

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

March 10, 2010

3:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Doyle, Tara Johnson, Vicki Burke, Sharon Hampson, Don Meyer, Andrea Richmond, Charles Spiker, Joe Veenstra

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Roger Plesha

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve O'Malley, Linda Stone, Bob Taunt, Margaret Norden, Gary Ingvalson, Dave Lange, Charlie Handy, Pam Radtke, Donna Hanson, Steve Helgeson, John Parshall

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Steve Doyle called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 11, 2010, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Meyer/Richmond to approve the February 11, 2010, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

CONSENT AGENDA: DECEMBER INVESTMENT REPORT, MONTHLY ACCOUNT TRANSFERS, CHECK REQUISITIONS

MOTION by Spiker/Veenstra to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

None reported.

APPROVAL OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION GRANT

Charlie Handy reported that the Farmland Preservation Grant was awarded in the amount of \$30,000.00. It is a 50% matching grant; thus, the County needs to spend \$60,000.00 to upgrade the Farmland Preservation Plan. The costs will include staff time and printing. **MOTION** by Meyer/Johnson to approve the Farmland Preservation Grant. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND S. 3.13(4)(B)4 OF CHAPTER 3 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN REGARDING MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

The amendment was requested by Supervisor Hampson. Currently, Supervisors may claim mileage to attend meetings when they receive a formal notice. The Ordinance amendment would allow Supervisors to also claim mileage for official county business resulting from their County Board or committee responsibilities. Discussion was held about the process for approving attendance and the budget for travel.

MOTION by Hampson/Burke to approve the Ordinance to Amend S. 3.13(4)(b)4 of Chapter 3 of the General Code of La Crosse County, Wisconsin Regarding Mileage Reimbursement. **Motion carried 7-1-1.** Spiker opposed; Plesha excused.

RESOLUTION RE: ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES FOR NEXT TERM (SHERIFF AND CLERK OF COURTS)

The Resolution needs rates for years 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 for the Sheriff and Clerk of Courts. The other elected officials (i.e. County Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds) will receive a 3% increase for the years 2011 and 2012 for the third and fourth years of the term. Salary comparisons to other counties and to other La Crosse County elected officials were distributed. Pam Radtke explained that counterpart positions at La Crosse County have a smaller budget and fewer staff to supervise, and had received a 5% increase in 2009 that the Clerk of Courts position

was not awarded. Steve Helgeson reported that the salary for the chief deputy (a position that is subject to step increases) has potential to exceed the sheriff's salary. Discussion was held to clarify timetables and percentages. **MOTION** by Veenstra/Burke to approve the Resolution Re: Elected Officials Salaries for Next Term (Sheriff and Clerk of Courts) for the Clerk of Courts: a 5% increase in 2011 and a 3% increase annually in 2012-2014; and for the Sheriff: a 3% increase annually from 2011-2014. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

ANNUAL REPORT ON NON-UNION RECLASSIFICATIONS CONSIDERED FROM 2009

Steve O'Malley reported that the review committee approved two out of five requests in 2009. He expected the 2010 Salary Contingency Fund of \$25,000 to be sufficient for any additional changes.

RESOLUTION RE: SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION TO CREATE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITIES (RTAS)

The Resolution calls for support of a Regional Transit Authority to invest in transit, spur development, create linkages that draw workforce and build the regional economy, and make the state more competitive in attracting business and jobs. The Resolution also directs the County Clerk to send a copy to area legislators, Governor Doyle, and other interested parties. Steve O'Malley reported that a public hearing will be held. He said that the City of La Crosse resolution passed, and was a more specific statement to support Assembly legislation. Discussion was held about the process of establishing a Regional Transit Authority. O'Malley explained it would first have to pass a public referendum; a County Board resolution would then establish the size and membership of the RTA, which could have no more than 17 members and must include municipalities; and if the County Board votes in favor of funding the RTA from a .5% sales tax, that must also pass a public referendum. O'Malley stated the RTA could seek other sources of funding, but could not establish a tax. Supervisor Spiker read a resolution to be considered at the March meeting of the La Crosse Area Planning Commission that the RTA would be empowered to establish a tax. O'Malley stated that was incorrect, and he would follow up with the regional planning office. **MOTION** by Johnson/Veenstra to approve the Resolution Re: Support of Legislation to Create Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs). **Motion carried 7-1-1.** Spiker opposed; Plesha excused.

RESOLUTION RE: THREE-YEAR STATEMENT OF INTENTIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Resolution approves the plan for improvements to the Port of La Crosse that have been proposed by the Joint City/County Harbor Commission, including two barge tie-off structures and 200 linear feet of rip rap bank protection. The statement will be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, as required for local governments that apply for federal and/or state aid for harbor-related work, in the event that funds become available. **MOTION** by Richmond/Meyer to approve the Resolution Re: Three-Year Statement of Intentions for Department of Transportation. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

REAPPOINT LYNNE VALIQUETTE TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEE FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM

MOTION by Johnson/Burke to reappoint Lynne Valiquette to the Ethics Committee for a Three-Year Term. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S WORK PLAN PRIORITIES

Steve O'Malley presented a list of work plan priorities that included specific goals under budget, financial, County Board, labor relations/personnel, public relations, strategic planning and capital expenditure, sustainability, community building, on-going learning, and professional development. Chair Doyle complimented O'Malley on participating in community organizations and events. Supervisor Veenstra asked about grant writing responsibilities, and O'Malley replied that it is a team effort that

has been shown to be more effective than using either a professional grant writer or grant search service. **MOTION** by Hampson/Burke to accept the County Administrator's Work Plan. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

CLOSED SESSION (4:25 p.m.)

MOTION by Johnson/Meyer to go into closed session pursuant to s. 19.85(c) Wis. Stats. when considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, To Wit: County Administrator's Performance Evaluation. Following the closed session, the Committee will reconvene into open session and may take action on the closed session issues. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

OPEN SESSION (4:38 p.m.)

MOTION by Hampson/Richmond to reconvene open session. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused.

No action or other discussion took place in closed session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None requested for Executive Committee; reserve account report suggested for full County Board.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Richmond/Veenstra to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused. **Meeting adjourned 4:40 p.m.**

Approved, April 14, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder