

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Janesville, Wisconsin
November 4, 2013

The Rock County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on November 4, 2013, at 9:00 A.M. in the Courthouse at Janesville, Wisconsin.

Chair Podzilni called the meeting to order. Supervisor Wiedenfeld introduced Father Steve Umhoeffer to give the invocation.

3. Roll Call. At roll call, Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Heidenreich, Mawhinney, Fox, Richard, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Rundle, Thomas, Kraft, Fell, Howland, Nash, Pleasant, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Collins, Owens and Podzilni were present. Supervisors Knudson, Sweeney and Yoss were absent. PRESENT – 26. ABSENT – 3.

QUORUM PRESENT

4. Adoption of Agenda.

Supervisors Arnold and Bostwick moved 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
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
 - E. Review of 2014 Recommended Budget with County Administrator
13. ADJOURNMENT

7. Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements.

No citizens addressed the Board and there were no announcements.

9. Introduction of New Resolutions or Ordinances by Supervisors for Referral to Appropriate Committee

Supervisor Howland presented a Resolution “Urging Wisconsin to Use Federal Medicaid Funding to Improve Badgercare”. This resolution will be forwarded to the appropriate committee.

12.E. Review of 2014 Recommended Budget with County Administrator
COUNTY BOARD

Administrator Knutson informed the Board of Supervisors that he would be starting at the beginning of the budget binder, make a few comments about each and then open it up for questions. He noted that Department Heads are present to answer questions if necessary.

The 2014 Budget includes a recommended tax levy of \$62,497,976. Details of this recommendation can be found in the Administrators letter in the front of the budget where details of the tax rate and tax levy are explained. Immediately following is a statistical report and a table of contents. These documents are available online at <http://www.co.rock.wi.us/budget-information>,

The first budget for review is the County Board budget. The recommended budget and tax levy is \$173,299, which is the same amount as the prior year. Mr. Knutson noted that the budget does include \$4,500 for training and conferences for County Board Supervisors. There were no questions.

AGRICULTURE AND LAND CONSERVATION

Under the tab for Agriculture and Land Conservation, the first departmental budget is the UW Extension budget. The office has six professional staff positions. Funding for these positions is shared with the State, where the County pays 40% of the salaries for the majority of the county-based UW-Extension faculty. Something new in the budget for next year is \$5,000 for a Regional Dairy and Livestock Educator. The tax levy is decreasing by \$2,328 or .8%.

The budget for the 4-H Fairgrounds for next year includes \$82,633 for capital improvements and totals \$154,778. Included is also \$28,500 of sales tax towards those capital improvements. There are no property tax dollars used in this budget.

The County Farm Budget shows a net revenue of \$149,585 over and above expenses. This is a profit center budget and this money goes towards offsetting the property tax levy in other budgets. The County is currently getting \$357 per acre in rent on the 392 acres of land, and also includes revenues in crop sales on UWEX plots as well as the community garden plots.

The Land Conservation budget covers a lot of details for the programs within this budget. Administrator Knutson pointed out that Land Records funds will be used to purchase a Survey grade GPS unit for the department. There is an increase in State Aid in this budget year. The tax levy for next year is going down by \$10,079, or 6.2% from the prior year.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Moving on to the Board of Health budget, there are several items to point out. With the closeout of grant programs in 2014, 1.8 FTE Health Educator Positions will be eliminated. The fee schedule includes a few small changes. One new revenue source is within the HUD Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes grant. The tax levy for next year is actually down by \$44,685 or 1.9% from the prior year.

COUNTY BOARD STAFF

The County Board Staff Committee budget includes three sections: County Administrator, Corporation Counsel and Human Resources. The County Administrator's budget continues the practice of paying 25% of the time or 10 hours per week of the Human Resources Secretary position. This provides assistance and some relief to the Confidential Administrative Assistant, as the office used to have 2 FTE positions, but the 2nd position was not filled after that person retired. The recommended tax levy for the County Administrator's Office is \$597,511, an increase of \$10,612 or 1.8% from the prior year.

The Corporation Counsel's Office currently includes 7.5 FTE. The department does charge back Child Support and Human Services for legal services. In 2014, this cost totals \$656,081 and appears as a cost allocation in the budget detail. The recommended tax levy for 2014 is \$391,311, which is a decrease of \$21,765 or 5.3% from the prior year.

The Human Resources Department budget continues an emphasis on employee safety. Otherwise, it's really a cost to continue budget with a tax levy decrease of \$45,389, or 8.2% from the prior year.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Next is the Developmental Disabilities Board budget. The tax levy request is \$3,911,931, which is an increase of \$43,836 or 1.1% as compared to the 2013 budget. The budget includes comments about each cost area such as the Birth to 3 program and basic needs. Administrator

Knutson also noted that Rock County is one of the few remaining "waiver" counties that has not converted to the State's Family Care model. This has an impact on the wait list which continues to be nine-ten years.

EDUCATION, VETERANS & AGING SERVICES

The first budget is the Council on Aging budget. Mr. Knutson explained that the transportation line includes two replacement mini-buses. This budget also reflects Federal sequester cuts of \$41,634. The property tax levy recommended for 2014 operations is \$134,683, which is \$1,489 or 1.1% more than the prior year.

In the Veterans Service Office, the recommended tax levy is \$264,008, which is an increase of \$1,224 or 0.5% from the prior year. This office assists veterans with over 4,100 requests per year for benefits including compensation, pension, education, healthcare, burials, reconsiderations, appeals and miscellaneous items. In 2012, federal Veterans Administration expenditures for benefits received by Rock County veterans totaled \$48 million as well as \$24 million in Veterans Administration Home Loans.

Contributions to Heritage Rock County and RSVP for 2014 are \$73,443. Heritage Rock County is a consortium of historical societies in Rock County that represents the Beloit Historical Society, Luther Valley in Footville, Milton Historical Society, the Grove of Evansville and the Rock County Historical Society in Janesville. The recommended contribution is \$22,546, which is a 1% increase over last year. The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) places people age 55 and older into volunteering opportunities throughout the County. The recommended contributions for RSVP, and RSVP Assisted Transportation are \$26,094 and \$24,803, respectively.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee budget includes the Finance Director, Information Technology, County Clerk, County Treasurer and Register of Deeds. The first budget is for the Finance Director. Reorganization in 2013 resulted in cost reductions. The 2014 Finance Director's budget is a cost to continue budget with a recommended tax levy of \$852,446, which is an increase of \$36,114 or 4.4% from the prior year.

The budget for the Information Technology Department includes details and descriptions of initiatives. The County Administrator is recommending five of the six requested initiatives. Mr. Knutson is recommending that \$652,695 in sales tax be set aside to fund these projects. A new User Support Specialist is included in this budget. 50% of this position will be delegated to the Sheriff's office and the other 50% of the time will be working in the general area of public safety systems, including the 911 communications center and other agencies. Also included in this budget is maintenance for the replacement Computer Aided Dispatch and replacement Law Records System, which increases the line item by \$81,460 when compared to old systems. The recommended tax levy for Information Technology is increasing by 12.5%, or \$149,670. The total recommended levy is \$1,350,926.

The budget for the County Clerk is split into two parts; one being the Clerk's office, and the other being elections. The levy for the Clerk's office is \$142,024, which is an increase of \$9,970 or 7.5%. The elections budget is experiencing an increase of \$53,060 due to next year being a busier year with a four-year election cycle. In the even numbered years where there are four elections, there are additional costs and expenses such as ballots and legal notices. The total levy for the elections account is \$81,857.

The County Treasurer has presented a frugal budget for her office. This is where the County's Interest on Investments is listed. The Treasurer projects \$278,800 in interest revenue for 2014, an increase of \$26,100 from the prior year. This funding is used to offset the cost of other County operations. As recently as 2007, the County realized \$3.5 million in Interest on Investments. Combining the Treasurer's main account, the Personal Property Tax Redemption account and the Tax Deed Expense account results in \$1,745,127 of revenue in excess of expenditures. This is \$206,367 less than the amount included in the 2013 budget.

The Register of Deeds budget is again a cost to continue budget. There are \$4,600 in equipment requests for printers which will come from Land Records funds. This budget is again, a profit center, where revenues exceed the expenditures. The recommended budget contains \$339,073 of revenue in excess of expenditures, which will go toward offsetting the County property tax levy. That figure is \$22,408 or 7.1% more than the amount used to offset the property tax levy in 2013.

GENERAL SERVICES

Tab H is the General Services Department. The recommended budget contains several capital projects and Administrator Knutson has included \$1,193,163 in sales tax funding to cover some of these expenses. Within this funding is \$516,000 for an outdoor recreation area at the Youth Services Center; \$259,140 for Courthouse Repairs; \$367,328 for the UW-Rock County mass notification and security system; and \$50,695 for jail projects. The tax levy for this budget is up \$114,959 or 4.4% more than the prior year.

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Rock Haven budget (Health Services) assumes 83% of the residents will be on Medical Assistance. This has an impact on revenues because medical assistance is the poorest of the three payment sources – less than Medicare and less than Private Pay. It assumes that 126 of the 128 beds will be filled year round. The tax levy is \$4,208,100, which is \$229,717 or 5.2% less than the amount budgeted for 2013.

HUMAN SERVICES

The Human Services budget is \$59,869,031 and is by far the largest in County Government. There is a lot of programmatic and fiscal information within the document. Built into the 2014 budget is an internal reorganization of the department, along with a number of personnel actions. The budget includes a tax levy increase of \$348,269, or 1.8%, bringing the levy up to \$19,734,879. Administrator Knutson reiterated that this budget is an especially complex budget and referred the Board members to the documents for more information.

ARROWHEAD LIBRARY SYSTEM

The Arrowhead Library System is levied only on property tax in the Townships and the Village of Footville. This is known as a limited tax levy operation, as municipalities with their own libraries are exempt from the tax. The money levied by the County is, for the most part, returned to the member libraries to pay for services to rural residents. The County must also reimburse libraries outside of the county such as Brodhead, Whitewater, Lakeshores, etc. For next year, the levy is actually decreasing by \$17,876 or 1.7%. The total requested tax levy is \$1,020,625.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Planning and Development Committee contains the budgets for Real Property, the Surveyor, and the Planning Department. There are also allocations to the Board of Adjustment and Tourism Council in this section. The Real Property budget has a recommended tax levy for 2014 of \$186,922, which is a \$5,263 or 2.9% increase from the 2013 budget. This budget includes an explanation of the Land Records System budget which is totally offset with revenue and fund balance application; therefore there is no tax levy.

In the County Surveyor budget, Mr. Knutson is recommending a cross charge of \$38,169 be made to the Land Records Internet Access Account for work performed in the Land Records Office. One major change this year was purchasing new surveying equipment whose efficiencies that allow us to cut a .6 FTE from the budget. That is largely why the levy is down \$33,226 or 25.3% from the 2013 budget. The recommended levy for 2014 operations is \$86,980.

The Planning, Economic and Community Development Department budget contains a lot of detail for the programs. This department has had a lot of issues with the Housing Program, and some of those results are listed in the detail. The tax levy for the Housing/Community Development Program is \$84,609, which is \$76,898 more than the 2013 budget. The County is exploring sub-contracting this program out. The recommended tax levy for the Planning Department as a whole is \$716,030. This is an increase of \$26,098 or 3.8% over the prior year.

The Board of Adjustment allocation is \$4,910 and the recommended tax levy for 2014 operations is \$410, which is an increase of \$121 from 2013. The 2014 Budget request for the Tourism Council totals \$5,500. This is comprised of \$3,000 for the general operations of the Council and \$2,500 for cooperative tourism promotional activities. This is the same as the amount budgeted for 2013 and is recommended.

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE

The Public Safety and Justice Committee budget contains 7 accounts: Sheriff, Court System, Rock County Communications Center, District Attorney, Coroner, Child Support Enforcement, and Contributions. The first account is the Sheriff's Office. The budget includes the 1 additional FTE Detective (2nd Shift) at a cost of \$98,029. There is also an additional 1.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff at a total cost of \$79,489 for recreational program activities in areas like water

patrol and snow patrol. Partial reimbursement of this position will be available from the DNR beginning in 2015 at a rate of \$31,000. The Diversion programs continue to work well, keeping the jail census in the lower 400's. The tax levy for next year is going up \$406,644 or 2.1% more than the 2013 budgeted amount. The recommended tax levy for the Sheriff's Office as a whole is \$19,835,097.

There are three accounts for the Courts budget: the Circuit Courts, the Clerk of Courts and the office of Mediation and Family Court Services. Changes at the State level to the indigency guidelines a couple of years ago has helped reduce the burden on the budget for indigent representation. The tax levy for the Courts overall is \$2,407,581. This is an increase of \$20,004 or .8% over the prior year.

The Rock County Communications Center budget is a very technology dependent operation given its nature. The budget includes \$532,490 of sales tax funding to fund the top three items on the capital projects list including the Radio Tower and Building in the Edgerton Area, the County Law Simulcast System and the Fire Simulcast Addition in Edgerton. The Fire and Law Receiver Sites at Blackhawk Technical College and the Virtual Server Farm are being funded by funds available in the 2013 budget. The tax levy for this operation is up \$56,550 or 1.4%.

The District Attorney's budget has three units: Prosecution, Victim Witness and Deferred Prosecution. Some state aids were increased in the Victim Witness area, helping with the levy in this area. The total 2014 recommended tax levy for the DA's Office is \$1,377,882, a decrease of \$27,971 or 2%.

There are no changes to the fees in the Coroner's budget. The County will need to examine the form the office is going to take as the medical examiner goes into effect in January of 2015. There will need to be decisions made regarding that change. Funds are included for two months of overlap for a non MD medical examiner for training purposes, if that is the direction the County wishes to go. Dane County has also indicated an interest in a discussion with Rock County on whether some type of partnership would make sense. The recommended tax levy is \$347,711, which is an increase of \$17,592 or 5.3% more than the prior year.

Child Support is another area where there is come increase in State Aid for 2014. The detail in the budget shows how those funding sources are changing from 2013 to 2014. As a result, the Child Support budget is going down by \$79,456 or 11.7%. The recommended tax levy is \$600,376.

The final section of this budget includes contributions to the Alternative Residential Program and Alternative Service Program. The total amount recommended for this account for the Alternative Residential Program and Alternative Service Program for 2014 is \$73,505, the same amount that was provided in 2013.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works consists of three operating divisions: Parks, Airport and Highway Operations. There's a lot of information outlined in the comments in each of those individual budgets. The Parks budget has \$180,000 in capital projects funded by a variety of sources including state aid, fund balance, sales tax and ATC Funds. It also uses \$35,000 in ATC funds to update the POROS plan next year. The last payment to the Rock Koshkonong Lake District occurs in 2014 in the amount of \$50,000 for them to assume ownership of the Indiantford Dam. The recommended tax levy for Parks Operations is \$510,291, which is \$6,786 or 1.3% higher than the prior year.

The next section of the Public Works budget is the Airport and the comments detail the projects. Included is Phase III of the Terminal project. There's a total of \$549,000 for the County share for all of the capital projects coming from available funds. The tax levy included in the 2014 Budget for the Airport is \$466,933, which is an increase of \$8,073 or 1.8%.

Regular highway construction projects for Public Works, Highway Division, total \$2,327,000 funded by \$2 million dollars of general fund application and \$327,000 in sales tax funds. Those projects are the ones on County Trunk Highway M and County Trunk Highway H. In the case of CTH M, that is the last phase of the a four-year process to reconstruct County M, which goes all the way from Milton to STH 14. Also, there are the Federal Aid Projects that have a recommended budget of \$7,151,500 of which \$7,030,500 funds the County Trunk Highways BT & G projects. \$21,000 is for County Trunk Highway F which is still in the design phase. Winter

maintenance to the Towns remains at the same reimbursement levels as does routine maintenance charges, and recognizes that the Towns are not receiving state aid increases for roads until 2015. The tax levy for the Department as a whole is going up by \$295,695 or 7.7%. The recommended tax levy for the Department as a whole (Highway Airport and Parks) is \$4,123,886.

Three members of the County Board are appointed by the Board Chair to serve on the Rock County Rail Transit Commission. They are Rock County's voting members on both the Pecatonica Rail Transit Commission (PRTC) and the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission (WRRTC). The WRRTC is asking its member counties for \$28,000 in contributions to serve as the local share. A \$1,000 fund balance application brings the tax levy to \$27,000, which is the same as 2013.

13. Adjournment.

Supervisors Arnold and Grahn moved to adjourn at 10:46am to Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. ADOPTED by acclamation.

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