MINUTES

Executive Committee

Thursday, June 16, 2011
Jury Assembly Room
Lower Level, Courthouse Annex

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Supervisors George Bousley, Mike Behnke, Ken Casper, John Guarisco, Kathy Just, Ken Keller, Ted Sauve, Vilas Schroeder, Connie Seefeldt and Bill Walker
MEMBERS EXCUSED:	Supervisors Russ Bousley and Jerry Martens
OTHERS PRESENT:	County Clerk Kathy Brandt, County Administrator Roger DeGroot, Corporation Counsel Gale Mattison, Supervisors Mike Cassidy and Shirley Kaufman, and Peshtigo Times,

1. Call to order

Chair George Bousley called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Agenda

Motion (Behnke/Guarisco) to approve agenda. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment

4. Minutes

Motion (Casper/Schroeder) to approve minutes of May 20, 2011. Motion carried.

5. Non-rep Re-evaluation Process - Measurable Criteria

Information distributed to committee members:

- Marinette Unemployment Rates – April and March 2011 – WI Department of Workforce Development
- Labor Force and Employment Estimates – April 2011 – WI Department of Workforce Development
- News Release – April Local Unemployment, Job Numbers Announced – WI Department of Workforce Development
- Annual Foreclosure Case Filings by County – UW Extension Center for Community and Economic Development
- Debt Advisors Blog – Wisconsin Bankruptcy Filings Continue to Rise – February 2, 2011
- WI Law Journal – Bankruptcies Soar to Near 2005 Levels – April 7, 2011

- Associated Press – AP Analysis: Economic Stress at 2-year Low
- WI Department of Health Services Food Share Participation – Graph
- Current 2011 Year Marinette County Budget for Salaries and Benefits Listing for Non-Representated Positions

Motion (Walker/Seefeldt) to accept presented and attached data criteria as relates to non-represented position re-evaluations. Motion carried. Exhibit A

6. 2012 Non-represented Position Re-evaluations

Motion (Schroeder/Casper) in consideration of economic data received, at this time place a moratorium on 2011 position re-evaluation requests as part of the 2012 budget process. Motion carried.

7. Adjournment

Motion (Behnke/Sauve) to adjourn at 1:52 p.m.

Next meeting date: Call of the Chair

Kathy Brandt
County Clerk

Date approved/corrected:

Local Unemployment Rates
April 2011

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Apr-11 RATE	Mar-11 RATE	Apr-10 RATE
Dane	4.9%	5.2%	5.7%
La Crosse	5.6%	6.1%	6.2%
Ozaukee	5.7%	6.3%	7.1%
Lafayette	5.8%	7.1%	6.7%
Buffalo	6.0%	7.2%	7.3%
Eau Claire	6.0%	6.7%	6.8%
Grant	6.0%	7.1%	6.6%
Calumet	6.1%	6.7%	7.1%
Pepin	6.3%	7.3%	7.1%
Trempealeau	6.3%	7.1%	7.1%
Waukesha	6.4%	7.1%	7.9%
Dunn	6.5%	7.4%	7.1%
Monroe	6.5%	7.4%	7.3%
Pierce	6.5%	7.0%	7.3%
Portage	6.5%	7.5%	7.3%
Winnebago	6.5%	6.9%	7.6%
St. Croix	6.6%	7.5%	8.3%
Vernon	6.6%	7.7%	7.7%
Brown	6.7%	7.2%	7.6%
Fond du Lac	6.9%	7.7%	8.5%
Outagamie	6.9%	7.5%	8.3%
Washington	6.9%	7.7%	8.5%
Richland	7.0%	8.0%	8.8%
Douglas	7.1%	7.5%	8.4%
Iowa	7.2%	9.0%	7.8%
Green	7.3%	8.3%	8.7%
Kewaunee	7.3%	8.0%	9.0%
Columbia	7.5%	8.6%	8.4%
Sheboygan	7.5%	8.2%	9.2%
Dodge	7.6%	8.6%	9.6%
Marathon	7.6%	8.2%	9.5%
Wood	7.7%	8.7%	8.7%
Chippewa	7.8%	8.6%	8.4%
Sauk	7.8%	8.7%	8.7%
Walworth	7.8%	9.0%	9.2%
Jefferson	8.1%	9.1%	9.6%

