

**SPECIAL ORDERS SESSION
COUNTY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2009
5:30 P.M. – E-MAIL TRAINING, FOLLOWED BY THE REST OF THE AGENDA**

Chairman David Albrecht called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Fourth Floor, Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation by Supervisor Lennon.

The following Supervisors were present: Konetzke, Barker, Griesbach, Eisen, Ramos, Roh, Koziczkowski, Smith, Widener, Hamblin, Albrecht, Gabert, Riste, Thompson, Lennon, Gearhart, Hall, Jacobson, Norton, Warnke, Robl, Eichman, Schmuhl, Kline, Locke, Nelson, Finch, Sievert, Farrey, Brennand, Ellis, Rengstorf and Reinert.

Excused: Wingren, Diakoff and Egan.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to approve tonight's agenda with a change of order of the agenda items so that Resolution Nos. 154-32009 & 155-32009 are acted on before any of the presentations. **CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

County Board E-mail Account Training – Patty Francour, Information Systems Director

Patty Francour, Information Systems Director, discussed web Outlook and county e-mail accounts for County Board Supervisors. She explained that county e-mail addresses for Board members will ensure that documents are retained on the county's system and available for appropriate open records requests.

Ms. Francour explained the computer use agreement and asked that anyone interested in having a county e-mail account fill out the agreement and give it to her this evening. She also stated that if anyone needs training in Outlook, they will setup classes for Board members in the near future.

Ms. Francour then demonstrated and explained the county's Outlook e-mail system and took questions from the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING

No one addressed the Board.

Chuck Orenstein distributed the county's Vehicle Usage Agreement and asked the Board members to sign. This completed, signed form is necessary for Board members and employees to receive mileage reimbursement from the county.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervisor Koziczkowski reported that the State of Wisconsin has awarded money for the Family Care program that the county's Human Services Department has been studying. Mr. Koziczkowski explained that there will be a full report on family care given to the Board at the March 17 meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Albrecht reported that Supervisor Wingren, Egan and Diakoff are excused from tonight's meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 154-32009: Authorize Execution of Lease Agreement: MEG Unit Offices

WHEREAS, Winnebago County presently serves as the fiscal agent for the Lake Winnebago Area Multi-Drug Enforcement Group Drug Unit (hereinafter referred to as MEG Unit); and

WHEREAS, the MEG Unit desires to enter into a lease for new office space of approximately 6,170 square feet; and

WHEREAS, the MEG Unit has been forced to move from its present location due to the fact that the location of its offices have become too well known, publicly; and

WHEREAS, because of the undercover nature of the MEG Unit's work, it is important that the name of the landlord and the location of the new offices of the MEG Unit remain confidential; and

WHEREAS, the monthly rent for the new leasehold of the new MEG Unit shall be \$3,500 per month plus any real estate taxes annually levied upon said property; and

WHEREAS, the MEG Unit shall utilize the entire building space within the new leasehold; and

WHEREAS, the landlord has agreed to contract out and pay for the first \$35,000 of build out costs in relationship to office space for said building; and

WHEREAS, the lease provides that the MEG Unit may terminate the lease at any time after the first year of the lease, provided that said building costs would be reimbursed to the landlord at a rate of 90% if the lease is terminated during the second year of the lease; 75% if the lease is terminated during the third year of the lease; 60% if the lease is terminated after the fourth year of the lease and 45% if the lease is terminated after the fifth year of the lease with no build out costs being owed thereafter should the lease be terminated; and

WHEREAS, said lease also contains a clause which would allow the mutual extension of the lease term for an additional five (5) year period at its expiration; and

WHEREAS, your undersigned Committee has reviewed said lease and recommends its approval; and

WHEREAS, your undersigned Committee, because of the sensitive nature of the MEG Unit's work, recommends that hereinafter any multi-year lease be authorized to be approved solely by the County Executive, provided that sufficient appropriations have been budgeted for said lease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby approves the execution of a lease on behalf of the MEG Unit by Winnebago County as its fiscal agent pursuant to those terms provided above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby the Winnebago County Executive in the future to administratively execute leases on behalf of the MEG Unit by Winnebago County as its fiscal agent without County Board approval, provided that sufficient funds have been appropriated within the Winnebago County budget in relationship to said lease agreements.

Submitted by:
FACILITIES & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman Albrecht explained that an amended Resolution was placed on their desks. He asked for a motion to accept this amended resolution for action. Motion by Supervisor Farrey and seconded to accept the amended resolution.

