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(ITEM) From Corporation Counsel, requesting authorization to amend a contract with Buelow, Vetter, Buikema, Olson & Vliet, LLC, resulting in an increase of \$50,000, to represent the County in labor relations matters, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County has required and will continue to require the assistance of private counsel with specialized knowledge and experience in the area of labor and employment law to advise and represent Milwaukee County in labor relations matters involving Milwaukee County; and

WHEREAS, the County Board approved a contract with Buelow, Vetter, Buikema, Olson & Vliet, LLC, (Buelow Vetter) on September 30, 2010, (File No. 10-294) for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has previously approved amendments to the contract amount, with the last amendment being approved on September 27, 2012, to authorize total expenditures from 2010 to 2013 of \$375,000 (File No. 12-650); and

WHEREAS, Buelow Vetter is currently representing Milwaukee County in several matters:

- *Milwaukee Deputy Sheriffs’ Association (MDSA) v. Milwaukee County* (review of arbitration award on layoffs), Case No. 12-CV-1984
- MDSA grievance and Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission (WERC) Prohibited Practice Complaint (retiree health for deputy sheriffs)
- Janik, Griffin, and Duncan WERC Prohibited Practice Complaint (discipline for engaging in protected activity)

; and

WHEREAS, it is advantageous to Milwaukee County to continue to retain the services of Buelow Vetter to provide advice and representation in labor relations matters because of its extensive background and experience in those matters and its continuing representation of Milwaukee County in several pending matters; and

WHEREAS, most of the above matters are nearing completion and therefore the need for these legal services has declined substantially, but it is expected that the need for these services will continue periodically and Corporation Counsel estimates the need for an additional \$50,000 to provide those services in the remainder of 2013 and in 2014; and

45 WHEREAS, if the full amount of these funds is eventually not needed, Corporation
46 Counsel will release the unused funds for other purposes; and

47

48 WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds in the 2013 Litigation Reserve Account, Org.
49 Unit 1961, to pay for the additional legal services described in this resolution; and

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51 WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services, at its meeting
52 of December 5, 2013, recommended adoption of Corporation Counsel's request (vote 6-0);
53 and

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55 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel and Audit, at its meeting of
56 December 12, 2013, provided **NO RECOMMENDATION** due to a tie vote on the motion
57 to adopt Corporation Counsel's request (vote 4-4); now, therefore,

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59 BE IT RESOLVED, that Corporation Counsel is authorized and directed to amend the
60 contract with Buelow, Vetter, Buikema, Olson & Vliet, LLC, to increase the total contract
61 amount from \$375,000 to a total amount not to exceed \$425,000 for payment of
62 continuing legal services and the contract shall continue to be exempt from the provisions
63 of §56.30 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances.

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jmj
12/17/13

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