

# Theodore LIPSCOMB

Milwaukee County Board Chairman  
County Supervisor, 1st District

Date: July 12, 2016

To: Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
County Board Staff

From: Chairman Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.

Re: 2017 County Board Budget Request

Supervisors and County Board staff,

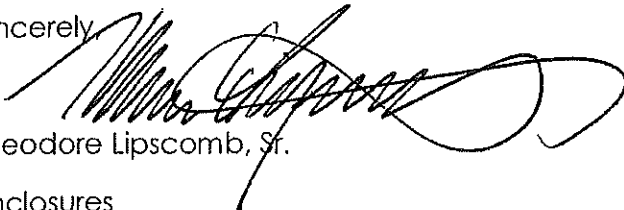
As Chairman, I serve as head of the department and have submitted to the Milwaukee County Budget Director a 2017 requested budget for the County Board. The attached 2017 requested budget complies with 2013 Wisconsin Act 14 and the .4 percent levy cap. For your review, I also am enclosing a July 11, 2016, memo from the Office of the Comptroller that elucidates the budget challenges facing this department.

The analysis points out that there is a gap of \$239,011 between appropriations and the tax levy cap that will need to be addressed. The statutory provision that previously exempted Supervisor compensation from the state-mandated budget cap sunset in 2016. In the 2017 request, I have included an abatement to close this gap and bring the Board's budget down to the tax levy cap. This quarter of a million dollar gap remains even after applying a half million dollars in budget changes we adopted last year during budget deliberations. Those policies must be maintained this year – abatement of active health and fringe benefits (\$230,604) and adjusted crosscharges (\$275,580).

The memo includes a breakdown of appropriations available to absorb this \$239,011 shortfall: staff salaries (\$614,354); services and commodities (\$148,632); and crosscharges (\$131,798). To provide a reference point for the scale of this shortfall, please note that the salaries for eight legislative assistant positions total about \$272,144.

This department confronted many challenges over the last several years as we responded to the reorganization mandated by the state. This year we avoided staff layoffs that were imminent by working collaboratively. With a reorganized Board, it is even more important that we have a structure in place that helps elected officials set County policy; handle daily administrative functions; and deliver dependable constituent communications to residents. I am committed to working with you to achieve these goals during the upcoming months.

Sincerely,



Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.

Enclosures



Milwaukee County

Interoffice Memorandum

DATE: July 11, 2016  
TO: Chairman Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.  
FROM: CJ Pahl, Fiscal and Budget Coordinator, Office of the Comptroller  
RE: 2017 County Board Requested Budget

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Per Wisconsin State Statute 59.60(7), the County Board may only adopt a departmental budget for itself that is no more than 0.4 percent of the total County's tax levy. For purposes of the request, it was assumed that the levy will remain at the 2016 adopted level of \$286,985,125. Therefore, the County Board must adopt of departmental levy of no more than \$1,147,941.

2017 Tax Levy Calculation	
County Tax Levy	\$ 286,985,125
County Board 0.4% Tax Levy	1,147,941

Certain expenditures are not subject to the levy cap imposed by the State. The excluded items are Legacy Health, Legacy Pension and Facilities Crosscharges. All departmental expenditures with the exception of these three must fall at or below the \$1.1 million tax levy cap.

The Department of Administrative Services – Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget prepares the base budget for departments. Typically, certain expenditures and positions “roll” while others must be entered by departments. In addition, various policy initiatives set forth in prior year budgets may not be accurately reflected in the base budget.

In order to establish a departmental budget that was consistent with appropriations in the 2016 Adopted Budget, various entries were made. After these entries were made, the resulting gap between appropriations and the 0.4 percent tax levy cap was **\$745,195**.

Because certain 2016 policy initiatives were not carried forward in the 2017 base budget, further modifications were made to reflect the following:

- Active Health and Active Fringe were abated to reflect policy in 2016 Adopted Budget, and
- Crosscharges were held flat at the 2016 Adopted Budget levels.<sup>1</sup>

After these entries were made, the resulting gap between appropriations and the 0.4 percent tax levy cap was **\$239,011**.

Prior to adopting a 2017 budget, the County Board will need to take action to address this shortfall. The following table shows the various expenditure groups in the County Board budget.

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<sup>1</sup> A slightly different methodology was applied in 2016 for holding crosscharges at the prior year levels.

COUNTY BOARD (1000) BUDGET

DEPT: County Board

UNIT NO. 1000  
FUND: General - 0001

**Budget Summary**

Category	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	2016 Budget	2017 Budget	2017/2016 Variance
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Personnel Costs	\$2,903,994	\$2,724,801	\$2,046,427	\$1,104,522	(\$941,905)
Operation Costs	\$150,235	\$176,064	\$147,405	\$148,632	\$1,227
Miscellaneous Budget Abatement			(\$15,948)	(\$239,011)	\$223,063
Debt & Depreciation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interdept. Charges	\$432,856	\$443,763	\$417,224	\$400,746	(\$16,478)
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,487,085</b>	<b>\$3,344,629</b>	<b>\$2,597,108</b>	<b>\$1,416,889</b>	<b>(\$1,180,219)</b>
Legacy Healthcare/Pension	\$670,733	\$629,314	\$778,882	\$0	\$778,882
<b>Revenues</b>					
Direct Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergov Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Tax Levy</b>	<b>\$3,487,085</b>	<b>\$3,344,629</b>	<b>\$2,597,108</b>	<b>\$1,416,889</b>	<b>(\$1,180,219)</b>
<b>Personnel</b>					
Full-Time Pos. (FTE)	30	30	30	0	0
Seas/Hourly/Pool Pos.	1	1	1	0	0
Overtime \$	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Department Mission:** The mission of the Board of Supervisors is to enhance self-sufficiency, personal safety, economic opportunity and quality of life of the citizens of Milwaukee County, consistent with the County's Mission Statement.

The Board adopts County-wide policies through resolutions and ordinances that advance these goals. Among the Board's most important means of establishing policy is the adoption of the annual County Budget. The Board conducts its legislative business with public meetings of standing committees, commissions and task forces. Staff to the Board performs administrative functions for the department, and assists elected officials in their continuous efforts to provide high quality, responsive services to their constituents.

**Department Description:** The Board of Supervisors is the legislative branch of Milwaukee County government. The Board consists of legislative representatives elected by residents of 18 Supervisory Districts throughout Milwaukee County. Supervisors represent the diverse constituents of Milwaukee County. Compensation of elected Supervisors and departmental expenditures are subject to the limits of 2013 Wisconsin Act 14 and the conforming local ordinances.

COUNTY BOARD (1000) BUDGET

DEPT: County Board

UNIT NO. 1000  
 FUND: General - 0001

<b>County Board Budgeted Positions</b>				
<b>Title Code</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
County Board Chairman	1	1	0	
County Brd Supv 1St Vic	1	1	0	
County Brd Supv 2nd Vic	1	1	0	
County Brd Supv Member	14	14	0	
Adm Sec Graphic Designer U	1	1	0	
Adm Sec 2-Exec Sec	1	1	0	
Adm Sec Public Inf Mgr	1	1	0	
Adm Sec1- Office Asst 1 Hrly	1	1	0	
Adm Sec Legislative Asst	8	8	0	
Adm Sec Chief Of Staff	1	1	0	
County Brd Supv FPA Chair	1	1	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	

<b>County Board Budgeted Unfunded Positions</b>				
<b>Title Code</b>				<b>Explanation</b>
None				
<b>TOTAL</b>				