Role call vote on Resolution: Ayes: 32. Nays: 1 – Jacobson. Excused: 3 – Wingren, Diakoff and Egan. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 155-32009: Propose Use of Wireless 911 Funds to Offset State Budget Deficit

WHEREAS, the present budget proposal of Governor James Doyle allows for the transfer of funds from the Wireless 911 Fund as being held by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission to the General State Budget for the purpose of offsetting the budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, legislation was enacted by the State Legislature in 2006 to create this fund by adding a 911 surcharge to cellular subscriptions; and

WHEREAS, said legislation provided that any remaining balance in the fund after legislation sunset in November, 2008 would be returned to customers through their wireless carriers; and

WHEREAS, the potential failure by the State of Wisconsin to reimburse sending these funds to cellular customers appears to be an act of bad faith on the part of the Wisconsin Legislature and the Governor; and

WHEREAS, your undersigned Committee is of the opinion that pursuant to the original legislation, any unexpended revenue within said fund should be returned to cellular subscribers and customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby opposes the use of any unexpended funds in the Wireless 911 Fund for the purpose of offsetting the state budget deficit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby urges the State of Wisconsin to return all unexpended funds within the Wireless 911 Fund to cellular customers and subscribers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that a copy of this resolution be transmitted by the Winnebago County Clerk to all legislators representing constituents within Winnebago County; to the Wisconsin Counties Association; and to the Office of Governor James Doyle.

Submitted by:
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Kline and seconded to adopt. Ayes: 28. Nays: 5 – Widener, Thompson, Hall, Jacobson and Norton. Excused: 3 – Wingren, Diakoff and Egan. CARRIED.

CREATING RETURNS ON YOUR INVESTMENT – CHANCELLOR DAVID WILSON, UW COLLEGES AND UW EXTENSIONS

Chris Kniep, head of the Winnebago County UW Extension Office and Family Living Educator, introduced Chancellor David Wilson and Karen Hintz, UW Extension District Director.

Chancellor Wilson addressed the Board and thanked them and Winnebago County for their continued support of UW Fox Valley and the Winnebago County Extension Office. Chancellor Wilson then explained two of the institutions of the University of Wisconsin system—the UW Colleges and UW Extensions. He explained the structure of the UW system:

- UW Board of Regents oversees the entire UW system
- UW President Kevin Reilly oversees all the 26 campus and their chancellors or deans and UW Extension offices
 - 13 campuses are made up of 2 doctoral universities—Madison & Milwaukee—and 11 comprehensive universities—UW-Oshkosh, UW-Stevens Point, etc.
 - 13 campuses are freshman/sophomore colleges headed by deans—UW Fox Valley, etc.
 - UW Extension offices
 - Chancellor Wilson oversees the 13 freshman/sophomore colleges and the UW Extension Offices

Chancellor Wilson then explained the UW-Extension's four major divisions:

- Cooperative Extension
 - Largest division—an office is located in every county in Wisconsin
- Broadcasting & Media Innovations
 - Includes Wisconsin Public Television and Wisconsin Public Radio
- Outreach & E-Learning
- Entrepreneurship and Economic Development

Chancellor Wilson then went over their latest annual report, "Creating Returns on Investments" and explained that this is their "on-going effort" to let their county partners know how they are using their resources to respond to local needs.

Chancellor Wilson thanked the Board for their continued support of the UW Fox Valley campus and specifically for their support of the Communication Arts Building project and the new engineering department project. Both of these facilities will greatly benefit the area and give a "huge return on that investment." He explained that 35 students have already graduated with bachelor degrees in engineering from UW-Fox Valley and all 35 are employed as engineers in the State of Wisconsin—30 are in the local area. Chancellor Wilson made the following points regarding UW-Fox Valley:

- Collaborative bachelorette degrees allow students to stay in the area and get bachelor degrees in selected fields at the four-year campuses.
- UW-Fox Valley is the number one value in college education in this region.

Chancellor Wilson then spoke to the Board about the Winnebago County UW-Extension Department and stated his appreciation for the Board's support of that department. UW-Extension meets the needs of the county's citizens by providing research based services in six areas: agriculture; community, natural resources and economic development; family living; horticulture; nutrition education; and 4-H and Youth Development.

Chancellor Wilson discussed 4-H and Youth Development. He explained that Winnebago County's 4-H program is the county's "most successful pre-college program" available to its youth. 4-H gives students confidence and helps them to become leaders in their communities and to be successful in life. The Winnebago County 4-H Leaders Association also raises money to ensure that youth and family members who are having financial problems are able to participate in their programs.

