

## MINUTES

Eau Claire County  
Committee on Finance and Budget

Monday, October 8, 2018 / 8:30 am  
Eau Claire County Courthouse – Room 1273  
Eau Claire, WI 54703

**Members present:** Supervisors Steve Chilson, Jim Dunning, Robin Leary, Stella Pagonis, Gerald Wilkie

**Others present:** Supervisors Colleen Bates, Kimberly Cronk, Donald Mowry

**Staff present:** Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager; Josh Pedersen, Parks & Forest Director; Gary King, District Attorney; Eric Huse, Office Manager for District Attorney; Diane Cable, Director of Human Services; Vickie Gardner, Fiscal Services Manager DHS; Tammy Stelter, Accountant DHS;

Chair Stella Pagonis called the meeting to order at 8:38 am and confirmed compliance with open meetings law.

The committee reviewed the proposed restructuring of Finance, Purchasing, and Administration, as well as the department moves to the Ag Center. The committee is concerned about moving ADRC/Vets so soon after renovation investments were just completed in late 2017.

Josh Pedersen presented the Parks & Forest 2019 budget request. Grant funding is down because the department is not working on projects that qualify for grant funding. Rent rates for the Expo Center were discussed. The committee reviewed the capital proposal, including long term plans for development at Lake Altoona and the process for prioritizing projects was explained. Reforestation dollars are built into the services and supplies annual budget as needed. Replanting is purposeful and site evaluation is completed before new trees are planted.

Gary King and Eric Huse presented the 2019 District Attorney budget request. The office is projecting that case files for 2018 will be up approximately 640 cases. There has been an increase in felonies and a decrease in misdemeanors. The committee solicited the DA's thoughts on the courthouse security project. The DA's recommendation is to proceed on security projects when proper staffing is available. The DA's office has requested two attorneys from the state each bi-annual budget year but have not received any yet.

Diane Cable, Vickie Gardner, and Tammy Stelter presented the 2019 Department of Human Services budget request. The department's vision statement drives decisions: "Family connections are always preserved and strengthened." The department is continuing their investment in the platform set in prior years, which aligns with the department's focus on healing and recovery. The budget includes a continuation of the CCS program, which allows the department to bring in federal and state reimbursements for services provided. Staffing levels are increasing because smaller workloads allow case workers to spend time with families to aid in the recovery and healing process.

Supervisor Robin Leary made a motion to approve all minutes, with a correction of the misspelling of "Tomah". Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm.

Amy Weiss, Committee Clerk