

Hello Fellow Supervisors,

There've been several inquiries about per diems (meeting fees) and under what conditions they can be claimed. To come up with objective guidelines, I've reviewed Ordinance Chapter III (County Board Rules of Order), and Ordinance 2001-09 (Supervisor Salary and Compensation).

My interpretation is that there are 4 conditions under which we claim a meeting fee. The first is attendance at a meeting of the county board. The second is attendance at a meeting of one of the 12 standing committees, or one of the 17 boards, commissions and other bodies, to which we've been appointed by either the county board chair or the county administrator, if the ordinance doesn't prohibit payment of meeting fees for that body. The third is attendance at district meetings, district conventions and similar non-committee meetings. The fourth is that the county board chairperson, having authority to attend and claim a meeting fee to attend meetings and conferences directly related to county government, or to meet with the county administrator, may direct a vice-chair or other member of the county board to attend in place of or along with the chairperson. Board members authorized by the chairperson to attend a meeting in place of or along with the chairperson must notify the county administrator at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to claim a meeting fee.

The ordinances are a bit complex, so I propose these guidelines for management of the county board budget per diem line. If you've attended a meeting of a body that you've been appointed to, note your attendance on the blue sheet. The secretary, board chair, or one of the board vice chairs can sign it. If it's another type of meeting, you should get the board chair to sign off on it in advance, and notify the county administrator as soon as you can, so he can be in the loop, because there may be a requirement under the law to publish the meeting information. If you'd like to see any change in the ordinance, I'd be happy to help you work through the process. If you disagree with my interpretation of the ordinance, I'd be happy to have a conversation.

Thanks for all you do.

## RESOLUTION NO. 2015-\_\_\_

Supporting the retention and expansion of Wisconsin's current long term care system of Family Care, IRIS, Partnership, and Aging and Disability Resource Centers

### Executive Summary

Governor Walker's 2015-2017 budget proposal would dismantle Wisconsin's nationally admired long term care system currently serving nearly 55,000 older adults and individuals with disabilities. The Governor's Budget would eliminate IRIS, replace Family Care and existing managed care organizations with 2 or 3 private health insurance companies providing both health care and long term care services and give authority to the Department of Health Services (DHS) to privatize county-run Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) by contracting out many of their functions. This resolution asks Governor Walker to retain Wisconsin's existing successful and cost-effective Models of Family Care, IRIS, Partnership and ADRCs, and to further expand those models statewide to eliminate waiting lists, sustain quality and achieve further savings to those in need of long term care services.

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WHEREAS, Governor Walker's 2015-2017 budget proposal would dismantle Wisconsin's nationally admired long term care system currently serving nearly 55,000 older adults and individuals with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Budget would eliminate IRIS, replace Family Care and existing managed care organizations with 2 or 3 private health insurance companies providing both health care and long term care services and give authority to the Department of Health Services (DHS) to privatize county-run Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) by contracting out many of their functions, and

WHEREAS, there were 38,120 statewide participants in Family Care with 798 from Jefferson County, 2,913 statewide participants in Family Care Partnership with 111 from Jefferson County and 16,333 statewide participants in IRIS with 193 from Jefferson County, and

WHEREAS, these proposals were initiated with no input from people receiving long term care services or their families, aging and disability advocates, local officials, managed care organizations, Aging and Disability Resource Centers, provider agencies or legislators, and

WHEREAS, the current long term care system was the outgrowth of four years of intensive long term care reform planning in the 1990s involving long term care consumers and families, aging and disability advocates and county and state officials, resulting in strong bipartisan support for a long term care-only version of Family Care, and

WHEREAS, the hoped-for reforms have actually been produced by the current system: reducing nursing home utilization, reducing Medicaid spending, reducing the portion of Medicaid spent on long term care and creating locally-based ADRCs to provide prevention and one stop information on long term care for all citizens, and

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-\_\_\_**

**Supporting the Local Stewardship Fund**

Executive Summary

Governor Walker's 2015-2017 Budget proposes limited funding to the statewide stewardship program including a moratorium on land acquisition while maintaining the local stewardship fund for local governments. Jefferson County has greatly benefited from contributions of the local stewardship fund in the acquisition and development of the County Parks and the Glacier Heritage Area. These funds enabled donations and local county financial support to be maximized in their impacts to the County. The County wishes to support that the Governor's proposal as it is reviewed through the Joint Finance Committee and the respective legislative bodies as it relates to maintaining the local stewardship fund.

