The Rock County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on November 2, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. in the Courthouse at Janesville, Wisconsin.

Chair Podzilni called the meeting to order. Supervisor Joiner gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call. At roll call, Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Diestler, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni were present. Supervisor Knudson was absent. PRESENT – 28. ABSENT – 1.

QUORUM PRESENT

4. Adoption of Agenda.

Supervisors Arnold and Bostwick moved to the Agenda as presented. ADOPTED as presented. Agenda is as follows:
1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 22, 2009
6. PUBLIC HEARING
7. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATION
9. INTRODUCTION OF NEW RESOLUTIONS OR ORDINANCES BY SUPERVISORS FOR REFERRAL TO APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE
10. REPORTS
11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
   A. Supplementary Appropriations and Budget Changes – Roll Call
   B. Bills Over $10,000 – No Roll Call
   C. Encumbrances Over $10,000 – Roll Call
   D. Contracts – Roll Call
      1. Authorizing Contracts for Health Insurance Third Party Administration, Wellness Program Administration and Care Coordination
   E. Review of 2010 Recommended Budget with County Administrator
   F. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Per Section 19/85(1)(g) – Conferring with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending and Potential Litigation

13. ADJOURNMENT

5. Approval of Minutes - October 22, 2009

Supervisors Brill and Bussie moved the approval of the minutes of October 22nd 2009, as presented. ADOPTED by acclamation.
7. Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements.
   No one spoke.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 2nd day of November, 2009 does hereby authorize a contract with Professional Benefit Administrator's Inc., for third party administration of the County's health plan, effective January 1, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a contract with Quantum Health is authorized for wellness program administration and care coordination effective January 1, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Committee be given authority to select the specific pricing model for care coordination services through Quantum Health, which will be based on claims trends in 2009 and require additional claims history prior to making an informed decision.

Supervisors Mawhinney and Ott moved the above resolution. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Diestler, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Knudson was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

12.E. Review of 2010 Recommended Budget with County Administrator.

County Administrator Knutson presented the budget to the board by department and issued brief comments on each section as well as opening it up to questions from Supervisors. Mr. Knutson began in the back of the budget book with the Rail Transit section explaining it is not really a department, but rather an allocation made to the WI River Rail Transit Commission in the amount of $25,520 and is the same amount as the prior year.

Public Works is a little more complicated and is divided into three operating divisions; Parks, Airport and Highway Division. Administrator’s Comments begin on page 12 and outlines various issues for each division in 2010. Beginning with Parks, $79,167 of ATC funds are used in 2010. $44,167 is to help fund the Community Coordinator position and $35,000 to do master plans in a couple of parks next year. Beyond the master plans, there are no additional monies set aside for parks Improvements for 2010. Tax levy recommendation is an increase of $50,553 or 12.3% over last year.

The Airport Division comments include descriptions of the 2010 Capital Improvement projects of which the board has already authorized the design projects for the Terminal Building Refurbish and Expansion as well as security improvements. Revenues are projected to be down by $29,000 compared to the amount budgeted for 2009. The tax levy for Airport operations is $445,373, which is an increase of $10,822 or 2.5%.

The largest division of Public Works is the Highway Division. The tax levy requested for next year was an increase of $1,907,741. That has been reduced to a recommended tax levy decrease of $205,759. There is a recommended amount of $2.3 million for road construction with $1.7 million of that coming from deferred financing, $300,000 from CHIP funding and $320,750 from sales tax revenue. $1 million of additional sales tax revenue is being recommended for the purchase of equipment along with $600,000 in cash for a total of $1.6 million dollars worth of highway equipment in 2010. Cash flow concerns are the reason for this recommendation as the state is going to be slowing down substantially the payment of state aid for human service activities in 2010 and that will impact our cash flow. Also there is $448,000 of facility improvements funded with deferred financing for next year. The recommended tax levy for the department as a whole is $3,673,509 which is a decrease of $144,384.

