

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**Department of Human Resources**  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE** : February 21, 2020

**To** : Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Board of Supervisors

**FROM** : Julie Landry, Chief Human Resources Officer, Department of Human Resources  
*Dear Jeffrey for J.L.*

**SUBJECT** : **Request to Increase Constitutional Officer Salaries of Register of Deeds, Treasurer, County Clerk, County Executive, Sheriff, and Clerk of Courts, in Accordance With Milwaukee County Ordinance Section 17.98 for Next Eligible Terms**

**Request:**

The Department of Human Resources requests the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to adopt the attached resolution which seeks to adjust the compensation for the County elected constitutional office positions of Register of Deeds, Treasurer, County Clerk, County Executive, Sheriff, and Clerk of Courts in Accordance With Milwaukee County Ordinance Section 17.98 for the next eligible terms.

Consistent with s. 59.22(1)(a), Wis. Stats., salaries for the constitutional officers shall be established before the earliest time for filing nomination papers for the office, namely, before April 15 of the year in which the general election for these positions is to be held.

**Background:**

After much debate, the Milwaukee County Comptroller salary was increased 4% for its upcoming term as a result of Board action taken in the November 7, 2019 Milwaukee County Board Meeting File No. 19-810.

Although a larger increase was originally recommended by Human Resources for the Comptroller based on salary market, the Board approved a 4% Comptroller increase given the considerations of current salary level, elected status, and historical general salary increases for the overall employee population among other considerations.

Human resources was requested to forward increases for the remaining Milwaukee County Constitutional Officers for consideration, effective for the next allowable terms as provided for under statute.

The following table reflects the increases requested, consistent with the 4% increase approved for Comptroller, assuming that the same logic would support the increases that would result.

	Current Salary	Last Salary Adjustment Year	Resulting Proposed Increase Percentage	Resulting Proposed Increase Amount	Resulting New Salary	Effective Date of New Salary
Register of Deeds	\$87,964.75	2017	4%	\$3,518.59	\$91,483.34	2020
Treasurer	\$87,964.75	2017	4%	\$3,518.59	\$91,483.34	2020
County Clerk	\$87,964.75	2017	4%	\$3,518.59	\$91,483.34	2020
Sheriff	\$132,290.08	Pre 2009	4%	\$5,291.60	\$137,581.68	2023
Clerk of Circuit Court	\$130,000.00	Pre 2009	4%	\$5,200.00	\$135,200.00	2024
County Executive	\$129,114.54	Pre 2009	4%	\$5,164.58	\$134,279.12	2024
				\$26,211.95		

**Recommendation:**

The Department of Human Resources recommends consistently increasing the annual salaries of the elected officers 4 percent as identified above. These changes would result in an additional \$27,019 of salary obligation annually, when all are implemented in a phased approach which is dictated by the timing required by statute.

**Fiscal Effect:**

This increase will result in an additional full year expenditure of approximately \$29,086 inclusive of 7.65% for FICA. This total impact would not be realized immediately due to the staggered effective dates resulting from the effective dates dictated by statute.

The 2020 Recommended Budget does not include funding for this request. The 2020 Recommended Budget includes \$5,000,000 in unallocated contingency. If necessary, an appropriation transfer from unallocated contingency to the impacted Departments may be requested during 2020. The subsequent yearly cost increases may be factored into subsequent applicable annual budgets.

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