



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Thomas W. Meaux, County Administrator
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To the Honorable Board of Supervisors and citizens of Ozaukee County:

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the County Administrator's Office highlighting 2009 accomplishments and ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality service to our citizens and taxpayers. Per our Departmental mission, the County Administrator shall:

“Coordinate all administrative and management functions of County government not otherwise vested by law to other entities, through facilitating the cooperation and communication between Ozaukee County residents, the County Board, and County Departments.”

None of the following achievements could have been accomplished without the steadfast support of the County Board and the dedication, professionalism, and quality of our management team throughout our organization. Please note the following highlights:

- Cost Saving Agreements with our Bargaining Units and labor cost cutting with the support and involvement of all county employees: With the support of our management team and the direct involvement of County Board leadership, we implemented mandatory furloughs for all employees and successfully negotiated with our four bargaining units to assist with the revenue gap in 2009-10. These savings were assumed in the 2010 budget process and resulted in another year of keeping our tax levy manageable without an appreciable loss of needed services to our citizens that “pay the bills.” We implemented a new WRS retirement contribution for new hires, implemented a voluntary time off policy, facilitated summer jobs within various county departments with Workforce Development, and provided grant management support for transit, parks and public health.
- Successful H1N1 response: Although our Public Health Department took an early “public relations hit” with a huge and overflow crowd in the rain in their first H1N1 clinic at Cedarburg High School, the staff did a marvelous job at all the clinics in distributing the vaccine to any and all interested residents garnering many kudos for their dedication, professionalism and efficiency.
- Assessment of Major building upgrades and subsequent funding for Adm & Justice Center chillers and air handlers: Progress was made with the development of a major upgrade plan for our Justice Center, Administrative Center and Lasata and with commensurate funding from the County Board of \$1M to address our highest priorities. Further analysis has occurred involving Focus on Energy incentives and engineering studies to determine chiller and air handlers sizing, operations, and efficiency.
- Construction of Lasata Residential Care Apartment Complex (RCAC): Ozaukee County made a long term investment in the Lasata campus with the establishment of a RCAC. The intent is to build a marketable facility to provide our citizens with a continuum of care and generate additional revenues to help the long term viability of the campus. During 2009 major progress occurred including working with the State and local officials, neighbors and stakeholders. The project remains on time and on budget with an opening scheduled in second half of 2010.

- Fairgrounds Planning, involving Ozaukee County community: Many hours were spent meeting with the City of Cedarburg officials, Milwaukee Curlers, Cedarburg Fire Department Inc, local neighbors, stakeholders including 4H, Farm Bureau, Ozaukee County Agricultural Society and our own staff to work on the details of a master plan and major reinvestment in the county property. Land purchase of almost 4 acres from the Fire Department was completed, major zoning changes were enacted at the City level, and the overall planning continues with a goal of building a major new multi-purpose facility and corresponding facility upgrades, with the intent of taking advantage of bond subsidy to keep the overall tax impact manageable pending Board approval in 2010.
- Other major policy and operational initiatives: Highlights of some major items include Shared Criminal Records initiative with Public Safety and Sheriff office along with local police jurisdictions, Revolving Loan Fund for Modern equipment, site assessment grant in Fredonia, Finance involvement in Human Services, record of no deficiencies from external audit, outstanding year and surplus revenues for Ozaukee golf, \$500k stimulus grant funding for Ozaukee transit, extinguished our unfunded pension liability and refinanced through a reimbursement loan of major capital items from State of Wisconsin, NOAA Federal Stimulus grant partnering re Milwaukee River Fish Passage with local governments, force account work for Highway Dept, major projects were completed or near completed in 2009, including grand opening of Court House Board room restoration, Interurban Trail Bridge, signage in our Administration Center along with user friendly entrance for Aging and Disability Resource Center
- Ongoing connection with the community: Items included: filling appointments to Boards/Commissions, reviewing operations and discussing program/facility options with National Flag Day Foundation, Stars and Stripes Honor Flight, Ozaukee County Historical Society and new lease for Pioneer Village, City of Port Washington for traffic and parking lot improvements at Adm Center, Franklin and Focus on Energy re energy rebates and incentives, MATC for First Fridays, Ozaukee Autumn Open, Advisory Committees for Interurban Trail and Comprehensive Plan, meetings with Mid-Moraine Administrators, hosted Milwaukee 7 in Court House, Port Washington Rotary, Ozaukee County legislators and Wisconsin Counties Association Group Health Trust, Luxembourg Community Center, Concordia University, Ozaukee Ice Association, Aurora Health Care Systems, St. Mary's Hospital, Cedar Springs, East Wisconsin Railroad Association, Miller Ride for Arts, Riveredge, Radio System User Group, and renting county facilities to Cedarburg Soccer Club and 4H Haunted House, 4H Horse and Pony Project and new rental arrangement for Horse Barn, A highlight of the year had me "Dancing with the Stars" on behalf of the Ozaukee Volunteer Center. I am not sure it was a highlight for those observing but it was fun and we raised a lot of money for the Center. Throughout the year, I communicated with our partners and strived to maintain a first class organization that is responsive to the public and to the judicious use of public resources.

The year 2009 was a challenging one; the economic downturn had a dramatic impact on county government. In times of hardship, the demand for county services is enhanced. Our employees stepped up, recognized the difficulties and partnered with our fine management team to deliver excellence to the community. We should all be very proud to be part of this organization.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS W. MEAUX
Ozaukee County Administrator