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County Executive



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WAUKESHA COUNTY ANNOUNCES VOLUNTARY UNPAID LEAVE PROGRAM

WAUKESHA, Wis. – Waukesha County is preparing a voluntary unpaid leave program for 2009 aimed at mitigating the County’s potential revenue shortfall. The County Board will be reviewing a resolution in support of the program. The current economic conditions are much different from the conditions when the 2009 County budget was created necessitating the program.

“The economic recession has resulted in a potential revenue shortfall in some program areas for the year,” said Norm Cummings, Director of Administration. “Unlike the private sector, during a recession there is a greater need for our services and some departments in the County are experiencing higher operational expenses due to an increase in case loads.”

The program, which will begin on June 1, 2009 and end on December 30, 2009, allows both full-time and part-time employees to participate in the newly implemented program. All requests, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, must be approved by department management, result in a cost savings and must not adversely affect services to the public. Employees will be allowed a maximum of 40 hours of unpaid leave in 2009.

The goal of the program is to manage the County’s 2009 budget in a way that will least impact and disrupt service delivery. Employees are encouraged to voluntarily assist in helping to avoid increased budget impacts by taking up to 5 unpaid days of absence.

“I truly believe that this is the best all-around way to get experience for management and employees to determine if this may be viable to continue into 2010,” Cummings said.

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