

Waukesha County Board of Supervisors

Minutes of the Executive Committee Monday, April 17, 2023

Chair Decker called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Paul Decker, Tyler Foti, Keith Hammitt, Jacob LaFontain, Larry Nelson and Peter Wolff. Heinrich arrived at 8:59 a.m.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Sarah Spaeth, Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Fraley, Administrative Specialist Barbara Hollander, County Clerk Meg Wartman, Chief of Staff Shawn Lundie, Director of Administration Andy Thelke, Director of Public Works Allison Bussler, Facilities Manager Shane Waeghe, Budget Manager Bill Duckwitz, Senior Financial Analyst Alex Klosterman, District Court Administrator Mike Neimon, Judge Paul Bugenhagen, Clerk of Courts Monica Paz, Principal Information Technology Professional Zach Tremaine, Michael Sanders (Manager – Old Republic Surety Company), Jon Wallenkamp (Kueny Architects), Laura Hause (Gilbane Building Company)

Approve Minutes of March 20

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by LaFontain to approve the minutes of March 20. Motion carried 6-0

Next Meeting Date

May 15

Standing Committee Reports

Heinrich, LaFontain, Fraley for Public Works, and Nelson gave reports on their respective committees.

Discuss and Consider Legal Advertising Contract with Waukesha Freeman

Wartman was present to discuss this item and distributed contract information from the Purchasing Division which included pricing, terms, and conditions. This contract extension runs through May 21, 2024.

MOTION: Nelson moved, second by Foti to approve the legal advertising contract between Waukesha County and Conley Media LLC. Motion carried 6-0

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 178-O-008 Amend The 2023 Non-Departmental Budget For Costs Related To Overseeing And Administering The Independent School Charter With Lake Country Classical Academy, Inc.

Thelke and Lundie were present to discuss this item. Independent charter schools are not authorized by a public school district, but are public schools created through a charter between the charter governance board and the chartering authority. Passage of the 2015-2017 Biennial State Budget added the Waukesha County Executive to the list of charter school authorizers. Late last year, the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe informed Lake Country Classical Academy (LCAA) that they were not going to renew the school's charter authorization from the 2021-2022 academic year. Since that time, the County Executive worked closely with the school and another potential charter authorizer, the UW-System Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO). When it became less certain that the OEO would

make a long-term commitment to the school, the County Executive exercised his own authority to reauthorize the school. Lundie explained that reauthorization of a school is a much lower risk to the county than authorization because there is established academic achievement and a track record of financial stability.

The charter school's board of directors and educational leadership teams oversee the day-to-day operations and education of students within their own schools. This ordinance increases the operating expenses budget in Non-Departmental by \$75,000 to cover costs related to overseeing and administering the reauthorized charter contract with the Lake Country Classical Academy, Inc. (LCCA), including hiring a consultant to monitor the educational, financial, and operational success of the school and file the statutorily required reports with the State Department of Public Instruction. The county is currently conducting an RFP process to select a consultant for these services, and the figure included in this ordinance is an estimate.

MOTION: Foti moved, second by LaFontain to approve Ordinance 178-O-008. Motion carried 6-0

Heinrich arrived at 8:59 a.m.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 178-O-009 Modify The 2023-2027 Capital Plan To Increase Expenditures For Capital Project #201705 – Courthouse Project Step 2 – Renovate 1959 Courthouse

Bussler and Waeghe presented that this ordinance modifies the 2023-2027 Capital Plan to increase expenditures by \$15,000,000 in 2024 for capital project #201705 – Courthouse Project Step 2 – Renovate 1959 Courthouse. The cost increase would be funded with \$6,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funding, \$5,000,000 from additional planned debt issuance of general obligation promissory notes, and \$4,000,000 of General Fund balance use.

Discussion ensued on project cost increases. Foti stated that he supports the renovation of the courthouse, but not at this cost and would be voting against it. He has only been in opposition since the scope of the project changed, and the cost went from \$56.8 million to \$98.8 million.

Bussler explained that the County's policy is to not spend money on design consulting services to obtain an initial project scope and cost estimate before approving a project. Once that is done and the project approved, the County authorizes expenditure of money for design services. This was done and, in the process, changes were made such as adding additional square footage to the project and moving courtrooms over from the Juvenile Center. This project has been brought before the Board over the years with all the changes and the Board has overwhelmingly supported this. Bussler believes this is the best design for Waukesha County based on input from multiple stakeholders (District Attorney, judges, information technology, public defenders, court reporters.) Bids came in above budget due to the complexity and multi-year phasing of construction, rising costs of materials, consumer demand and limitation of supply, inflation, overseas conflicts, and shipping delays.

Nelson stated that the best economic decisions were made in the past with the information that was at hand and expressed his support for the continuation of the courthouse project.

Wallenkamp and Hause spoke about the unprecedented and unforeseen inflation in construction industry prices.

LaFontain stated that this will be the last overrun he will support.

MOTION: Heinrich moved, second by Nelson to approve Ordinance 178-O-009. Motion carried 6-1 (Foti voted no)

Update on County Board's Strategic Plan

Spaeth presented an update on proposed changes to the Organizational Meetings to elect leadership positions. After surveying other counties, two possible changes were presented. The first is to have Supervisors declare their interest in a leadership position ahead of time so the slate of candidates are known going into the meeting. The second change is to allow those seeking a position to briefly speak at the Organizational Meeting. Job descriptions for the leadership positions were distributed. Spaeth will draft an ordinance incorporating these changes.

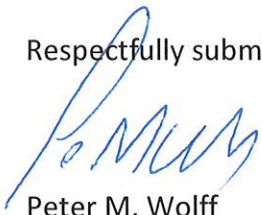
Spaeth is working with IT to cost out an agenda management system that includes a video streaming option that could be used at the full County Board meetings and/or committee meetings. Price estimates will be available in the next week or so.

Foti left the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Wolff left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

MOTION: LaFontain moved, second by Heinrich to adjourn at 10:22 a.m. Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,



Peter M. Wolff
Secretary – Executive Committee