

MANITOWOC COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE
Heritage Center
June 18, 2019

Attendance: Chair Paul “Biff” Hansen, Supervisor Jim Baumann, Supervisor John Brunner, and Supervisor Ken Swade. Also in attendance: County Executive Bob Ziegelbauer, Comptroller Todd Reckelberg, Assistant Comptroller JJ Gutman, and Clifton Larson Allen (CLA) Principal Officer Bryan Grunewald. Supervisor Mike Williams was excused.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hansen at 6:00 p.m.

Approve the minutes of the June 10th, 2019 Finance Committee meetings: Supervisor Baumann moved to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Supervisor Brunner. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Report from External Auditor, CLA on County’s finances for 2018: Bryan Grunewald Principal Officer with CLA referenced the “Management Communications” letter as he briefed the Finance Committee. The letter laid out the responsibilities of the Auditors and that of County management regarding the Financial Statements, internal controls, and reporting responsibilities. It expressed that they did not identify any deficiencies during their audit with respect to internal controls or accounting or financial reporting. Mr. Grunewald noted that the county’s conservative nature and controlled budget has allowed the Unassigned Fund Balance to increase substantially from 2017. He explained the Special Revenue Funds and Capital Projects Funds balance decreased in 2018 due to completed projects for the Expo and UW-Manitowoc previously approved by the County Board. The Highway Department had increased revenue and expenses over 2017 with revenues up over 14%. The Highway Departments machinery cost pool also showed a positive 10.9% increase from 2017. Careful monitoring of the equipment they have on hand and the billable hours that that equipment produces helped to produce that increase. The Human Services Department made great strides compared to the previous year’s as well. They went from a negative fund balance of just over \$214,000 in 2017 to a respectful \$184,000 plus fund balance at the end of 2018. A turn-around of almost \$400,000. Mr. Grunewald also discussed the County’s Long-Term Obligation debt of \$25,110,000, which was very low compared to the \$271,917,895 debt limitation imposed by WI Statute. The County’s low debt compared to the equalized value was only 9%. When he compared our debt outstanding as a percentage of equalized value with ten of the surrounding Counties, we also compared very favorably. Our 9% came in second lowest as the other Counties in his comparison were between the 10% to 16% range. Overall he commented that we had a very good year. Lastly, he directed attention to the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Report that was awarded to Manitowoc County for the twenty-seventh consecutive year.

Adjournment: Supervisor Brunner moved to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Swade and the motion passed unanimously. The committee adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Backus, County Clerk