

MINUTES

Eau Claire County
Committee on Finance and Budget

Monday, June 10, 2019 / 4:30 pm
Eau Claire County Courthouse – **Room 3312**
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Members present: Supervisors Jim Dunning, Robin Leary, Stella Pagonis, Gerald Wilkie, Steve Chilson (4:50 pm)
Staff present: Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Greg Leonard, Land Conservation Manager; Janet Loomis, County Clerk; Glenda Lyons, Treasurer; Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Tim Sullivan, Corporate Counsel; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager
Others present: Supervisor Connie Russell

Chair Stella Pagonis called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and confirmed compliance with open meeting law. There were no members of the public who wished to comment.

Referred Ordinance 19-20/012 “To Amend Section 4.35.165 B. of the Code: Land Conservation Fees; to Repeal and Recreate Chapter 17.04 of the Code”

Referred Amendment No. 1 to File No. 19-20/012 / Discussion – Action

The fee structure included in the proposed resolution was referred to Finance & Budget for discussion.

Motion: Dunning moved to approve the amendment and the ordinance for the fees as presented.

Motion passed; 4-0.

Performance measures help the board to see what resources the department needs to accomplish their tasks. Janet Loomis, County Clerk; Glenda Lyons, County Treasurer; and Norb Kirk, Finance Director presented proposals for updated performance measurements for the 2019 budget.

Stella Pagonis distributed the current ordinance outlining Finance & Budget Committee responsibilities. The Committee on Finance & Budget is only mentioned in the current ordinance in budget procedure when it comes to fees. The committee believes that the county ordinance should be modified to more closely reflect the committee’s current practice, and one which clearly outlines the committee’s responsibilities. The committee members are to review the current ordinance, current practice, and send proposed adjustments to Corporate Counsel.

Proposed Resolution 19-20/023 “Contingency Transfer for DHS Program Review”

Chair Stella Pagonis shared a proposed resolution regarding a contingency fund transfer for a Human Services program review.

Motion: Leary moved to approve as presented.

Further Discussion: Management has begun discussions with consultants to conduct an operational review, with possible funding sources other than contingency. Management is waiting for a proposal from the consultant regarding the scope and cost of the project. This proposal had not been received as of the committee meeting date.

Motion: Wilkie moved approval with amendment to move part of line 31 to line 44 after chair “to define the parameters for the consultant and to review and monitor progress of the consultant, with said ad hoc committee reporting to the Full County Board”

Vote on first amendment vote: 5-0

Motion: Chilson moved to move part of lines 28-29, “the department’s continuous overages have created repercussions and consequences for the entire county” up to line 9, before the “and”, and subsequently delete the remaining parts of lines 28-32.

Vote on second amendment: 5-0.

Vote on resolution as amended twice: 5-0.

Stella Pagonis distributed updated 2020 budget guidelines. No substantial changes from 2019 to 2020 guidelines. Wilkie would like to add the following items:

1. Budget proposal should be zero tax levy increase. This should force the departments to prioritize addbacks, as there are limits to available resources. This could require reduced levels of service.
2. Oversight committees must have careful review of departmental budgets, including line item amounts.
3. Increased user fees should be applied to existing expenditures, not to new expenditures.

Motion: Dunning moved approval as presented, giving permission to chair to update per committee discussion

Vote on motion: 5-0

Committee reviewed department meeting schedule for F&B budget review meetings. Community agencies will have time in the afternoon on October 2, specifically Restorative Justice and the Family Resource Center.

Stella Pagonis will work on 2020 budget survey with committee chair.

The committee reviewed both the sales tax and the vehicle registration fee monthly reports. Supervisor Dunning believes that the online sales tax receipts are coming in. The committee believes that there will be increased registration fee receipts during the summer months.

Supervisor Leary moved approval of both the regular (05/06/19) and joint committee meeting minutes (05/20/19), as presented.

Vote on motion: 5-0

Schedule next meeting (07/08/19) and agenda items:

1. Cash handling report, Glenda Lyons
2. Additional information from DHS

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Amy Weiss
Committee Clerk