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

Present: Randy Tatur, Eldon Skogen, Phil Kaiser, and Cliff Taylor (at 8:53 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/Kaiser made a motion to approve the December 16, 2009, minutes. Motion carried.

Vouchers paid January 1, 2010, to January 19, 2010, were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Vouchers to be paid following the meeting were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Skogen/Taylor made a motion to approve paying the bills. Motion carried.

Nanci Mertes and Ed Wundrow presented information on the Highway feasibility study. A powerpoint presentation of the feasibility study will be provided at the County Board meeting on February 23 at 9:30 a.m.

Joanne Phetteplace, Cassandra Camren, Brad Schultz, and Brady Nagel were present for the county purchase card discussion. Skogen/Taylor made a motion to approve the county purchase card with Wells Fargo. Motion carried.

Phetteplace presented the Treasurer’s report. Taylor/Skogen made a motion to approve Joanne Phetteplace attending the WCCA conference on March 1 to March 3 in Madison. Motion carried.

Credit Management Control Debt collection was discussed. It was the consensus of the Committee to continue with Stark Agency and review this in the future.

Taylor/Kaiser made a motion to approve Renae Baxter attending the Clerk of Circuit Court Institute on February 24 to February 26 in Wisconsin Dells. Motion carried.

The Committee recessed for lunch from 12:25 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Andy Albarado presented the economic development report which included an update on the buildings and projects. It was the consensus of the Committee to move forward with the Rusk Regional Trans-shipment facility project.

Rich Summerfield was present. Summerfield expressed concerns about Carolyn Martin drafting deeds on behalf of the County. Summerfield said that any time a deed is drafted that there should be a title search done. Gordon Morris is still working on the Schmidtke issue. The property is still in Schmidtke’s name, and
Schmidtke is dead. The title needs to be transferred to someone so that the County can declare it an illegal. Summerfield is working on an agreement with Indianhead Community Action Agency for the vehicle purchases.

Sheriff Dave Kaminski and Chief Deputy Gary Hahn were present to discuss meal reimbursements. It was the consensus of the Committee to have the department administrators discuss this issue and revisit the meal reimbursement policy next month.

Kaminski informed the Committee that Washburn County terminated its contract with Rusk County as of January 1, 2010. The contract for 2010 was for $116,800.00. Kaminski is looking for other counties to contract with.

Kaiser/Skogen made a motion to approve out of county travel requests for Bonnie Stoneberg to attend Voting Machine Training on January 26 in Eau Claire, for Denise Wetzel to attend NW County and Municipal Negotiators on January 29 in Spooner and the WCCO Conference on February 28 to March 3 in Madison. Motion carried.

Gary Rivers was present to update the Committee on the balance of the Long-Term Care transition expense carry forward funds. Taylor/Skogen made a motion to approve the transition fund expenses in the amount of $49,469.50 for 2009 and $6,700.00 for 2010. Motion carried.

Line item transfers/contingency requests were reviewed as follows: Treasurer, Courthouse with $9,050.02 from contingency, Airport with $3,487.49 from contingency, Animal Shelter, and Zoning with $21,366.22 from contingency. Kaiser/Taylor made a motion to approve the line item transfers and contingency fund requests as presented. Motion carried.

Resolutions from Forestry were reviewed as follows: Amend 2009 and 2010 Park Development Fund Budget, Parks and Recreation Budget, and Powerline Budget and Amend 2010 County Owned Dam Repairs Budget and Powerline Budget. Skogen/Taylor made a motion to approve sending these two resolutions to the County Board. Motion carried.

The Personnel Committee would like to have a meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss the 2011 budget. It was the consensus of the Committee to set up a meeting sometime in February.

Wetzel presented the Clerk’s report. The three tax deed lots on Menasha Avenue sold. Tax deed letters will be sent out on April 12. There were 195 certified letters sent out for tax deeds. There were 111 citations written for dog licenses. Skogen/Taylor made a motion to instruct the Humane Officer to continue to issue citations until all are issued. Motion carried. There were 58 marriage licenses sold in 2009.
Schmit presented the Auditor’s report including the sales tax report, collection of back taxes, insurance report, and county car report.

The next regular Finance Committee meeting is Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at 8:30 a.m.

**Skogen/Taylor made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Rosemary Schmit, Recording Secretary