

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Administrative Center, 400 N. 4th St., Room 3220

1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tara Johnson, Vicki Burke (exc. 3:26 p.m.), Sharon Hampson, Don Meyer, Marilyn Pedretti (1:33 p.m.), Roger Plesha, Charles Spiker

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jill Billings

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve O'Malley, Gary Ingvalson, Margaret Norden, Bob Taunt, Dave Lange, Dave Holtze, Betsy Bloom, Donna Hanson, Cheryl McBride, Ray Ebert, Ginny Dankmeyer, Doug Mormann, Maureen Freedland, Jim Speropulos, John Parshall

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11, 2012, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MOTION by Hampson/Plesha to approve the January 11, 2012, Executive Committee Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings, Pedretti excused.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

Supervisor Burke reported that the Urban Institute's meeting with a member of the National Institute of Corrections regarding the La Crosse County Jail to Community Transition project coincided with the committee meeting.

NOTE: The Chair asked for unanimous consent to move the following two agenda items forward, and it was given.

DISCUSSION OF LEC HOURS OF OPERATION REQUESTED CHANGE

Steve O'Malley explained that departments in the Law Enforcement Center have advocated for changing their hours of operation from 8:30-5:00 to 8:00-4:30. The District Attorney's office has already begun the new hours on a trial basis. There is overlapping authority, and other issues that affect such a change, including: County ordinance that establishes consistent hours for all downtown campus buildings; a union contract that specifies uniform hours for AFSCME clerical positions; perceived need for uniform hours; and impact on internal service departments, e.g. maintenance and IT that service LEC departments. O'Malley distributed a survey that asked all department heads to respond to questions regarding the hours and whether public service would suffer. There were no objections or concerns raised; some indicated they were ambivalent; most were supportive. There was lengthy committee discussion about the background for the requested change. O'Malley stated that options are to have different hours at the LEC, change hours for everyone, keep the existing hours, or a combination. He spoke about an orderly procedure for a change in hours, including an ordinance change, publicizing a date for a change, and replacing signs on buildings. Discussion was held regarding court hours, building hours, impact of different hours on communication between offices and delivery of public services, and AFSCME response. O'Malley will bring an ordinance change for approval at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES FOR 4-YEAR TERM 2013-2016

Steve O'Malley reported that salaries must be set for the County Clerk, County Treasurer and Register of Deeds. Those positions must take out nomination papers by April 15, 2012, for the upcoming four-year term, 2013-2016. The five elected department heads, which also include the Sheriff and Clerk of Courts, volunteered to pay 5.9% to WRS, the same as other employees. That rate will change to 7.05% for the new term. There is pending litigation in Eau Claire County about changing compensation mid-term that will not be determined by the elections if there is an appeal. A resolution must be acted on in March, 2012, for a timely decision on pay rate vis-à-vis elections. O'Malley will prepare a resolution for the next meeting.

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION OF SELF-INSURANCE

The Resolution states that La Crosse County will provide for the continuation of a self-insured workers' compensation program that is currently in effect, and notifies the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development of this periodic reauthorization. **MOTION** by Plesha/Spiker to approve the Resolution Re: Authorization of Self-Insurance. **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings excused.

RESOLUTION RE: INCREASE HOURS OF A HEALTH EDUCATOR BY 0.2 FTE – 7.5 HR/WEEK

The Resolution states that the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention has authorized La Crosse County to receive \$18,800 for a portion of the cost of an existing health educator to assist La Crosse and Monroe Counties in having nationally accredited health departments. The health educator's hours will be increased from 0.8 FTE to 1.0 FTE from February 20, 2012, to December 31, 2012. **MOTION** by Spiker/Pedretti to approve the Resolution Re: Increase Hours of a Health Educator by 0.2 Fte – 7.5 Hr/Week. **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings excused.

ORDINANCE CHANGES TO CHAPTER 1 REGARDING STANDING COMMITTEES FROM THE DOWNSIZING COMMITTEE

The recommended changes from the Downsizing Committee regarding standing committee structure and membership size were incorporated in the changes to Chapter 1, as well as housekeeping changes. The chair reviewed each change in order, and committee approved by consensus the housekeeping changes. The following motions were made:

MOTION by Burke/Hampson to approve changes to Chapter 1.

The following amendments were then made:

MOTION by Plesha/Meyer to amend the proposed Ordinance Chapter 1.48 Aging & Long Term Care Committee to add the word Veterans before Aging & Long-term Care Committee. **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings excused.

MOTION by Plesha/Meyer to amend the proposed Ordinance Chapter 1.31 Zoning and Land Information Director to delete the words "and Land Information Director" and replace with "and Planning Administrator." **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings excused.

MOTION by Spiker/Hampson to amend the proposed Ordinance Chapter 1.41 General Provisions (3) Membership (d) to add the words "if County Board Chair is not present" after the words "the County Board Chair, or committee chair". **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings excused.

MOTION by Meyer/Hampson to the proposed Ordinance Chapter 1.41 General Provisions (7) Chairs of Standing Committees, to delete the change, "The Chairs of the Standing Committees will be elected by the members of those committees," and retain the original wording, "The County Board Chair shall have the power to select the chairs of the standing committees." **Motion carried 6-1-1.** Burke opposed; Billings excused. Lengthy discussion was held about the amendment. A handout was provided showing results of a survey conducted by the County Clerk. Supervisor Burke read aloud the results of her telephone survey of non-responding counties, and stated that the overall results showed that 70% of Wisconsin counties elect committee chairs. She stated that committee chairs should not be political

appointees. Supervisor Pedretti stated she did not want to see popularity contests, and that committee members would need to possess knowledge about candidates that new County Board members would not necessarily have. Supervisor Plesha pointed out that the survey did not indicate how many standing committees other counties had. Plesha also spoke about having language to ensure that non-elected, citizen members of committees could not be elected committee chair. Discussion having concluded, and votes taken on the amendments, the Chair proceeded to review the remaining housekeeping changes, and they were approved by consensus. Having completed the review, a vote was taken on Chapter 1, as amended:

Motion carried 6-1-1. Burke opposed; Billings excused.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None suggested.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pedretti/Spiker to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Approved, March 7, 2012, Margaret Norden, Recorder