

**FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 9, 2012  
MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Ted Cushing, Peter Wolk, David Hintz, John Hoffman, and Jack Young.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brian Desmond, Mary Bartelt, Roger Luce, Bill Barnes, John Sweeney, Ann Osvak, Margie Sorenson, Kris Ostermann, Lynn Grube and Kerri Ison.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Cushing called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. in Committee Room #2 of the Oneida County Courthouse noting the meeting has been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** Motion by Wolk/Hoffman to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes; motion carried.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to approve the minutes of December 12, 2011 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**BRIEF UPDATE ON WORKMAN'S COMP AND WORK COMP LOSS PERCENTAGE:** Bill Barnes reported Oneida County has a worker's compensation loss ratio of 5% with only \$15,000 in claims in 2010. There is an estimated \$8,600 in claims for 2011 with one claim in reserve giving the potential of a 40% premium return. The Risk Management Committee has not met recently and Barnes noted a lead person must be appointed for safety issues. He urged the Committee to have the Risk Management Team meet on a quarterly basis in an effort to continue the good track record and promote safety. Discussion followed. Bartelt noted the team is comprised of herself, Lisa Charbarneau, Linda Conlon, and Margie Sorenson; a meeting will be scheduled soon.

**BLUE LINE COALITION RESOLUTION:** Roger Luce, OCEDC, presented a resolution to join the Blue Line Coalition (BLC). The BLC is a statewide movement comprised of representatives from the private sector, public sector and corporations working together to improve freight service along the Canadian National (CN) line to spur economic development and job creation. There are currently 83 communities signed on who receive service from the CN. Luce is asking that Oneida County join the BLC to be able to have a larger voice in standing up to the CN if service is decreased as it is already happening statewide. There is no fiscal impact – there are no membership dues and meetings will be held via telephone. Discussion followed. Hintz noted railroad service has been deregulated and service levels have deteriorated. He believes it is appropriate to join the BLC. Discussion continued. Motion by Hintz/Hoffman to endorse the resolution to join the Blue Line Coalition and forward to County Board for approval. All ayes; motion carried.

**NORTHWOODS RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION/MULTI-COUNTY JOINT COMMISSION CONTRACT:** Roger Luce, OCEDC, presented resolution to create the Northwoods Rail Transit Commission as allowed under state statute. The mission will be to address the quality and

quantity of freight rail service to businesses and communities in Barron, Florence, Forest, Lincoln, Marinette, Oneida, Price, Rusk and Vilas Counties. Rail Transit Commissions already exist in the Fox Valley, Baraboo area and in the southwestern part of the state.

Rail Transit Commissions provide leverage to stop abandonment of rail to continue service and allows application for grants and other assistance from the WI Department of Transportation to help sustain rail service. If the Canadian National would decide to abandon rail sidings the state cannot step in unless there is a Commission in place.

The Commission will allow a purchase of rail using 80% funding from the state and 20% from other sources. The rail could then be sold to a short line operator to provide rail service. There are currently three other short line operators interested in purchasing abandoned short lines.

The fiscal authority lies with each individual county board and there is no financial obligation and membership can be withdrawn at any time. OCEDC will make initial appropriation because NCWRPC is doing the work without fees. OCEDC will also cover per diem costs for the county board representative to the Commission. Lengthy discussion followed.

Hintz noted the state is urging regionalizing of economic development. A Commission would allow the start of a short line railroad, a medium-sized business, which Oneida County would benefit from as well as feed the CN. Motion by Hintz/Cushing to forward the resolution creating a joint Northwoods Rail Commission and the Multi-County Joint Commission contract to County Board for their approval. All ayes; motion carried.

**COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM – STATE AID FOR 2012:** John Sweeney reported the Sheriff's Department received notification the 2012 state aid allotment has been decreased by approximately \$14,000 – notification was received after the 2012 budget was prepared. Sweeney has instructed staff to come up with necessary cuts within their budget. This cut will require close attention to the deputy position in the 2013 budget, which was reduced by 21 hours in the 2012 budget. Discussion followed. Sweeney noted several counties have been sharing services to help absorb budget cuts.

**OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** Ann Ovsak presented request for Liz Whalen, Public Health Nurse, to attend the National Contraceptive Technology Conference in Boston on 3/27-31/12. The conference will cover reproductive health topics. Expenses will be reimbursed by a scholarship/grant. Cost estimate is \$2,300. Motion by Hoffman/Hintz to approve the out-of-state travel request for the Oneida County Health Department. All ayes; motion carried.

**VOUCHERS, REPORTS AND PURCHASE ORDERS:**

County Clerk:

- Vouchers: Motion by Hoffman/Hintz to approve the bills for the County Clerk as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Treasurer:

- Statement of Cash Account: Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to approve the December 2011 statement of cash account as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

- Affidavit of Cancelled Tax Certificates: Ostermann reviewed list noting these properties will not be taken by the County and will be written off per State Statute. Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to accept the affidavit of cancelled tax certificates as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Vouchers: Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to approve the vouchers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Deputy mileage: Ostermann submitted mileage reimbursement for the Deputy Treasurer per County Ordinance. Motion by Hoffman/Young to approve the Deputy Treasurer's mileage reimbursement in the amount of \$150 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

ITS:

- Vouchers: Discussion held regarding vouchers. Motion by Hintz/Wolk to approve the ITS vouchers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- 2012 ITS Goals: Grube reviewed the 2012 goals in detail. Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to approve the 2012 ITS goals as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- Propertyroom.com Government Auction Company: This auction company will pickup outdated computer equipment and sell it at no cost to the County. The County will receive a percentage of any proceeds from the sale of the equipment which will be put into the general fund. The Sheriff's Department also uses this company. Grube has scheduled a pickup of 90 computers in the middle of January. Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to use Propertyroom.com to dispose of outdated computer equipment. All ayes; motion carried.
- Job Center connectivity update: Grube provided an update on the Job Center connectivity options/costs. An engineer has been hired to assist with establishing the fiber route and complete the process. Current plans are to move staff to the Job Center building in phases using each department's current phone systems. She expects the Department on Aging to move in February with Public Health following once the fiber is installed. She noted the connectivity project is within budget.
- Hardware maintenance agreements: Grube reviewed several hardware maintenance agreements in an effort to realize cost savings. A handout was provided showing potential savings. Discussion followed. Motion by Hoffman/Wolk to approve the hardware maintenance agreements as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**EFFICIENCY TEAM REPORT – LETTER TO BOARD & DEPARTMENT HEADS:** Sorenson provided a draft letter regarding the Efficiency Team final report as requested. The letter is an effort to keep the report in the forefront as it should be continually reviewed and used as a tool to operate more efficiently. Discussion followed. Motion by Hintz/Wolk to approve the letter to be sent supervisors and department heads regarding the Efficiency Team report. All ayes; motion carried.

Cushing excused at 10:50 a.m.

Finance:

- Motion by Hintz/Wolk to approve the vouchers and blanket purchase orders as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- November 2011 investments: Discussion was held regarding the November 2011 investments. Motion by Hintz/Wolk to approve the November 2011 investment summary as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**LINE ITEM TRANSFERS:** Sorenson presented line item transfers for Social Services, Emergency Management, Department of Aging, Veterans Service Office, Land Information, and Health Department. Motion by Young/Wolk to approve the line item transfers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION FOR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS:** Motion by Hintz/Wolk to approve the resolution approving the line item transfers and forward to County Board for consideration. All ayes; motion carried.

**OUT-OF-COUNTY TRAVEL:**

Hintz:

1/27/12	WI County Mutual Claims Advisory Committee (County Mutual to pay mileage.)	Plover (per diem requested)
2/27-28/12	WCA Legislative Exchange	Madison

Cushing:

2/27-28/12	WCA Legislative Exchange	Madison
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Motion by Wolk/Hoffman to approve the out-of-county travel requests as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**Public comment:** None.

**Items for next agenda:** M&I for March.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Wolk/Hintz to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

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Ted Cushing, Chair