Chancellor Wilson then explained other programs that the UW Extension Department is involved in:

- Master Gardeners and the Oshkosh Rotary Club will work together on a "share harvest" garden to raise food for the Oshkosh Community Pantry
- Nick Schneider, Winnebago County Agriculture Agent, is scheduling risk management programs for county farmers and their families who are dealing with lower prices for their products
- Community Gardens
- Catherine Neiswender is working with the Oshkosh Business Improvement District by co-hosting a downtown revitalization webinar series
- They work closely with UW-Oshkosh and their Small Business Development Center Workshops. UW-Extension works closely with area small businesses to help them grow and prosper, especially in these hard economic times.
- Family Living Education – supports families and helps them manage their finances by having them participate in classes and training sessions. They also offer various money management programs to people. Some of these people are inmates at the county jail or state prison. Domestic abuse staff are also being trained so they can offer money management strategies to their clients.

- VITA Program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program) is offered to low income families to help them fill out and complete their annual income tax returns.
- Oshkosh Community Pantry opened in January and has served over 800 households already. Chris Kniep sits on this Board and has worked to make it a community-wide pantry rather than a church-based pantry.
- UW-Extension is working with the Work Force Development Center on displaced worker education programs—financial management, stress management, decision making and family resiliency in difficult times.
- UW-Extension was also involved in working with local planning commissions, comprehensive planning and land use education, sustainability education, soil management and after school training programs for the providers of after school services

Chancellor Wilson explained that the Winnebago County UW Extension Office investigates the needs of the areas residents and offers services based on those needs. He reminded the Board that all residents of Winnebago County can access the services of all 26 university campuses and all divisions of UW-Extension by going to the Winnebago County UW-Extension Office. It is the county's "gateway" to the entire UW system.

Chancellor Wilson reminded the Board that what happens at the UW Extension Office in Winnebago County is also going on in the other 71 counties in Wisconsin. He explained that the acronym that describes the UW Extension system is "IDEAS"—Innovation, Diversity, Economic Development, Access, Stewardship.

Chancellor Wilson assured the Board that the money the county invests in the UW Extension Office is used with "utmost respect" to fund programs that respond to the needs of the local community.

Chairman Albrecht called for a recess at 6:52 p.m. The Board reconvened at 7:04 p.m.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OVERVIEW ASSOCIATED FINANCIAL GROUP AND WINNEBAGO COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Karon Kraft, Winnebago County Human Resources Director, introduced Mr. Jan Stage, Senior Benefits Consultant at Association Financial Group, who presented information to the Board on employee health insurance. His Health Insurance Trends presentation was broken down into the following four sections:

- Healthcare 101
 - Annual health care cost increases since 2000 have ranged from:
 - according to Mercer Health & Benefits LLC from 6.1% to 14.7% (average 8.65%)
 - according to Hewitt Health Value Initiative from 7.7% to 15.2 (average 10.58%)
 - According to health insurance companies the average increase during this time was 12% - this is a standard answer from the insurance companies because of annual plan changes
 - Winnebago County's annual insurance increase is 14% - higher than average because we offer a better than average health insurance plan to our employees

Mr. Stage showed that the "total premiums based on all health plans for active employees from 2004 to 2008" (county employees) went up by the following percentages: 2005 – 12.02%; 2007 – 24.78% and 2008 – 10.57%. (In 2006, there actually was a 11.53% decrease in costs.) He explained that health insurance costs are going up for the following reasons:

- Inflation
- Cost shifting – higher charges to the private sector to offset fee reductions in Medicare and Medicaid
- Intensity of services & technology advances – using more expensive services and equipment—MRI instead of an X-ray.
- Utilization of services – using services more
- Social shifts – aging population, AIDS and other medical conditions
- Patient demand - inflation has reduced real medical out-of-pocket costs
- Utilization shifting – higher use in the private sector to offset lower use in Medicare and Medicaid systems.

Mr. Stage explained that other things that are impacting higher costs are the "third party payer system" and the "lack of transparency."

- What Are Employers Doing To Control Costs?
 - Consumer driven healthcare
 - Health Savings Accounts (HAS) – regulated by federal government
 - Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA) – regulated by the employer's policies
 - Negatives of Consumer Driven Healthcare
 - Lack of pricing transparency
 - Good for healthy, bad for sick
 - Good for wealthy
 - Sick people can't afford the drugs
 - Most people in these plans are not happy with them

- Wellness
 - It's cultural/regional – fish fries, brats, etc.
 - Over 50% of healthcare claims are because of the life style choices people make—smoking, exercise, diet, etc.
 - Health risk assessment (HRA):
 - Scientifically designed tool used to assess lifestyle behaviors, critical health factors and interpret an individual's current health status and risk profile
 - Employers with an aggressive wellness program start with an HRA
 - Employers with health and wellness programs save money on their health care costs
- The “Risk Iceberg”
 - Reactive treatment—population receiving disease management services - 10% of the population/account for 80% of medical claims
 - Proactive Treatment—population needing lifestyle modification - 80% of the population/account for 15% of medical claims
 - Prevention/Education—population needing to maintain good habits and lifestyles – 10% of the population/account for 5% of medical claims
- Virtual Clinic
 - Contracts with a local health care provider to provide medical services to employees and their dependents—usually a nurse practitioner for primary care. Significant savings when compared to visits to a physician's office or a clinic.
- Health Insurance Market: What's Available?
 - Limited number of insurance providers
 - Winnebago County has two providers because there isn't one insurance provider that includes all the physicians and medical facilities in the county in their plans at an acceptable cost.
 - Various providers don't offer dual carrier options
 - County's two insurance providers are:
 - United Health Care – covers Aurora and ThedaCare
 - Network Health Plan – covers Affinity, Mercy Medical Center and St. Elizabeth Hospital
 - Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) health insurance program
 - This is a trust program developed by the WCA and is available to member counties in Wisconsin.
 - Health providers covered under this plan are Aurora and ThedaCare.
 - State Program
 - Counties and cities can work with the State of Wisconsin to provide the state workers insurance plan to their employees
 - It would include multiple health care providers
 - This program gets the best discounts from the insurance companies
 - Bigger risk pool – you lose your autonomy
 - Currently, Winnebago County's current group rates are better than the state's program rates
 - Other insurance providers include WPS, Anthem, Humana and Quantum – either they don't cover area health care providers, they can't meet existing rates or they don't offer dual carrier options.

Mr. Stage then explained a fully insured program (governed by state regulations) versus a self-funded program (governed by federal regulations). He stated that Winnebago County's self-funded program is actually costing the county more than the Network plan. The reason for this is that younger, healthier employees are taking the Network plan which puts the employees with health issues and medical claims in the self-funded program. If this continues the cost difference between the two plans will grow and could cause problems managing the self-funded program. Having one plan for all employees would be beneficial for the county.

- Where Do We Go From Here?
 - Employers want to keep their rate increases to 0%--what can they do?
 - Disease management
 - Wellness
 - Consumer-driven healthcare
 - Cost management
 - Plan changes can produce cost savings
 - Higher deductibles with higher co-pays will save the county thousands of dollars
 - Remember: these changes would generate a one-time savings. Trends will determine what the rates will be next year.

- Next steps
 - Have a budget number—this is what we can afford. Work the plan around that number.

Mr. Stage then took questions from the Board.

VETERANS SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATE – ROBERT STONE, VETERANS SERVICES OFFICER

Robert Stone, Winnebago County Veterans Services Officer, updated the Board on activities in the Veterans Services Department.

Mr. Stone explained that his department goes out to the prison to help veteran inmates with claims and other services. On one of his visits, the warden presented him with a knitted wall hanging with the POW/MIA flag design on it that was made by the inmates at the prison. Mr. Stone had a number of veterans carry it to the front of the room to show the Board members.

Mr. Stone recognized and introduced a group of veterans who were in attendance at tonight's meeting. The Board greeted them with a round of applause and standing ovation.

Mr. Stone thanked the Board and County Executive Harris for all the support they have given him since he started with Winnebago County. He also recognized the Veterans Services Commission for their work with his department and the veterans.

Mr. Stone then discussed his department:

- There are 3.5 full time employees in his department
- They work closely with the Register of Deeds Office and the Information Systems Department and they appreciate all the help they get from them.
- In 2008, 2,677 people came to their office for assistance. 1,868 went to the Oshkosh office and 809 went to the Neenah office.
- Over 6,400 pieces of mail were sent from his department.
- 447 new case files were opened last year.
- 16,870 veteran clients were served last year.
- Their transportation person provided 800 rides for veterans to various VA medical facilities in their van. \$12,000 was also spent providing veterans with other means of transportation.
- Increased outreach efforts to the veterans' community included: assistance with the demobilization of the 1157th division; involved with the prison program; participated in the Affinity Health Fair; attended job fair at the Expo Center; home, hospital, prison and service organization visits; conferences and parades; etc.
- Keep in contact with state representatives to monitor and bring to their attention veterans issues.
- 14,200 veterans reside in Winnebago County
- In World War II, 332,200 military personnel came from Wisconsin with 8,390 casualties.
- In the Korean War, 132,729 military personnel came from Wisconsin.
- In the Vietnam War, 165,400 military personnel came from Wisconsin with 1,239 casualties.
- \$9.3 Million in federal benefits for veterans' medical care comes to the county annually.
- Additional compensation in the form of pension, insurance, education, etc., totals \$26,078,000. In 2008, another \$2,755,000 in benefits came from the State of Wisconsin Veterans Administration.

Mr. Stone concluded his presentation by sharing some personal interest stories with the Board and thanking them for their continued support of his department.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adjourn until the Board's next meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2009. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk

State of Wisconsin)
County of Winnebago) ss

I, Susan T. Ertmer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors for their Special Orders Session held March 3, 2009.

Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk