The Finance and Personnel Committee met on Monday, September 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., in the County Board room, located on the Third Floor of the Courthouse, 181 West Seminary Street, Richland Center, Wisconsin.

Committee members present included: Jeanetta Kirkpatrick, Marty Brewer, Marc Couey, Linda Gentes, Buford Marshall, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Larry Sebranek and Don Seep. David Turk was absent.

Others present included: Victor Vlasak, County Clerk, elected officials, department heads and employees.

Committee Chair Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order.

The Clerk verified that the meeting had been properly noticed. Copies of the agenda were sent by email to all Committee members, WRCO and County department heads, a copy was posted on the Courthouse Bulletin Board and a copy was faxed to The Richland Observer.

Motion by Brewer, second by Sebranek for approval of the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Copies of the proposed Sheriff’s Administration, Sheriff’s Department, County Jail, Police Radio, Uniform Allowance, Special Investigation Fund and New Car Outlay budgets and revenue line items were distributed to Committee Members. Sheriff Jim Bindl, Chief Deputy Chad Kanable and Office Manager Amber Muckler were present.

The 2020 budget request for four new squads was discussed. The goal of the department is to have a squad car for each of the 19 road officers. The advantages of this goal were explained. The request for the new squads will be part of the capital projects borrowing.

The County Jail budget was discussed. The salary cost increase in the proposed County Jail budget is for the cost of adding a jailor-dispatcher position. The proposal includes making one of the current jailors a jailor sergeant. Also being requested is an additional road patrol deputy. This new position cost is included in the Sheriff’s Department 2020 budget request. Sheriff Bindl explained the jail inspector recommendation for jail staffing.

Chair Kirkpatrick noted the new equipment items included in the Sheriff’s Department propose budget. Chair Kirkpatrick called attention to the lack of a budget request for the 991 Outlay. Chair Kirkpatrick feels that the Spillman contract should be a Sheriff’s Department expense and not be charged to the 911 Outlay.

Chair Kirkpatrick made the following Sheriff’s Department proposed budget reduction recommendations: Do not hire the new road patrol deputy; do not buy the extra car; and remove equipment from the department’s budget and fund the purchases through borrowing.
Chair Kirkpatrick distributed copies of a list of items that have been proposed not to be included in the 2020 budget. The items are as follows:

$145,000  County Administrator  
$ 13,141  County Parks  
$ 35,000  Economic Development  
$225,215  Highway  
$121,276  New Car Outlay  
$  6,500  US Swim Expense  
$ 50,000  Zoning  
$596,132  TOTAL

Adding to the proposed tax levy is $20,000 additional funds for the Fairgrounds and $2,000 for the Wellness Committee.

Proposed for the 2020 budget by the use of General Funds is as follows:

$145,000  County Administrator  
$ 72,000  Economic Development Director  
$200,000  Contingency Fund  
$ 50,000  911 Outlay  
$467,000  TOTAL

Proposed capital improvements by borrowing are as follows:

$  2,500  County Board iPads  
$ 38,000  Viola Park Well ($13,000) and Bike Trail gravel ($25,000)  
$  10,000  Courthouse – Cleaning Equipment  
$  20,000  New Shed for Command Post  
$  20,000  Fairgrounds Electrical Upgrades  
$330,000  Community Services Building Roof Replacement  
$ 800,000  Highway Equipment and Capital Improvements  
$194,000  Sheriff’s Squad Car/Truck Purchases  
$  65,000  Symons – Re-plaster Pool, Rubber Roof and Locker Room Drains  
$304,000  Campus Flat Roofs Replacements  
$  72,000  Video Conferencing Equipment  
$ 10,000  County Administrator Office Construction  
$  50,000  Five Year Computer Replacement Plan  
$1,915,500  TOTALS

The Committee was in agreement to borrow two million dollars from the State Trust Fund for a period of five years for capital items. Others options were discussed to reduce the levy request to comply with levy limits.
The Committee discussed increasing the deductible for the health insurance. Motion by Kirkpatrick, second by Murphy-Lopez to switch the deductible for health insurance from the current $1,500/$3,000 to $3,000/$6,000 and that the savings from that change be deducted from departmental 2020 budget requests. The motion carried unanimously. This change would reduce the premium increase from 2020 from 7% to 1.55%.

Motion by Sebranek, second by Brewer to go into closed session per section 19.85 to discuss the employment, disciplinary history and performance evaluation data of specific public employees as authorized under Section 19.85 (1) (c), (f) and (g) of the Wisconsin Statutes and that the County Clerk be allowed to remain. Roll call vote: AYES: Seep, Murphy-Lopez, Gentes, Kirkpatrick, Brewer, Marshall, Sebranek and Couey. Ayes 8. Noes 0. Total 8. Motion carried.

Closed session.

Motion by Sebranek, second by Marshall to return to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24th at 9:00 a.m.

Victor V. Vlasak
Richland County Clerk