Chair David Weber called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call confirmed all members were present: Chair David Weber, Vice Chair Charlene Staples, and Supervisors Dan Kilkenny, Susan Pruising and Nancy Russell. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance
County Board Supervisors: Jerry Grant and Kathy Ingersoll
County staff: County Administrator David Bretl; Director-Public Works Richard Hough; Deputy Corporation Counsel/Director of LURM Michael Cotter; Human Resources Director Kate Bishop; Finance Director Jessica Conley; Lead Medical Investigator Gina Carver; Sheriff’s Office Captain David Gerber; Deputy Director of Health & Human Services Carlo Nevicosi
Members of the public: Management representatives from Alpine Valley Music Theatre; Kyle Christiansen, Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf and Jon Hochkammer from the Wisconsin Counties Association, Madison, WI; John Roth, Lake Geneva WI; Elizabeth Sukala, LaGrange, WI [Individuals who gave public comment are listed under the agenda item to which they spoke. The complete sign-in sheet of members in attendance is available at the County Clerk’s office.]

Supervisor Russell made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Staples, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Russell, to approve the September 9, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment – County Administrator David Bretl suggested that public comment be heard on the Walworth County Republican Party’s request for an April 2020 referendum and the presentation from the Wisconsin Counties Association when the agenda item is introduced. Chair Weber asked for comments regarding other items, and there were none.

Consent Items – expense/mileage reimbursement claims submitted by:
Supervisor Kilkenny made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Staples, to approve all of the expense/mileage claims except for County Board Chair Russell’s mileage claim. Motion carried 5-0.

- Nancy Russell, County Board Chair, in the amount of $139.66
- Jerry Grant, County Board Vice Chair, in the amount of $126.85
- Franklin Jones, citizen member on the Board of Adjustment, in the amount of $33.41
- Richard Kuhnke, Sr., county representative on WRRTC, in the amount of $250.80
- Allan Polyock, county representative on WRRTC, in the amount of $137.00
- Anna Seaver, citizen member on the Board of Adjustment, in the amount of $47.32
Appointments. Recommendations regarding County Administrator’s nominations:

- Board of Adjustment – appointment of Elizabeth Sukala and John Roth
  County Administrator David Bretl said Mr. Roth had completed all the requisite training and he and Ms. Sukala were present to be interviewed. Chair Weber asked them a series of questions regarding their experience, qualifications, reasons for serving on the Board, and any potential conflicts of interest that would preclude them from serving on the Board of Adjustment. Both candidates have previously served terms on the Board and listed their qualifications and previous experience in serving on similar committees. Roth stated his primary concern is controlled growth in the County, and his belief that developers should pay for their own infrastructure. Sukala said she is concerned about the conflict between commercial and residential interests, and said the County’s long-range plan needs to take precedence in making decisions. Neither candidate had a conflict of interest prohibiting them from serving. Both stated they had no scheduling issues that would prevent them from regular attendance at meetings. Chair Weber commended Roth and Sukala for their dedicated service. Supervisor Russell made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Staples, to recommend the appointments of Elizabeth Sukala and John Roth to the Board of Adjustment. Motion carried 5-0.

- Civil Service Board – appointment of F. Mark Bromley
  Supervisor Russell made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Staples, to recommend the appointment of F. Mark Bromley to the Civil Service Board. Motion carried 5-0.

- Transportation Coordinating Committee – appointment of Andy Kerwin
  Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Russell, to recommend the appointment of Andy Kerwin to the Transportation Coordinating Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

- Williams Bay Barrett Memorial Library Board – appointment of Edgar Mosshamer
  Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Russell, to recommend the appointment of Edgar Mosshamer to the Williams Bay Barrett Memorial Library Board. Motion carried 5-0.

- Medical Examiner – appointment of Gina Carver, effective January 1, 2020
  Chair Weber said with the termination of the contract with Waukesha County, the County will now have its own Medical Examiner. Bretl noted that Gina Carver’s resume was distributed to the Committee prior to the meeting. The appointment of Ms. Carver would be effective January 1, 2020. Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Russell, to recommend the appointment of Gina Carver as Medical Examiner. Supervisor Russell commented that Carver has done an outstanding job as Lead Medical Investigator and has raised the standard of service to the public. The motion carried 5-0.

- Corporation Counsel/Director of Land Use and Resource Management – appointment of Michael Cotter, effective January 1, 2020
  Bretl said Cotter has worked at the County for 21 years, and stated he was pleased to nominate him as Corporation Counsel. The appointment would be effective January 1, 2020. Mr. Cotter’s resume was distributed before the meeting. Supervisor Russell made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Pruessing, to recommend the appointment of Michael Cotter as Corporation Counsel/Director of Land Use and Resource Management. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- Alpine Valley Music Theatre 2020 Business Plan and License Application and 2020 Camping Operations Plan
  - Review 2020 operations plan
Set date and time for public hearing on 2020 Alpine Valley business plan and license application

Bretl reported that the 2020 Alpine Valley business plan and license application has been distributed to the Sheriff’s Office, Land Use and Resource Management and Health & Human Services for review. A public hearing needs to be scheduled for the approval of the plan/license. **Supervisor Kilkenny made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Staples, to hold the public hearing at the Monday, November 18, 2019 Executive Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried 5-0.**

- Correspondence from Chris Goebel, Chairman of the Republican Party of Walworth County, regarding a referendum item for the April 2020 ballot

Chair Weber informed the audience that those who wished to offer public comment on the referendum request would be limited to three minutes.

The following individuals spoke in support of the proposed referendum: Chris Goebel, Chair of the Walworth County Republican Party, Elkhorn, WI; Rich Strohm, Lyons, WI; Erick J. Nicia, Lake Geneva, WI.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the proposed referendum: Chris Hammerstrom, Genoa City, WI; Mary Burpee, Elkhorn, WI; Steven J. Doelder, Chair of the Walworth County Democratic Party, Genoa City, WI; Karen L. Woelfle-Potter, Elkhorn, WI; Ellen Holly, Elkhorn, WI; Monica Los, Sharon, WI; Katherine Gaulke, Elkhorn, WI; Luis Solis, Delavan, WI; Dick Malmin, Lake Geneva, WI; Berenice Solis, Delavan, WI; Jose Cano, Delavan, WI; Jim Cusack, Lake Como, WI.

Chair Weber ended public comment and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting to present their views. He asked committee members for their input. Supervisor Kilkenny said that he is an elected official for Walworth County, and is sworn to act in that capacity, not with respect to immigration, which is a federal issue. He stated a good motto is to “stay in your lane,” and act on those issues pertinent to county government. If a board or committee acts out of its purview, it confuses the public as to what officials’ responsibilities are. **Supervisor Kilkenny made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Russell, to place this item on file.** When asked if the item could be brought to the County Board, Bretl responded it could if called from the floor. **The motion carried 4-1. Supervisor Pruessing voted No.**

- Correspondence from the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) requesting an opportunity to present to the County Board

Kyle Christiansen, Director of Government Affairs, Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Deputy Director of Government Affairs, and Jon Hochkammer, Outreach Manager for the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) addressed the Committee. Christiansen said WCA represents the interests of all 72 counties within the State of Wisconsin. The WCA’s primary efforts are advocacy at the state and federal levels to advance county interests and provide educational outreach and training. Hearing feedback on WCA’s services and performance helps to strengthen their organization. Christiansen said they were troubled to learn that the Walworth County Finance Committee amended the 2020 preliminary budget to eliminate membership in the WCA. Shaping policy and direction is more effective when all 72 counties are behind those efforts. Christiansen said Walworth County has been a leader in bringing forth resolutions and perspective on issues other counties may not be aware of. The breakout session at the WCA convention on achieving debt-free status given by Chair Russell and Administrator Bretl was very well attended. He understands budget constraints and issues with the distance to meetings, lodging and mileage expense. WCA is working on providing other sessions throughout the state. Fees for educational seminars have been eliminated, and more webinars are being offered. Hochkammer said he served 40 years as an
elected official, and he feels strongly that WCA has to have a more visible presence within individual counties. Supervisor Russell stated the Finance Committee voted unanimously on the budget amendment to discontinue membership in WCA. The principal reason was the dues, and Board Chairs are obligated to attend the convention and travel to learning sessions and meetings with legislators, etc. Supervisor Monroe, who sponsored the amendment, stated he has attended the legislator sessions and often his representatives were not at the sessions. Russell added that the general assembly meetings often involve public relations for WCA; on how much they provide to counties and how much money they have. Walworth County has an 11-person board and attendance at Board committee meetings, numerous other state, county and community meetings is required; there is not enough time for a full commitment to WCA. Vice Chair Staples stated she has attended several WCA conventions and has learned a great deal and believes counties should take advantage of the opportunities. She is conscious of the County’s budget constraints, but hopes that there is a way to continue membership in the WCA because establishing relationships with other counties and sharing information is important. Hochkammer said dues comprise approximately 14% of WCA’s funding, and there has not been an increase in dues since 2001. There are no longer fees for magazine subscriptions and seminars, and first-time Supervisors are not charged a registration fee for the WCA conference. If Walworth County is no longer a member, we will still benefit from WCA efforts and lobbying on behalf of all of the counties, but not be involved in shaping policy. Hochkammer said to acquire publications that are included in the WCA dues, such as Wis Politics and the Wheeler Report and other important information, would cost approximately $13,000. Bretl said Walworth County’s public budget hearing is scheduled for October 29th at 6:00 p.m. A Supervisor may sponsor a budget amendment to continue membership in WCA before budget adoption on November 12th. Hochkammer said officials from WCA would attend the budget hearing. In the meantime, he encouraged input and feedback from Board members.

- Correspondence from County Board Vice Chair Jerry Grant regarding County Board election years

Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Kilkenny, to table the correspondence from County Board Vice Chair Jerry Grant until the November 18, 2019 committee meeting.
Motion carried 5-0.

Reports/announcements by Chairperson – There were none.

Confirmation of next meeting date and time: Special Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 3:15 p.m.

Claims and Litigation
The Committee convened in closed session at approximately 12:00 p.m. on motion and second by Supervisor Kilkenny and Vice Chair Staples pursuant to the exemption contained in Section 19.85(1) (g) of the Wisconsin Statutes, “conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved,” relative to the items listed below. A roll call vote was conducted and all members present voted “aye.” County Administrator David Bretl, Human Resources Director Kate Bishop, Supervisor Kathy Ingersoll, Deputy Director of Health & Human Services Carlo Nevicosi, and Veterans Services Officer Nathan Bond remained in closed session.

a) Claim – Michael Juers
b) Claim for Vehicle Damage – Dale Mangan
c) Opioid Litigation
The committee reconvened in open session at 12:14 p.m. on motion and second by Supervisor Kilkenny and Vice Chair Staples.

Supervisor Kilkenny made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Pruessing to disallow the claim for vehicle damage by Dale Mangan (item b), and to proceed as discussed in closed session on items a) and c). Motion carried 5-0.

Closed Session
The committee convened in closed session as approximately 12:16 p.m. on motion and second by Vice Chair Staples and Supervisor Kilkenny pursuant to the exemption contained in Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes, “considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility,” relative to the item listed below. A roll call vote was conducted and all members present voted “aye.” County Administrator David Bretl, County Board Supervisor Kathy Ingersoll and Human Resources Director Kate Bishop remained in closed session.

a) County Administrator recruitment

The committee reconvened in open session at 12:40 p.m. on motion and second by Vice Chair Staples and Supervisor Russell.

Vice Chair Staples made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Russell, to direct staff to proceed as discussed in closed session. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment
On motion and second by Vice Chair Staples and Supervisor Kilkenny, Chair Weber adjourned the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

Submitted by Becky Bechtel, Administrative Assistant. Meeting minutes were approved by the Committee on November 18, 2019.