



March 1, 2006

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors:

It is my honor and privilege to present the 2005 Annual Report for the Ozaukee County Administrator's Office highlighting our accomplishments and ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality service to our citizens and taxpayers. Ozaukee County continued to balance progress with fiscal responsibility guaranteeing the efficiency, excellence, and reliability that our successful civic partnership is built upon. This document highlights the 2005 efforts and accomplishments of the County Administrator's Office to put Ozaukee County's mission into action:

"Ozaukee County will provide its citizens responsive government and quality services in a fiscally responsible manner through innovation, leadership and dedication."

In 2005, the County Administrator's office collaborations with the County Board of Supervisors, County Staff, other governmental units, and the Ozaukee County citizenry yielded numerous accomplishments addressing internal reorganization, capital planning, and organizational plans for the future:

INTERNAL REORGANIZATION – 2005 provided the opportunity to look internally at County operations. Internal restructuring in County Administration and Board structure sets a strong foundation to build upon in the future.

COUNTY COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION – The organizational restructuring of Ozaukee County Board Committee Structure designed to streamline Committee oversight and focus on issues of policy versus day-to-day management continued in 2005. The reorganization has proved to be a considerable success and serves as a model for other Wisconsin Counties considering reorganization.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE POLICY AND PROCEDURAL MANUAL - Building upon the County Board's organizational change, 2005 saw the creation of the Ozaukee County Policy and Procedure Manual separating the County's internal policies from the code enforcement issues. This approach saves time and money with modifications to the Policy and Procedure Manual document driven through County Board resolutions versus ordinance changes requiring publication in the County newspaper.

REORGANIZED COUNTY ADMINISTRATION – the 2006 budget assumed a reorganization of the County's major Administrative Department's (County Administrator, Human Resources, and Finance). By leveraging synergy between the departments and personnel the County saved approximately \$100,000. This relationship has proven to be an effective way to maximize internal efficiencies between the three departments.

CAPITAL PLANNING – In 2005, the County Board advanced its role as a steward of the County’s assets ensuring the County’s ability to provide for its ongoing capital needs and targeting specific projects for completion.

CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND – In 2003 the County Board created a reserve fund to finance the County’s Capital needs. The fund has continued to prosper and in 2006 the fund will be used to finance over \$457,000 in capital improvements. The current fund balance is nearly \$900,000. A majority of the utility revenues have been earmarked for this critical purpose.

SUCCESSFUL PLANNING, GRANT FOR E-911 SERVICES – The County received approval from the state Public Service Commission to implement the E-911 system in 2005. The state mandated \$800,000 project, which allows County dispatch to locate 911 callers on cellular phones, will be approximately 70% funded from the grant funds, the application secured nearly \$200,000 in additional funding above the base-level match established by the Public Service Commission.

SECURITY SYSTEM FOR JUSTICE CENTER – In 2005 the County Board approved an improved security system for the justice center after an analysis by the U.S. Marshall’s identified numerous deficiencies in the current system. The plan provides for security with a mixture of technology and minimum increase of personnel and should be implemented in March of 2006.

ENDORSED RADIO SYSTEM PLAN – Public safety continued to be the focus this year as the County Board endorsed the first phase of a plan to upgrade the Ozaukee County radio backbone – the system is provides service to the County and each municipality, with few exceptions. The current hardware is well over a decade old and the upgrade plan will total nearly \$6 Million to complete.

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE – A concerted effort was made in 2005 to look into and plan for the future, the County’s proactive strategies establish a path to success by providing for our necessary facilities and public amenities.

LASATA STUDY AND REVIEW OF ASSISTED LIVING ALTERNATIVES – The implementation of the staff report and various internal efficiencies for the Lasata Campus have reduced the property tax needs 82.5% from 2004. Building on the Assisted Living recommendations the County Administrator’s Office and Aging and Long Term Care Committee worked to develop a public private alliance with the goal of developing Assisted Living facilities to provide a continuum of care at the Lasata campus.

TENDICK PARK DEDICATION, TRAILS, DISC GOLF COURSE – The County kept its focus on the tradition of providing excellent public amenities and parks in 2005 and through the use of State stewardship funds Ozaukee County developed the Tendick Park and Nature preserve, which was officially dedicated in 2005. The land, donated for park use by Donald Tendick, adds a superb public space to the collection of Ozaukee County Parks. Cross country trails and Frisbee disc golf have been established.

INTERURBAN TRAIL COMPLETION, FUNDRAISING FOR BRIDGE – In 2005 the County Board approved a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant for the completion

of a bridge to span I-43. The County matching funds required for the \$1 Million project (\$250,000) were raised through a public-private partnership between Ozaukee County, the Interurban Trail Council, and hundreds of donations from Ozaukee County citizens.

STUDY OF RESIDUAL USE OF OLD JAIL, ABANDONED IN 1992 – the County is currently studying the reuse of the “old jail” facility for reuse or razing. The Public Works and Human Services Committee commissioned a report to investigate the possible construction of an emergency detention mental health facility in 2005. Work will continue on the future of the old jail facility as we assess the report and the recommendation to eventually raze the structure and forget trying to rehab the building.

AD HOC INSURANCE COMMITTEE – Upon the directive of the Administrative Committee the County formed an ad hoc insurance committee to analyze the County’s Health insurance costs. With the help of an outside consultant Ozaukee County was able to freeze Health Insurance costs saving approximately \$600,000. The County will continue to use this approach for health insurance and other overhead costs as part of the recent reorganization of Human Resources Department.

As in the past, I would like to recognize our fine employees and department heads for continuing to build upon our partnership with the citizens of Ozaukee County with determination, perseverance, and creativity. Michele Brandner and Jason Dzwinel continue to offer substantial ongoing contributions to fulfill our mission. Our Finance and Human Resources Department personnel have stepped up and provided exemplary support of Ozaukee County through the reorganization. Finally, I would like to thank the citizens of Ozaukee County, our responsive and diligent County Board, and all of our local government partners for their commitment to making County a safe and wonderful place to live, work, and raise our families.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS W. MEAUX
County Administrator