The next section of the budget is Public Safety and Justice which has several divisions. Mr. Knutson began with the Sheriff’s Department. Sheriff Spoden continues to operate a very successful diversion program and therefore there is no money budgeted next year for beds in other counties. Administrator Knutson believes this to be a frugal budget with no additional staffing. The recommended tax levy is 1.8% over the 2009 budgeted amount or $18,645,486.
Supervisor Grahn asked about the revenue of $2.1 million. Mr. Knutson explained this comes from a variety of sources including grants and charges to inmates. Supervisor Joiner asked about mental health issues and applauds the awareness for the need for mental health services to inmates. Sheriff Spoden explained that a pre-booking assessment is done on all inmates to make sure they are mentally fit to come to our facility. The pre-booking process makes sure that inmates are not in withdrawal and that we can take custody. If they’re not fit, we won’t accept them and the outside agency is responsible to see that they are placed appropriately. Supervisor Wopat asked about the reduction of a case manager position. Josh Smith explained that the caseload has dropped to 45 so 3 counselors will remain and they intend to monitor that and re-assess in the future years to see if more will be needed. Drug court grants also provide some AODA services that we didn’t have in the past.

The next section of this budget is the Court system which has three budgetary units; Clerk of Courts, Circuit Courts and Mediation. In the Circuit court account you’ll see a state aid reduction and cost shifting for indigent defense from the state to the county greater than the tax levy increase in this account. $45,500 of sales tax funding is recommended to upgrade the video conferencing technology that is nearly ten years old. Also, there is a new state mandate in the Clerk of Courts office requiring payment plans for municipal violations. We have done this in the past for State and County violations, but not for municipal violations, so that initiates a staffing change. Overall the tax levy recommended is $2,254,547, which is an increase of 5.9% or $125,403.

Administrator comments for the Rock County Communications Center begin on page 23. This budget upgrades a tele-communicator position to a shift supervisor rather than adding an additional position in 2010. There are a number of capital projects totaling $384,500 which are listed and offset with deferred financing. The tax levy of $3,853,015 is up by only $7,660.

The District Attorney’s budget has three accounts for the units of Prosecution, Victim Witness and Deferred Prosecution/Domestic Violence Intervention. District Attorney O’Leary presented a frugal budget which is basically a cost to continue budget. There is an overall decrease of $18,223 or 1.3% to the tax levy.

Mr. Knutson noted that as he moves through each section, there is no money budgeted in any of these departmental budgets for wage rate increases next year. The wage rate schedule for 2010 is based on the 2009 schedule. We are also obligated to pay more to the Wisconsin Retirement System. The rate is going from 10.6% to 11% of wages and salary for general employees. For protected service employees, it will go up 1% and those amounts are built into the 2010 budget. The impact of this increase for next year totals about $450,000 countywide. The WRS lost a lot of money in the market crash and is therefore changing the rates to recoup some of that loss.

The Emergency Management Department followed with Administrator comments on page 37. The recommended tax levy is down 7.8% or $7,663. Supervisor Grahn asked about the sand bagger that was not approved at a cost of $13,494. Administrator Knutson explained that we’ve never owned this type of equipment and it would have come in handy during the summer floods of 2008. We were fortunate to be able to use Dane County’s sand bagger at the time. This budget addressed a $6 million budget gap by scrutinizing each budget and looking for other ways to meet our needs. He reminded the board that they have the authority to put items back into the budget but every dollar they add, increases the tax levy.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Grant and Hazardous Materials Level B section follows. The County has an agreement with the City of Janesville to provide a county wide team. The budget contains $39,438 in requested funding for training, medical monitoring and equipment maintenance in 2010.

The Coroner budget includes a new $50 fee for signing death certificates, while the Cremation permit fee remains at $145. The recommended tax levy for this department is $327,165, up 2.2% over the 2009 budget.

The Child Support Enforcement department has a complicated funding situation due partly to the state using Federal stimulus funds to replace state funding while requiring counties to maintain a “Maintenance of Effort.” The current level of staffing remains and the recommended tax levy is $604,905 which is a decrease of 3.7% from 2009.
Finally, Rock County has traditionally provided funding for two programs operated by Rock Valley Community Programs, Inc. (RVCP); the Alternative Residential Program and the Alternative Service Program. In 2010, Human Services will be eliminating its contract with RVCP in the Juvenile category, reducing the funding that RVCP receives by 22%, albeit with reductions in workload as well. The recommended Contribution is the same as 2009 at $73,505.

The next section of the budget consists of Planning and Development which consists of Real Property, Surveyor and the Planning Department. The first budget is Real Property and is a cost to continue budget. The recommended levy is $179,180 or a 3.1% increase over 2009.

The Surveyor budget recommends a chargeback to the Land Record Internet Access Fee account in the amount of $38,046 which will decrease the levy by 25.7% or $40,714.

The Planning, Economic & Community Development budget recommendation shows the tax levy is down by $173,501 for a 19.3% reduction in the tax levy for 2010. This is largely due to $119,000 of tax levy that was budgeted in 2009 to complete the Comprehensive plan and we do not have to stick those funds into the budget in 2010. Also there is a net reduction of a vacant .5 FTE clerical position as an arrangement has been made between Planning and the UW-Extension office to share a clerical position. ATC funds are coming through land conservation for the planning work for PDR-PACE in 2010. Some fee increases are also included and outlined in the comments section.

The Library Board is a limited tax levy operation funded by property taxes collected from the Towns and Village of Footville. Municipalities with their own municipal libraries are exempt from the tax levy for the Arrowhead System. The budget contains a recommended levy increase of 1.8% or $16,953.

The next section of the Budget is the Human Services Department with Administrator comments beginning on page 27. Programmatic and fiscal information has been included in these comments as Administrator Knutson tries to highlight key changes and recommendations. The Departmental budget keeps the same number of positions but shifts some positions from one area to another in order to respond better to increasing demands. The Human Services Department is suffering from a $930,000 problem as a result of state aid cuts and cost shifting and that accounts for over half of the recommended tax increase to cover what we are not receiving from the State. Two areas where we are putting extra resources are the addition of a couple Economic Support specialists and in the mental health area with a bolstering of staffing in the community support program. The recommended tax levy for 2010 operations is $18,739,416 which is an increase of $1,654,861 or 9.7%.

Supervisor Joiner asked about the Juvenile Detention Center and its current status. Administrator Knutson explained that closing the center was not recommended and operation is recommended by the department and the Administrator. One shift supervisor will be reduced. Programming will be bolstered at the JDC.

Rock Haven (Health Services) was the next section of the budget covered. Administrator Knutson recognized Sherry Gunderson and her staff for their efforts in reorganization and seeking savings in both 2009 and 2010 to offset cuts in State payments. Net assets for Rock Haven are in pretty good shape and are estimated to be $2.5 million year end 2009. Of that $2.5 million, Mr. Knutson is recommending that we apply $250,000 to operations, which is about one-half of what was applied in 2009. That makes the tax levy $5,928,076, 5% less than the 2009 budgeted amount. Despite that, we still have one of the largest subsidies in the state for a County Nursing home.

General Services is the next Department. In the Administrator comments, Mr. Knutson has listed some of the Capital projects at UW-Rock County. Phase 1 of the jail is expected to proceed in 2010 as the Board is aware. $690,000 in deferred financing is included for a schematic design of a future nursing home project should the County Board decide to proceed, a decision that will come to the Board for discussion in future meetings. The tax levy as a whole is up by $48,341 or 1.9%.

The Finance Committee Section begins with the Finance Director being the first Departmental budget. Note that the cost allocation you see here is primarily a chargeback to Rock Haven and to some extent, Human Services, for accounting services and payroll. The tax levy for Financial Services is $939,319 which is a decrease of $11,246 from the prior year.
In the Information Technology Department budget, descriptions of various initiatives are included. Mr. Knutson recommends that $267,315 in sales tax be applied to pay for capital projects in 2010. He also recommends cutting a vacant position and adding a position to better meet the needs in the public safety area. The result is a tax levy of $1,100,546, an increase 5.6%.

Next we have the budget for the County Clerk. The levy is up $23,768 or 24.2% largely due to decreases in revenues from passport applications. The levy for Elections is up by $18,316 because we are heading into a more expensive year in the four year election cycle. There’s very little we can do about the fluctuations in budget and can only seek additional revenue sources to offset, such as passport photos, DMV services and other services.

The County Treasurer’s budget has two major sources of revenue; “interest on investments” and “interest and penalty on delinquent taxes”. The Interest on investments budget is nearly $1 million less than budgeted in 2009, largely because interest rates are so low. Current rates vary between .27 of 1% to 3.3%. Overall, the Treasurer’s office is generating $2,582,354 of revenue in excess of expenditures. This is $852,490 less than the amount included in the 2009 Budget and, therefore, will not be available to fund County operations.

The poor economy and slow down in housing has had a real impact on the Register of Deeds budget. The recommended budget for 2010 has $247,992 of revenue in excess of expenditures, which will go toward offsetting the County property tax levy. This is $67,000 or 21.3% less than the prior year.

