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ACTING EXEC RELEASES BUDGET INFORMATION

Waukesha, Wis. – Acting Waukesha County Executive and County Board Chairman James Dwyer announced today that the 2006 Waukesha County Executive Budget, set to be introduced in September, will beat both the Governor’s and the State Legislator’s proposed budget freeze.

“Just as I have supported our self-imposed budget freeze the past two years, this year, I will introduce a budget that maintains Waukesha County’s reputation as a low-tax county.”

Working with former County Executive Daniel Finley for the past several weeks, James Dwyer has presided over the majority of the County Department budget meetings and will make the final decisions on the 2006 budget before it goes to the printer during the first week of September.

While the number of citizens receiving service in Waukesha County has increased, state funding for health and human services and the court system has remained stagnant. In addition, the County will be opening a new jail later this year that will cost an additional \$1.4 million to operate in 2006. Despite these factors, for the first time in at least 40 years, the tax rate will drop from the current \$2.11 tax rate to a rate under \$2.00 for the 2006 Executive Budget.

Lowering the tax rate in 2006 will once again ensure Waukesha County’s designation as the lowest tax rate county amongst those that have not adopted a county sales tax.

“I am proud to say that the Executive Budget will once again reduce our county levy rate for the 16th consecutive year while maintaining the high level of service Waukesha County citizens have come to enjoy,” Dwyer said.

Dwyer, who recently announced his candidacy for County Executive, is a longtime resident of Waukesha County and has served on the Waukesha County Board since 1992, acting as Chairman since 1994.

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