

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 10, 2011

1:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Doyle, Jill Billings, Vicki Burke, Sharon Hampson, Tara Johnson, Don Meyer, Marilyn Pedretti, Roger Plesha (exc. 2:52 p.m.), Charles Spiker

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Gary Ingvalson, Bill Shepherd, Bob Taunt, Hank Koch, John Parshall, Andrea Richmond, Meg Torgerud, John Medinger, Bryan Jostad, Charlie Handy, Brian Fukuda, Ginny Dankmeyer, Pat Houlihan, Grace Schroeder

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Steve Doyle called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12, JANUARY 26, AND FEBRUARY 1, 2011, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Plesha/Billings to approve the January 12, January 26, and February 1, 2011, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

MOTION by Meyer/Spiker to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Houlihan stated he was present for the Resolution on the Schroeder property.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

Supervisor Johnson stated that the WCA Legislative Exchange had nothing but negative news about the State budget that would be reported at the County Board meeting.

RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY CLERK

NOTE: Vice-Chair Johnson took the chair for the discussion and motion on the Resolution.

The Resolution approves the appointment of Virginia Dankmeyer to fill the vacancy in the County Clerk's position created by the retirement of Linda Stone. There were several questions regarding the appointment of a deputy clerk. Bob Taunt and Bill Shepherd clarified that the clerk would have a constitutional right to appoint a deputy, but the County Board could choose not to fund that position. Steve O'Malley reported that in all cases where a department has a vacancy, those positions are being scrutinized for whether they should be filled and how they will be funded.

MOTION by Spiker/Johnson to approve the Resolution Re: Appointment of County Clerk. **Motion carried 7-1-1.** Burke opposed; Doyle abstained.

NOTE: Following the vote, Chair Doyle retook the chair.

RESOLUTION RE: ADOPTION OF CONTRACT FOR HILLVIEW UNION 2011

The Resolution approves the tentative agreement between La Crosse County and Hillview Local 150 which states there will be a 0% across the board wage increase, but allows employees to move through steps, if available, as provided in the pay plan. Steve O'Malley stated that he recommended approval. **MOTION** by Pedretti/Plesha to approve the Resolution Re: Adoption of Contract for Hillview Union 2011. **Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION RE: RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF GENERAL VANG PAO

The Resolution recognizes the loss of Laotian General Vang Pao, who led a campaign against communist insurgents during the Vietnam War. It recognizes his importance to the U.S. and the Hmong community, and expresses condolences for his loss.

Supervisor Medinger stated he and other supervisors attended a memorial service at the Hmong Cultural Center, and read aloud the proposed Resolution, which was very well received. **MOTION** by Johnson/Hampson to approve the Resolution Re:

Recognizing the Life and Service of General Vang Pao. **Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION RE: CHARGING OF FEES FOR NIVD ACTIVITIES

The Resolution addresses the losses incurred by the Child Support Agency to process NIVD ("non-4D") cases where the parent is not receiving public assistance. Such cases are not reimbursed. The losses total approximately \$5,000 per year. Counties may elect to charge for services, and the Resolution approves charging for processing income withholding orders and payment history print-out at \$35.00 per case, per service, and service account reconciliation at \$35.00 per case, per service up to a maximum of \$200.00. Meg Torgerud reported that the charge is comparable to what other counties are charging. Discussion was held about creating accounts for family law attorneys who request print-outs for court hearings. Chair Doyle asked Gary Ingvalson to have the Finance Department work with the Child Support Agency to set up such accounts. **MOTION** by Plesha/Meyer to approve the Resolution Re: Charging of Fees for NIVD Activities. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NOTE: Chair Doyle took the following agenda item out of order.

RESOLUTION RE: DETERMINATION OF NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE SCHROEDER PROPERTY ON STATE ROAD 16

The Resolution was sent back to committee by the County Board for further discussion. Steve O'Malley reiterated that the Resolution does not authorize a purchase, but rather, an appraisal and ability to negotiate a purchase price, which would then come back to County Board for approval. He presented a summary of advantages to a possible acquisition of property adjacent to the County landfill. He stated the primary motivation for the Solid Waste Department is to realign the entrance for safety and access. Hank Koch showed how a curve in the road just inside the entrance is actually a hazard for all traffic into the industrial park. O'Malley pointed out that by redesigning the roadway, there would be soil removed that could be used for landfill projects or for a road base, thus saving County funds. There would also be two parcels created on County-owned land that is currently landlocked. A redesigned road using the Schroeder property would create access to those parcels, and they could be sold and added to the tax base. Hank Koch stated that the landfill does not have any plans to expand into that area, and if the County continued to own the land it would be used only as a buffer zone. Charlie Handy stated that it would be advantageous to have control over development, and work with businesses that are compatible with the landfill, and not disrupted by refuse trucks and landfill activity. Further discussion was held about the industrial park TIF district, and possible strategies to assist the City of La Crosse with TIF financing. Brian Fukuda stated he has discussed the matter with the City Planning Department and they do not foresee obstacles to refinancing the TIF because they would actually be adding to the tax base. **MOTION** by Spiker/Billings to reaffirm approval of the Resolution Re: Determination of Necessity to Acquire Schroeder Property on State Road 16 with the new information presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

DISCUSSION: FINANCIAL POLICIES REGARDING CONTRACT EXTENSION BY COMMITTEE

Bill Shepherd reviewed the Ordinance dealing with contract extensions, and pointed out that the Purchasing Section can negotiate extensions when in the best interest of the County. Bryan Jostad provided a spreadsheet on contracts that have not been

renewed with vendors who provided service for 10 or more years. He reported that in each case of a contract renewal, he discusses the current vendor's quality of service with the department head, and also does market research of other possible vendors. In cases where the department head and staff are pleased with the vendor's performance, and the vendor is offering a contract extension that is highly competitive when compared to what other counties are paying, he feels confident in recommending an extension rather than doing a Request for Proposal. Supervisor Johnson asked for a uniform template to explain those considerations that is consistent for all committees and provides all background for committee review. Chair Doyle asked Jostad and Gary Ingvalson to work on a template. Steve O'Malley pointed out that if committees have further questions, contract approvals can be referred to the next meeting and/or put out for RFP.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

County sales tax update

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Billings/Pedretti to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Plesha excused. The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Approved, March 9, 2011, Margaret Norden, Recorder