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WHEREAS, Jefferson County has utilized the local stewardship fund to assist in the acquisition and development of the Jefferson County Park System; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County and the DNR has worked cooperatively in the planning, development and execution of the Glacier Heritage Area (GHA), a key partnership centered around conservation, recreation, quality of life and economic vitality; and,

WHEREAS, the ability to finish the vision of the GHA is closely related to the ability to fund the planned acquisition and improvements of which the local stewardship fund is a key component; and,

WHEREAS, the state local stewardship fund has enabled the county to work with local citizens, business and foundations to seek contributions that are leveraged with these said funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Park System and the GHA is the connection between the "MadWaukee" corridor providing recreational opportunities to the greater region beyond jurisdictional boundaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Jefferson strongly encourages the State Legislature to maintain the local stewardship fund as requested for in the Governor's budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association and Jefferson County's Legislative Representatives with the request that they assist in this endeavor.

## RESOLUTION NO. 2015-\_\_\_

Supporting the Jefferson County UW-Extension Program and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

### Executive Summary

Governor Walker's 2015-2017 budget proposal would reduce funding for the University of Wisconsin System as a whole which would have impacts to both the UW-Extension program and the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. Both organizations are currently preparing for how potential cuts may impact their operation. This resolution supports both the UW- Extension program in Jefferson County and UW Whitewater and the benefits they bring economically, educationally and programmatically to Jefferson County.

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WHEREAS, Jefferson County has long enjoyed a partnership with the University of Wisconsin (UW) and the State of Wisconsin to provide post-secondary and extension education in Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, that partnership has been consistent with the “Wisconsin Idea” in that the resources of the University are applied to solving problems of the region and conducting outreach activities working with nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, youth, farmers, and small businesses to name a few; and,

WHEREAS, as local government officials, we see the value of our partnership with UW and the relationship of the Wisconsin Idea to growing our economy, providing employment and raising earning levels right here in Jefferson County, and the county has therefore not looked to these programs for budget cuts, even in challenging circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, Jefferson County recognizes tremendous opportunities in growing local business through relationships with UW - Whitewater, highlighted recently by the “capping off” ceremony of the Innovation Center at UW-Whitewater; and,

WHEREAS, it is our belief that the proposed cuts to the UW budget, if implemented as expected, will harm the delivery of educational services and the economy in terms of job creation and wage growth in Jefferson County and they will diminish the return on Jefferson County's investment in educational services and facilities for which we partner with the State of Wisconsin and the UW System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Jefferson strongly encourages the State Legislature to make the changes necessary to ensure that the UW Board of Regents has adequate resources to distribute to UW-Whitewater and Jefferson County Cooperative Extension in order to maintain the effectiveness of our educational partnerships in public service to the residents of Jefferson County and the State of Wisconsin.

**County Administrator's  
Monthly Activity Report  
April 2015**

1. Department Head Meeting

A Department Head meeting was held on April 8th. Focus was on COOP, Task Force update, discussion of 2016 capital budget process and discussion of various issues related to the County. The Department Heads also met on April 27<sup>th</sup> to provide information to the Task Force led by Steve Grabow.

2. County Finances

Beginning work on 2016 Budget has begun to include staffing levels and request for reclassification, MIS requests and Capital Budgets. Meetings with Department Heads are being scheduled as well. Auditors have begun to review the 2014 CAFR and conducting their required due diligence. A bond rating call was held on April 15<sup>th</sup> and the County maintained a very strong bond rating of Aa2. This was affirmed in the market place resulting in lower interest cost and receiving a very competitive premium resulting in the County borrowing less money than projected.

3. Highway Department Facilities

The main facility has been substantially completed. Small punch list items are being completed. The Highway Department is beginning to bring pieces of equipment over. The salt sheds have broken ground and it is anticipated these will be completed before the August deadline. The final landscaping and lift of asphalt will start the early part of May. Staff issued an RFP to assist in professional services as related to the satellite facilities and received a very competitive quote for under \$25,000 to design and engineer both facilities. The Infrastructure Committee approved this quote and a kick off meeting was held on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

4. Community/Professional Events/ Other Mis.

There were several events or activities that took place over the past month I participated in. These included:

- Continued work with the Jefferson County Library Board on their affiliation process including discussions with Waukesha.
- Worked through several personnel issues.
- Was interviewed by nursing students as part of their required internship here.
- Participated in WCA Budget webinars.
- Attended Human Services recognition program.
- Youth Government Day on May 8<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to low participation. Will work with schools on developing a better time period for this event.

Ben Wehmeier  
County Administrator