In the next section of The Education, Veterans and Aging Services Committee, the first departmental budget is the Council on Aging. Here we have a departmental budget of $1,557,239 of which $123,185 comes from the property tax levy. The rest comes from Federal and State grants and some user charges. The budget anticipates the transfer of elder abuse lead agency status to Human Services, which has been built into that budget. The recommended tax levy is $452 less than 2009.

The Veterans Services budget is a cost to continue budget with a recommended tax levy of $252,828, which is an increase of $10,266 or 4.2%.

Contributions to Heritage Rock County, RSVP and Senior Services are recommended at the same level of funding in 2010 as 2009, or $72,222.

Through its Developmental Disabilities programs, Rock County provides services mandated by the state to approximately 1,300 citizens. Ms. Kane is projecting a $336,000 deficit in 2009 due in part to emergency placements. The requested and recommended budget includes an increased tax levy of $184,974 or 6% in 2010. Changes in services are being implemented. Ms. Kane and her staff deserve credit for addressing the department needs while finding solutions to difficult financial budget times.

The County Board Staff budget follows and begins with the Administrator’s office. The Confidential Administrative Assistant has announced that she will be retiring in July 2010, and given the financial stress that the County is under, Mr. Knutson will be deleting the position beginning in August 2010. The workload will require a sharing of resources and staff in Corporation Counsel, HR and Administration. The overall tax levy is down by 2% or $12,046.

The Corporation Counsel department has submitted a cost to continue budget. The recommended budget for 2010 operations is $467,624, up 6.2% over 2009.

Next we have the Human Resources Department. Note that the cost for advertising job openings is down by roughly $10,000. The level of hiring has gone down and our computerized system allows greater access to people with less advertising. The tax levy is down 2.2% as a whole, or $12,569.

The next budget division is the Board of Health. We are losing $112,000 of Medical Assistance funding from the State in 2010 as expected because when we consolidated with Beloit, the State agreed to fund three years and then cease funding. The recommended budget does include a number of increases in permit fees, but also deletes a .6 public health nurse which is currently vacant. Given all of this, the tax levy is up 2% or $45,272.

The Agriculture and Land Conservation Committee budget was next and starts with the UW-Extension Program. The UW Extension office provides programming in three program areas; Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Living and Nutrition Education, and 4-H Youth Development. The major item is the Professional Services line item at $182,838 for the county share for the cost of professional staff. This is actually down by $7,237 due to the elimination of
any salary increase and required furlough days for State employees. Also the Office is sharing a .5 clerical position with the Planning Department office. All of this considered, the tax levy for this operation decreases by 8.8% or $30,158.

The Fairgrounds budget has a $0 recommended tax levy as a result of the cell towers going in. We are establishing this as a non-lapsing account which means that if the revenues from the cell towers are greater than expected, the funds will remain in the Fairgrounds account.

The Farm budget is actually a revenue generator and after subtracting the expenditures from total projected revenues of $89,390, we are left with a $75,790 profit.

The Land Conservation Department is the final budget for this division. The plan is to make the Clean Sweep Program permanent and offer it four times per year in 2010. That’s funded by a combination of State Aids, Contributions and ATC funds. Also $115,000 of ATC funds is included in the budget to reimburse the Planning Department for staff time and miscellaneous costs to do the PDR-PACE. The recommended tax levy for 2010 operations is $158,412, a decrease of $2,962 or 1.8% from 2009.

Last but not least is the County Board Account. Here the tax levy is going up by $6,902 or 4%.

Supervisor Joiner asked how realistic a zero increase with bargaining units will be? Administrator Knutson shared that every 1% increase in wages equals an additional $690,000 in cost. As far as being realistic, if we look around us we’ll see that the City of Beloit got a 0% for all of 2010 and most of 2011. Dane County is trying to get 5% decreases and others in our area are sticking with freezes. Mr. Knutson is hopeful, but only time will tell. Bargaining will begin shortly but we won’t have any answers before we adopt this budget.

12.F. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Per Section 19/85(1)(g) – Conferring with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending and Potential Litigation

Supervisors Bostwick and Arnold moved to go into Executive Session. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Diestler, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Knudson was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

Supervisors Collins and Fizzell moved to go out Executive Session. ADOPTED by acclamation.


Supervisors Grahn and Peer moved to adjourn at 11:46 am to Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Prepared by Lorena R. Stottler, County Clerk
NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD.