

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Administrative Center, 400 N. 4th St., Room 3220
1:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tara Johnson, Jill Billings, Vicki Burke, Sharon Hampson (1:13 p.m.) Don Meyer, Marilyn Pedretti, Roger Plesha, Charles Spiker

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Steve Doyle

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve O'Malley, Gary Ingvalson, Margaret Norden, Ginny Dankmeyer, Bob Taunt, Bill Shepherd, Dave Lange, Dave Holtze, Betsy Bloom, Jim Speropulos

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 9, 2011, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MOTION by Meyer/Spiker to approve the November 9, 2011, Executive Committee Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle, Hampson excused.

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

MOTION by Plesha/Pedretti to receive and file the October Investment Report, Monthly Account Transfers, and Check Requisitions. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle, Hampson excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

None reported.

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE S. 30.81(11) OF CHAPTER 30 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN REGARDING SLOW NO-WAKE ZONE – BLUFF SLOUGH

The ordinance creates a no wake zone in Bluff Slough, a/k/a Swift Creek or Running Slough. Supervisor Meyer said that a resident asked for a no wake zone, and the Harbor Commission agreed to proceed. **MOTION** by Meyer/Burke to approve the ordinance to create S. 30.81(11) of Chapter 30 of the General Code of La Crosse County. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle, Hampson excused.

DISCUSSION OF FUND BALANCE ORDINANCE

Gary Ingvalson provided rationale for the recommended reduction of the minimum unassigned General Fund balance from 40 to 50% of expenditures to 30 to 50%. He showed the top five highest county percentages, led by Walworth County at 52.8%. He stated that Clifton Gunderson, the County's financial advisor, recommended 30 to 50% as a more reasonable range. Supervisor Billings stated she would like to see flexibility, given the challenges the Human Services Department is facing with state and federal funding cuts. Supervisor Plesha spoke about the length of time that was needed historically to build up the fund balances we currently have. Steve O'Malley stated that any changes going forward would require Board approval, and decisions made outside of the budget process would need a 2/3 vote.

IN REM TAX FORECLOSURE UPDATE

Dave Lange reported that of 30-34 properties that had unpaid taxes, about half are now current with their taxes, and another owner has started making payments. He reviewed the remaining properties from the list of properties he handed out. He stated that some properties are remnants, and pointed out the properties that have improvements. One of the properties is of interest to the Village of West Salem

because it contains a retention pond. The Village has indicated they are willing to pay the outstanding taxes on that parcel to make sure the pond is properly maintained. The report was informational only.

RESOLUTION RE: DESIGNATION OF AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR 2012

The Resolution designates the La Crosse Tribune as the official newspaper for La Crosse County for 2012. **MOTION** by Billings/Plesha to approve the Resolution Re: Designation of an Official Newspaper for 2012. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle excused.

RESOLUTION RE: INCREASE HOURS OF STAFF UNDER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) GRANT FOR THE DRUG TASK FORCE

The Resolution approves the mid-year hiring of one and one-half fulltime equivalent employees on the Drug Task Force, with funding available from money transferred from a grant from the State of Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance. Discussion was held regarding whether unused funds would have to be returned; the intention is to use all funds. **MOTION** by Burke/Spiker to approve the Resolution Re: Increase Hours of Staff Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant for the Drug Task Force. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle excused.

CLOSED SESSION TO FORMULATE STRATEGY REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES

MOTION by Burke/Pedretti to go into CLOSED SESSION, pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(e) Wis. Stats. deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, To Wit: Formulate strategy regarding negotiations with public safety employees. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle excused.

Closed session **(1:25 p.m.)**

MOTION by Hampson/Burke to reconvene open session. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle excused.

OPEN SESSION (1:48 p.m.)

No other discussion took place, and no action was taken in closed session.

RESOLUTION RE: MODIFICATION OF COMPENSATION PLAN FOR PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES FOR 2012

The Resolution approves modification of the present County Compensation Plan to rescind a 2% pay increase for public safety management employees, including the chief deputy, law enforcement captain, investigative captain, and law enforcement sergeants. Staff is recommending this action because settlement has not been reached regarding WRS and wage issues for the WPPA unit and Act 32 (the budget bill) requires the County to contribute to WRS in equal amounts for Union Public Safety employees and Public Safety Management employees. Discussion was held regarding clarification within the Resolution of the 5.9% contribution to WRS. Bob Taunt explained that it is unknown what percentage or amount union public safety employees will contribute when bargaining is concluded. **MOTION** by Spiker/Pedretti to approve the Resolution Re: Modification of Compensation Plan for Public Safety Management Employees for 2012. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle excused.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None requested.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Burke/Plesha to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Doyle excused. The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Approved, January 11, 2012, Margaret Norden, Recorder