingrid Glasbrenner, Linda Gentes, Assistant to the Administrator Cheryl Dull taking minutes, several department heads, county employees and general public. Gabe Schmitt was present from MIS running the teleconferencing.

Not present: Marc Couey, Melissa Luck & Steve Williamson

1. **Call to Order:** Committee Chair Brewer called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.
- 11 & 12 **Report item 12 and 11a:** Administrator reviewed 3 changes to the worksheet from page 10 of item 12. Administrator Langreck reviewed the changes to 11a on page 15 and 16 of 17.
- 2 **Proof of Notification:** Chair Brewer 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:** Chair Brewer asked for approval of the agenda with the change from the posting of "Tuesday" to "Wednesday". Moved by Supervisor Gottschall to approve the agenda with that change, 2nd by Manning. All voting aye, motion carried.
- 4 **Previous meeting minutes – August 2nd:** Hearing no changes Supervisor Murphy-Lopez moved to approve the minutes as presented, 2nd by Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.
5. **Discussion and possible action on Economic Development Resolution on Idle Sites Grant:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church has approached the county, through the Richland Economic Development Board with a petition for the County to participate as a grant applicant/administrator for an Idle Sites Redevelopment Program Grant. Pastor Dan and Economic Development Director. Pastor Dan reviewed what these funds will do for them. Moved by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez to approve 1) resolution to the Richland County board to participate in the WEDC Idle Sites Grant, 2) to authorize required time from Economic Development and Administration to apply, administer and close, 3) fund added single audit requirement for fiscal years in which the grant is open, 2nd by Supervisor Gottschall. All voting aye, motion carried.
6. **Discussion and possible action on transfer of startup funds for the 2022 Richland County Fair:** Moved by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez to send a resolution to the Richland County Board to transfer \$15,000 from the General Fund to the Richland County Fair Revolving Fund 68 for use by the Fair, Recycling and Parks Standing Committee in conducting the 2022 Richland County Fair, with this appropriation being for a period of 30 days, 2nd by Supervisor Manning. All voting aye, motion carried.
7. **Discussion and possible action on funding the Radio Tower Project:** Administrator Langreck reviewed proposed resolution. Treasurer Even stated the County can float the first \$700,000 until the at which time the bond loan is taken out and then we will pay ourselves back. Moved by Supervisor Manning to approve general fund use to pay for emergency radio and tower improvement project until G.O. Bonds are sold to replenish used balance, 2nd by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez. Moved by Murphy-Lopez to table until later in the meeting so someone can get the reports, 2nd by Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.
8. **Correspondences and Reports from the Referendum Ad Hoc Committee:** Administrator Langreck, they had their 2nd meeting. Tasks were delegated and there was information requests. Supervisor Murphy-Lopez stated they took action to start drafting talking points to educated the public with. There was discussion on if education design was within their boundaries. Chair Brewer and Supervisor Gottschall agreed that that should be part of what the committee does.
9. **Correspondences regarding wages:** Administrator Langreck stated several department heads have sent correspondence concerning the reduction in wage proposals with Chair Brewer agreeing the correspondence had valid points. Director Gudgeon stated he understands the board challenge but also wants to maintain a

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high quality ambulance service. He reported on comparable services and added the Ambulance budget could absorb the increases.

Director Clements asked to speak. Since the proposed reduction in wages, staff is concerned with their future.

Tom Rislow is by WebEx, he agreed with Gudgeon and Clements comments. Moved by Supervisor Manning to allow Administrator Langreck to look into this more, 2nd by Supervisor Gottschall with discussion. Further discussion followed on if we review this, it will be a repeat of what we have already done previously. Roll vote requested. Murphy-Lopez-no, Brewer - no, Manning –yes, Gottschall – no, Carrow - no.. Motion failed 1-4. Moved by Gottschall to amend the proposed pay raise to approve a 5% COLA for all county employees with a 1 step advancement for PV and a 2 step advancement for general employees to be considered later in the year, 2nd by Carrow. Discussion followed on. Roll call vote requested, Brewer – aye, Manning – no, Gottschall – aye, Carrow – aye, Murphy-Lopez – no. Motion carried 3-2.

7. **Discussion and possible action on funding the Radio Tower Project cont:** Moved by Carrow to bring the Tower Project back off the table, 2nd Gottschall. Mike Day reviewed the designs by both vendors and the difference in coverage. With the 6th site design the coverage was down to about 90%. He stated Viola was more of a challenge with the 90% coverage. All voting aye on original motion, motion carried.

10. Discussion and possible action on directive resolutions:

10d Education Resolution - Moved by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez to amend UW Extension portion to strike #11 and replace highlighted part in #12 with a 20% reduction by 2024, 2nd by Supervisor Carrow, calling for discussion. Discussion followed about cuts. Roll call requested. All voting aye, motion carried.

Moved by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez to amend the UW Campus portion by striking 1-5. After discussion Supervisor Murphy-Lopez amended his motion to strike 1, 4 & 5, adding #2 & #3 back in and to strike the language in #3 and insert “Explore more cost effective and efficient use of the land and buildings.”, 2nd by Carrow. Roll call vote requested. Manning – no, Gottschall – yah, Carrow – yah, Murphy-Lopez – yah, Brewer – yah, carried 4-1. Moved by Gottschall to send to board with those amendments, 2nd by Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.

10b Land and Zoning Resolution –Moved by Murphy-Lopez to forward the resolution County Board, 2nd by Gottschall. All voting aye, motion carried.

10c Directive to Standing Committees – Extensive discussion followed on the Financial Planning worksheet and that there are still large numbers to fill in 2025, 2026 and 2027 with new positions being added and then asking departments to make large cuts. The Referendum Ad Hoc Committee cannot give recommendation if the numbers are not reworked with the departments to understand the cuts in future years will need to be the same as 2023 and 2024. Moved by Murphy-Lopez to postpone until we can get section 7 is zero'd out, 2nd by Carrow. Roll call requested. Manning – no, Gottschall – no, Carrow – aye, Murphy-Lopez – aye, Brewer – No. Motion failed 2-3.

More discussion followed on trying to estimate a budget for 2025, 2026 and 2027. Moved by Supervisor Gottschall to amend in highlighted area to add a period after “entering into 2024” and strike “and the same sustained reduction and beyond.”, 2nd by Supervisor Manning. Supervisor Gottschall request at the next finance meeting to continue working with reductions in 2025 and beyond. All voting aye to amendment, motion carried.

Moved by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez to amend to strike the June 2023 and amend to October 31st, 2022, 2nd by Supervisor Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.

Roll call requested to send amended resolution to County Board. Gottschall – yes, Carrow – yes, Murphy-Lopez – no, Brewer – aye, Manning – aye. Motion carried 4-1.

Moved by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez to send Resolutions 10a, 10e, 10f and 10g as amended to County Board, 2nd by Supervisor Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.

11. **Discussion and possible action on the Financial Planning Worksheet:** Moved to #2, reports.
12. **Discussion and possible action on requested financial reports, staffing and wage reports, and mandated vs. non mandated services reports:** Moved to #2, reports.
13. **Discussion and possible action on the Capital Improvement Program and borrowing:** Nothing additional to report

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14. Discussion and possible action on guidance to the referendum committee: No action.

15. Future agenda items: Nothing.

16. Adjournment: There will be financial hearings Wednesday August 17th @ 8:00 a.m. for budgets to be presented to the Administrator. A Finance and Personnel meeting will be posted if they chose to attend. The next regular meeting to be held September 6th at 1:00 p.m. in the County Board room. Moved by Supervisor Manning to adjourn at 3:22 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Cheryl Dull

Richland County Assistant to the Administrator