

MINUTES

Eau Claire County
Committee on Finance and Budget

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 / 8:30 am
Eau Claire County Courthouse – Room LEC 1301/1302

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

Others present: Supervisor Colleen Bates;

Staff present: Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager; Diane Cable, Director of Human Services; Frank Draxler, Purchasing Director; Sheriff Ron Cramer; Matt Theisen, Facilities Director

Chair Stella Pagonis called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

There is significant interest in beginning to build out the jail. The state is going to see an overall decline of 10% in the working population over the next 30 years. Kathryn Schauf suggested we begin to evaluate how the overall population will affect the jail population. A team at the county is going to begin an evaluation for the tipping point for when this investment is in the County's best interests. It is premature for the county to put any funding into the 2019 budget related to a jail buildout.

The committee went through each department and added comments and concerns to the proposed budget. Ideas, suggestions, and changes were captured in a summary worksheet. Some, but not all, of the changes are summarized below.

The committee desires to addback the prevention coordinator in ADRC. Prevention programs are popular and important.

The committee discussed plans for the 6th courtroom. Costs seem very high, even with the detailed estimate provided by Matt Theisen. Timing of the project is important because it is unknown when the state will give the county a 6th judge.

The committee reduced funding for proposed department relocations, and requested to see a master plan for department locations.

The committee proposed reductions to the county board AV equipment to allow funding for more important projects.

The committee reviewed updated information on the P&D groundwater study. Funding for a grant match should come out of contingency.

The committee reallocated proposed bonding for department moves to the Sheriff department for security needs. The committee would like to eliminate the electronic monitoring program.

The committee reviewed community agency funding and adjusted according to capacity of programs and commitments from DHS to utilize grant funding to support outside programs.

Supervisor Robin Leary made a motion to accept the additions and subtractions as discussed and presented in summary worksheet. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:46 pm.

Amy Weiss, Committee Clerk