

**Administration Committee -- Budget Hearings
October 10, 2012
Minutes**

Committee members present: Chair David Hintz, Ted Cushing, Sonny Paszak, Jerry Shidell and Denny Thompson.

Others present: Medical Examiner: Shari Gorney; North Central Regional Planning: Dennis Lawrence; Veterans Service: Tammy Walters; Human Service Center: Dave Bast and Lynn Probst; Animal Shelter: Anna Kazda; ITS: Lynn Grube; Others: Ken Kortenhof, John Sweeney, Mike Romportl, Andy Faust, Margie Sorenson, Candy Sorensen, Bob Martini, Romelle Vandervest, Marcus Neemann and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: Chairman Hintz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room of the Oneida County Courthouse noting the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

Approve agenda: Motion by Paszak/Thompson to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Daily Summary: Sorenson reviewed action taken at yesterday's meeting. Reductions were made to Tourism \$15,000; Airport \$20,000; UWEX 4-H/Youth Development agent position \$17,000; and Public Liability Insurance deductible \$25,000. Levy is down by approximately \$18,000. Status: \$486,915 below the 2012 levy.

Medical Examiner: Gorney appeared on the behalf of the Medical Examiner. The medical examiner position will change from a 35% position with fees to a 100% position. This change will cause an increase cost of \$17,580. Changes have been passed by LRES and Public Safety Committees. Discussion followed.

Motion by Paszak/Shidell to accept the Medical Examiner 2013 budget as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

North Central WI Regional Planning: Dennis Lawrence appeared on behalf of NCWRPC. Hintz noted earlier in the budget hearings funding for NCWRPC was eliminated from the 2013 budget. Lawrence was asked to provide a summary of what the membership provides and Oneida County projects for which they provided assistance. Lawrence reviewed an outline detailing assistance provided by NCWRPC under membership and noted little contract work is done for Oneida County. A portion of the membership dues goes to EDA and State DOT, the remainder is applied to hours committed to projects for the County. Discussion followed.

NCWRPC serves nine counties and Oneida County has been a member since 1973. Shidell questioned the return on investment (1.3 of 2.3) and who pays the other portion, how fees compare to the private sector and who sets membership fees. General membership provides 1/3 of operating budget, 1/3 is federal funding and 1/3 is from a grant that fluctuates each year. All local units are included in the county membership fee. Sorenson noted NCWRPC formerly charged a percent of equalized value by State Statute; but when equalized value spiked, a flat rate cap was set. Lengthy discussion followed.

Sweeney stated staff is asked to work with intergovernmental relationships. NCWRPC has assisted with the NEWCOM project and worked with the 16-county consortium to purchase similar equipment, creating substantial savings just for the radio project. This one project has saved more than the membership fees. Sweeney does not have additional funds in the Sheriff's Department budget to pay a private sector consultant for similar services. He is uncomfortable with removing the funding and hopes the Supervisors understand the service NCWRPC provides. Korten Hof fully supports the NCWRPC funding and stated he speaks with Andy Faust weekly and utilizes him as an Emergency Management backup. Romportl supports funding for NCWRPC and explained how Land Information uses NCWRPC including backup to GIS staff. Discussion followed.

Motion by Cushing/Paszak to reinstate \$46,000 for North Central WI Regional Planning Commission budget. Roll call vote: Shidell-nay; Hintz-aye; Paszak-aye; Thompson-aye; Cushing-aye. Motion carried.

Veterans Service Office: Walters appeared to discuss the Veterans Service Office budget noting all services of this office are mandated. The former van driver for the DAV transport program retired. The office now coordinates the program using volunteer drivers which provides a significant savings in mileage costs. Service has increased to three days per week transporting 15-20 vets per month. Walters is working to replace the SUV with a van to transport additional clients. She is also working to get a federal cemetery designated in Oneida County.

Motion by Hintz/Thompson to accept the 2013 Veterans Service Office budget as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Human Service Center: Bast and Probst appeared for the Human Service Center. Probst provided a summary of the agency budget with a zero increase from 2012, noting 2013 budget is based on statistical averages from past years. HSC has received a Telehealth grant to assist in providing psychiatric services. Bast noted that in tough times, more people require increased mental health services even though taxpayers are reluctant to assist with funding. HSC serves over 1,200 clients per year. Staff will make a good faith effort to implement a zero-based budget but noted uncontrolled costs include orders of the court to place individuals in state facilities and institutional placements for Alzheimer's patients. He also discussed issues with court ordered 51/55 placements. Lengthy discussion followed regarding services, reorganization and funding. Bast noted staff is working with UWEX on a strategic planning process following a study and subsequent plan developed three years ago. Of the 64 goals 50 have been implemented but all have been discussed. Discussion followed.

