

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Janesville, Wisconsin
November 4, 2009

The Rock County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on November 4, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. in the Courthouse at Janesville, Wisconsin.

Chair Podzilni called the meeting to order. Supervisor Diestler gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call. At roll call, Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Diestler, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni were present. Supervisor Sweeney was absent. PRESENT – 28. ABSENT – 1.

QUORUM PRESENT

4. Adoption of Agenda.

Supervisors Peer and Arnold moved to the Agenda as presented. ADOPTED as presented. Agenda is as follows:

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
6. PUBLIC HEARING
 - A. Public Hearing on 2010 Recommended Budget
7. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATION
9. INTRODUCTION OF NEW RESOLUTIONS OR ORDINANCES BY SUPERVISORS FOR REFERRAL TO APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE
10. REPORTS
11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Supplementary Appropriations and Budget Changes – Roll Call
 - B. Bills Over \$10,000 – No Roll Call
 - C. Encumbrances Over \$10,000 – Roll Call
 - D. Contracts – Roll Call
 - E.
13. ADJOURNMENT

- 6.A. Public Hearing on 2010 Recommended Budget.

Chair Podzilni declared the Public Hearing on the 2010 Proposed County Budget open. Chair Podzilni explained that anyone who wishes to speak on an issue should register at the back of the room.

Ken Creek and Jim Creek of Janesville, and Julie Creek-Hessler of Evansville addressed the board on the need to have their sister/aunt placed in appropriate housing as they can no longer meet her mobility, physical and emotional needs.

Donna Timmerman, Janesville, addressed the board on the Epilepsy Center. Her son is currently 28-years old and has epilepsy. His seizures are very debilitating and require constant care and attention. The Epileptic Center is wonderful for her son and family and she is grateful for every dollar that the County uses to fund the Epilepsy Foundation.

Tony Farrell, Sr., Janesville, thanked the Administration, Department Heads and Committees for their diligent efforts to balance a \$6 million dollar deficit while maintaining jobs and services.

Lin Newman, Orfordville, shared with the board her story of being diagnosed with Epilepsy in a time where institutionalization was the 'norm' so her parents encouraged her to tell people she had allergies. With the proper medication and monitoring, she is leading a productive life that includes driving, which she did for the first time at 31-years old. Ms. Newman encouraged educators to work with staff and students to promote a positive culture and appropriate reaction to those living with epilepsy. She thanked the DD board for their help and hard work.

Laura Peck, Janesville, shared with the board her story of her daughter, Justina. Justina was born in 1981 and began having seizures at 6-years old. At times, Justina would stop taking her medication because she wanted "to be like the other kids." Ms. Peck would encourage her to take the meds so she *could* be like the other kids. In 2001, Justina gave birth to a baby girl named Nicole. On August 3, 2006 Justina died in her sleep at 24-years of age from seizure complications in her sleep. In July, 2007 Nicole began having seizures and has been adopted as their own. She encouraged funding the Epilepsy Foundation and thanked the board for listening.

Kim Burkhalter, Janesville, asked the board to support the Epilepsy Foundation.

Art Taggart, Madison, introduced himself as the Executive Director of the S-Central Wisconsin and Southern Wisconsin Epilepsy Foundation. Mr. Taggart thanked the board for their support in the past and encouraged support for the future. He explained three cost-saving initiatives that the Foundation has implemented over the past two years that includes sharing an Executive Director, an Emergency medication program and a new support group model that gained National recognition at this year's national conference.

Linda Schraut, Janesville, asked the board to continue to support the Epilepsy Foundation and those with disabilities. Ms. Schraut was diagnosed this year and relied heavily on the foundation for stabilization and services.

Sheila JaDoul, Janesville, vice president of Local 2489 addressed the Board about her concerns over slowly declining numbers of county employees and the elimination of Union positions. She noted that there was a net decrease of 10.5 positions to the 2010 budget, and although many are through attrition, current employees still need to pick up the duties. Ms. JaDoul also asked the Administration to be more consistent in future budgets with the tax levy impact by either always using a dollar amount impact or a percentage amount impact.

Gary Bersell, Janesville, Executive Director of Kandu Industries, thanked the DD board for continued support and explained to the audience the impact of decreased funding from both the County and the United Way. Funding in 2009 from the two was only 37% of Kandu Industries' revenue. Kandu Industries continues to be innovative in meeting program needs, is being frugal in budgeting future needs and noted that the staff has not seen an increase in over 1.5 years with nothing in sight for the near future. Mr. Bersell gave a special thank you to LuAnn Kane, John Hanewall and Jennifer Anselmi for their care and work with the organization.

Edward Brandsey, Janesville, spoke to the board on behalf of his daughter Cathy. Mr. Brandsey's daughter has finally been placed appropriately where she is a thriving 43-year old, living healthy and losing weight and managing an anxiety disorder well and her seizures are controlled for the most part. The family was recently informed that she would be moved to another caregiver and

while investigating this announcement, has been receiving conflicting information between the County and CCLS. The family's options boil down to severing relationships, filing a grievance or allowing Cathy to be moved. They have decided to go the grievance route because they feel it is in Cathy's best interest that she remains placed in her current setting.

Tami Griffin, Janesville, spoke on behalf of CESA 2VOA, thanking the DD board for funding, encouraging future support, possibly increased, and promised that these programs make a difference in the lives of Rock County residents.

Steve and Lori Gates, Janesville, spoke to the board about the importance of having their current caregivers, Joanne Evans and Merry Monson through IDS Services. As individuals with disabilities, they rely on these caregivers to get to the doctor, shop for groceries, help organize their living space, etc. They are grateful and hope that the services will continue for them.

Merry Monson, Janesville, spoke on behalf of I.D.S. – Independent Disability Services. She spoke of the services offered and the impact it has on folks with disabilities.

Sandy Heidecker, Janesville, spoke on behalf of the adults with disabilities that she is the caregiver for. She has concerns that many programs that currently exist are being eliminated in the beginning of 2010. She asked the board to reconsider the budget for assisted living funding.

Gary Keller, Evansville, spoke to the board regarding the Jail renovation, asking the board to reconsider an \$8.46 million dollar upgrade at the Rock County Jail. Mr. Keller felt that maybe it would be better to use some of the existing sales tax dollars to retire the budget and forego some of the work that is not mandatory.

Anna Fuller, Edgerton, spoke on behalf of CESA#2 and the therapeutic learning center. She is the Birth to 3 Coordinator and a parent of 6 children (3 were adopted through foster care). Ms. Fuller issued a handout explaining Birth to 3 program facts such as the increase in births Countywide, under-funded federal mandates, decreased funding and the fact that the ARRA funds allocated to Rock County for the program are being held by the state at this point. She wanted the board to know that every dollar spent on early intervention is an investment that saves future tax payer dollars.

Sue Lethlean, Janesville, addressed the board representing Rehab resources agency. She explained the services the agency offers, thanked the DD board for prior funding and encouraged future support.

Bridget Rolek, Evansville, shared her personal story of caring for her 3-year old child who is a child with developmental disabilities. The family has utilized IDS respite care for some relief hours but continues to wait for services and expects to wait for quite some time. Although the staff does an incredible job and the budgets are in the worst shape they've been in for years, she wanted the board to hear her story and encouraged them to not cut these services as they are literally a lifeline to families like hers.

Chair Podzilni declared the Public Hearing on the 2010 Proposed County Budget closed.

7. Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements.
No one spoke

13. Adjournment.

Supervisors Arnold and Fizzell moved to adjourn at 7:30pm to Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Prepared by Lorena R. Stottler, County Clerk
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