The meeting was held in the Law Enforcement Center Meeting room.

Present: Randy Tatur, Eldon Skogen, Dave Solsrud, and Cliff Taylor (at 8:38 a.m.). Excused: Jim Platteter. Also present: Denise Wetzel and Rosemary Schmit.

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

Skogen/Solsrud made a motion to approve the January 15, 2008, and February 11, 2008, minutes. Motion carried.

Linda Reissner was present to discuss Gemini using central supply. It was the consensus of the Committee to follow the current policy and not allow Gemini to use central supply.

Phil Schneider, Jim Turner, and Barry Henderson were present to discuss the ambulance purchase. The Ambulance Committee approved the purchase of the ambulance, but it has not been ordered. It was suggested that the Ambulance Committee look into selling the ambulances outright instead of trading them in. Purchase of the ambulance will be reviewed at the March 14 Property Committee meeting.

Vouchers paid February 1, 2008, to February 19, 2008, were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Vouchers to be paid following the meeting were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Skogen/Solsrud made a motion to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Kathy Pakes was present to inform the Committee that there are some expenses that will be incurred this year that aren’t in the 2008 budget. There are three big cases that will involve expert witnesses. The District Attorney budget may need an additional $15,000.00 to $20,000.00 to cover the costs of these jury trials. Pakes will keep the Committee updated.

The physical central supply inventory differed from the book balance by $1,061.27. Solsrud/Taylor made a motion to write off the central supply difference of $1,061.27 with funds from contingency. Motion carried.

Payroll software was discussed. This software would allow the Highway department to enter hours for its employees and transfer them up to the Auditor’s office for processing. Skogen/Taylor made a motion to approve the purchase of the payroll software pending Property Committee approval with funds to come from the Highway department. Motion carried.

Joanne Phetteplace presented the Treasurer’s report which included a report on the bank balances. Skogen/Taylor made a motion to approve Phetteplace attending the WCCO conference in Madison on March 2 to March 5. Motion carried.
Plat book copyright approval was discussed. **Solsrud/Taylor made a motion to allow copying of the plat book upon approval of the County Treasurer when individual requests are received.** Motion carried.

A resolution to accept the Interoperability grant was reviewed. **Skogen/Solsrud made motion to send the Resolution to Accept the Interoperability Grant to the County Board.** Motion carried.

The Finance Committee discussed the possibility of forming a committee that would make recommendations regarding the power line funds.

The Committee reviewed the following resolutions to present to the County Board for carry forward requests and budget amendments: Amend 2008 Budget for Carry Forward Balances and Create a Non-Lapsing Continuing Appropriation for Tourism; Resolution to Amend 2008 Budget for Multi-Jurisdictional Communications System; Resolution to Amend 2008 Budget for Rusk County Computer Aided Dispatch, Jail and Records Management Software; Resolution to Amend 2008 Budget for Sheriff’s Department 2008 Equipment Needs; Amend 2008 Debt Service, Capital Projects, and Jail Software Budgets; Resolution to Amend 2008 Budget County-Owned Dams 4-Hill Flowage Dam Abandonment Project; Amend 2007 Fairgrounds Budget with General Fund Dollars; Amend 2007 Budget for Wireless 911; and Amend 2007 Budget for BRDEU. Mike Naczas was present to explain the Animal Shelter carry forward request. The Finance Committee removed the $500.00 request for Animal Shelter from the carry forward resolution. The Property Committee will address the Animal Shelter’s electrical issues. **Skogen/Taylor made a motion to forward the resolutions with the carry forward requests and budget amendments to the County Board for approval.** Motion carried.

**Taylor/Solsrud made a motion to approve Bonnie Stoneberg attending the Board of Adjustment training on March 17, 2008, in Stevens Point.** Motion carried.

**Skogen/Taylor made a motion to approve Rosemary Schmit attending the Wisconsin Government Finance Officers Spring Conference on April 3 and 4, 2008, in Wisconsin Dells.** Motion carried.

Paula Carow was present to answer questions relating to the LWCD line item transfers and contingency fund requests. Line item transfers and contingency fund requests for 2007 were reviewed as follows: Courthouse (with $43,270.81 from contingency), Register of Deeds, Sheriff, Jail, Water Patrol, Snow Patrol, Victim Service Specialist, ATV Patrol, Shop with a Cop, Airport (with $4,641.33 from contingency), Animal Shelter, Jail Maintenance, Fairgrounds (with $4,895.66 from the general fund pending County Board approval), Economic Development, Tourism, County Owned Buildings (with $202.06 from contingency), Homeland Security (with $2,928.31 from contingency for match), Land and Water Conservation (with
$1,710.00 from contingency for committee per diems), Environmental Challenge, Recycling, Veterans Service Officer, HHS LIHEAP, and HHS Youth Aids. Line item transfers for 2008 were reviewed as follows: UW Extension and HHS Northwest Consortia. The Environment Challenge request needs to be a County Board resolution. Carow and Schmit were instructed to draft that resolution to present to the County Board. **Solsrud/Taylor made a motion to approve the line item transfers and contingency fund requests with the exception of the Land and Water Conservation Department request of $1,710.00 for committee per diems and to present the Environmental Challenge budget amendment to the County Board. Motion carried.**

Review of the percentage allocation for the Senior/Youth Building will be placed on next month’s Finance agenda.

Andy Albarado was present for the discussion on comprehensive planning. Albarado distributed a plan outline and process to review with the Committee.

Albarado presented the economic development report.

Tatur left the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Albarado reviewed the proposed project financing that will be discussed at the County Board on February 26. Interest rates dropped for a State Trust Fund loan. If all the projects are approved, the loan request would be for approximately $2,350,000.00. Cash flow from the existing buildings would be used to pay for this debt. **Taylor/Solsrud made a motion to send the request for an application for a State Trust Fund loan to the County Board for approval. Motion carried.**

Wetzel presented the Clerk’s report. Tax deed letters will go out by the end of the month. Approximately half of the municipalities have turned in dog licenses. There have been two marriage licenses sold this year. The primary election went well. The Board of Canvass will take place February 21. There are a lot of referendums for the April election.

Schmit presented the Auditor’s report including the sales tax report, collections of back taxes, insurance report, county car report, and activities of the office.

The next meeting is March 19, 2008, at 8:30 a.m.

**Taylor/Solsrud made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Rosemary Schmit, Recording Secretary