



Milwaukee County

County Executive Scott Walker

Board Chairman Lee Holloway

Supervisor Elizabeth M. Coggs

Chair, Finance & Audit Committee

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WALKER AND COUNTY BOARD AGREE TO SUSPEND LAYOFF ACTION

Milwaukee, WI – County Executive Scott Walker, Board Chairman Lee Holloway and Supervisor Elizabeth Coggs, Chair of the Finance & Audit committee, have announced that the layoffs proposed for County employees earlier this week have been temporarily suspended.

The decision resulted in agreement that staff from the Executive and Legislative branches will meet weekly with the Finance & Audit Committee to closely monitor the fiscal status of Milwaukee County. Other actions to avoid a deficit may still be enacted to ensure a balanced budget for 2009. These could entail additional furlough days or a 35-hour workweek.

“I appreciate the efforts of the County Board to work with us on alternatives to avoid laying off County employees,” said Walker. “We will work together to achieve a balanced budget when we close the 2009 books.”

“It’s refreshing that we all came together in an effort to treat our employees humanely, while still understanding that we must be extremely creative to avoid a deficit at the end of this year,” Chairman Holloway said. “I thank the County Executive for reconsidering his position in a thoughtful and responsible manner.”

“I am pleased that the County Executive has temporarily rescinded these layoffs, but everyone should understand that we are not out of the woods,” added Supervisor Coggs. “We are in a crisis situation in Milwaukee County. The Finance & Audit Committee will meet on a weekly basis well into 2010 to identify and corral any available dollars from all departments.”

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