Motion by Cushing/Thompson to accept the Human Service Center 2013 budget as presented. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.

Animal Shelter: Kazda presented the 2013 Animal Shelter budget request. She provided information on what townships utilize the shelter, strays per capita, 2012 budget showing a \$92,211 shortfall. The 2013 budget includes a 4% increase for supplies and an additional part-time employee (90% of work at shelter is done by volunteers), increased revenue from fundraising and donations. She reviewed the operating agreement with the City of Rhineland and noted the City has agreed to provide \$46,000 in funding for 2013. Kazda requested

\$46,000 from Oneida County to assist with the operation of the shelter and cover expenses. Cushing suggested increasing fees for strays from the towns from \$25 to \$50. Kazda noted it is a lot of administrative work for staff, sometimes it's difficult to collect and some of the towns do not like it. Discussion followed. Shidell noted the City is currently upgrading and maintaining the shelter until July 2013 and if the Oneida County Humane Society proves itself worthy, they will receive an up-to-date building. Hintz noted the County is not required to provide anything to the shelter but a charitable donation can be made. This would be a continuing annual request.

Motion by Shidell/Thompson to fund the animal shelter at \$46,000. Roll call vote: Cushing-aye; Thompson-aye; Paszak-aye; Hintz-aye; Shidell-aye.

Five minute recess. Reconvene at 10:24 a.m.

Information Technology Services: Grube appeared to discuss the ITS 2013 budget request. It is the same as 2012 with the exception of increased fees (\$40 to \$50) for vendor jobs from and call-time pay. ITS does not return unspent monies to the general fund to maximize spending power and purchase in phases. Special projects for 2013 include email migration to Exchange, Office 2010 upgrade, Voice-Over IP and JD Edwards accounting system upgrade. Discussion followed. Grube reminded Committee members that the equipment is aging and the need to be cognizant of that fact. Committee asked Grube to bring an equipment replacement plan forward to the Finance for review at a later meeting.

Motion by Cushing/Paszak to accept the 2013 budget for the ITS Department as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Cushing/Thompson to add Voice-Over IP (\$275,000) and accounting upgrade (\$60,000) expense into the 2013 ITS Department budget. All ayes; motion carried.

Public Health: Conlon submitted a decreased budget of \$80,451 for the Health Department. This is due to a combination of a decrease in grants, a decrease in tax levy dollars and a decrease in flu shot revenue. She reviewed grants listed on budget worksheet provided. Discussion followed regarding grants and longevity of deliverables. *Motion by Cushing/Thompson to accept the 2013 Public Health budget as presented. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.*

Debt Service, Airport Construction and Health Insurance Trust: Sorenson reviewed the following budgets: Debt Service (has been repaid), Bond to Human Service Center loan (remodeling project); Economic Development; Economic Development Trust loan balance prior to 7/1/2005; Fund Balance for Airport; Airport Construction budget; Dog License Trust Fund; Health and Welfare Trusts Fund (used to fund HRA contributions upon retirement using leftover monies from when the County was self-funded – it must be used for health insurance costs). Discussion followed. *Motion by Cushing/Thompson to accept the 2013 budgets for Debt Service, Airport Construction and Health Insurance Trust Fund. All ayes; motion carried.*

Other: *Motion by Shidell/Thompson to eliminate \$23,354 from the Sheriff's Department budget for the Dive Team.* Discussion followed. Shidell noted 24 counties in Wisconsin do not have a dive team; 19 dive teams are operated by the fire departments within a county, and 43

counties' dive teams are not under the Sheriff's Department. The County has provided funding for seven years and need to continue training upgrades. Shidell feels it is an unnecessary expense and it would be best to hire a diver and pay on a per episode basis. Cushing noted there are counties who don't have the amount of lakes as Oneida County and, therefore, don't need a dive team. Paszak suggested funding the Dive Team by 50% of 2013 request. Discussion followed. *Roll call vote: Cushing-nay; Thompson-aye; Paszak-aye; Hintz-aye; Shidell-aye. Motion carried.*

Motion by Hintz/Paszak to reduce the animal shelter budget by \$6,000. Roll call vote Cushing-aye; Thompson-aye; Paszak-aye; Hintz-aye; Shidell-aye. Motion carried.

Sorenson presented final proposed figures. The levy is \$15,001,089-- \$1,600 under the 2012 levy limits. Discussion followed.

Adjournment: Motion by Cushing/Paszak to adjourn at 11:48 a.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary

David Hintz, Chair