COUNTY	Apr-11 RATE	Mar-11 RATE	Apr-10 RATE
Manitowoc	8.2%	9.1%	10.1%
Waupaca	8.2%	8.7%	9.3%
Barron	8.3%	9.4%	9.3%
Green Lake	8.3%	10.1%	9.5%
Clark	8.4%	9.9%	10.4%
Jackson	8.4%	9.8%	9.0%
Milwaukee	8.4%	8.8%	9.9%
Price	8.4%	9.3%	10.9%
Crawford	8.5%	10.1%	9.6%
Shawano	8.7%	9.6%	10.1%
Florence	8.8%	9.5%	9.7%
Polk	8.8%	9.6%	10.7%
Racine	8.9%	9.6%	10.5%
Kenosha	9.0%	9.6%	11.4%
Marquette	9.2%	11.1%	10.4%
Rock	9.2%	10.2%	11.5%
Waushara	9.2%	10.2%	10.2%
Juneau	9.3%	10.5%	10.3%
Oconto	9.3%	10.4%	10.5%
Taylor	9.3%	10.8%	11.7%
Washburn	9.4%	10.2%	10.3%
Burnett	9.6%	11.1%	10.7%
Langlade	9.9%	10.3%	10.9%
Marinette	9.9%	10.8%	10.9%
Adams	10.1%	12.3%	11.1%
Ashland	10.4%	10.9%	11.4%
Oneida	10.5%	11.7%	11.0%
Forest	10.9%	11.1%	10.7%
Sawyer	10.9%	11.7%	11.2%
Lincoln	11.1%	11.8%	12.1%
Rusk	11.3%	12.9%	12.5%
Bayfield	11.4%	12.5%	11.6%
Door	11.4%	13.2%	11.5%
Vilas	12.7%	13.4%	12.8%
Iron	13.2%	12.5%	14.5%
Menominee	16.8%	13.4%	15.7%

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
Division of Employment and Training
Bureau of Workforce Training
Labor Market Information

Local Unemployment Rates
March 2011

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Mar-11 RATE	Feb-11 RATE	Mar-10 RATE
Dane	5.3%	5.5%	6.7%
La Crosse	6.1%	6.5%	7.7%
Ozaukee	6.3%	6.8%	8.4%
Eau Claire	6.6%	6.9%	7.9%
Calumet	6.7%	7.3%	8.3%
Winnebago	6.9%	7.3%	8.6%
Grant	7.0%	7.6%	8.8%
Pierce	7.0%	7.4%	9.2%
Lafayette	7.1%	7.6%	8.5%
Trempealeau	7.1%	7.7%	9.2%
Waukesha	7.1%	7.4%	9.1%
Brown	7.2%	7.6%	8.7%
Pepin	7.2%	8.3%	9.6%
Buffalo	7.3%	7.6%	8.4%
Dunn	7.4%	7.7%	8.7%
Monroe	7.4%	7.9%	8.7%
Douglas	7.5%	7.8%	10.2%
Outagamie	7.5%	8.0%	9.7%
Portage	7.5%	7.6%	9.0%
St. Croix	7.5%	7.6%	9.9%
Fond du Lac	7.7%	8.3%	10.3%
Vernon	7.7%	8.3%	9.6%
Washington	7.7%	8.2%	10.2%
Kewaunee	8.0%	8.2%	10.0%
Richland	8.0%	8.4%	10.9%
Marathon	8.2%	8.5%	10.9%
Sheboygan	8.2%	8.6%	10.6%
Green	8.3%	8.7%	10.4%
Chippewa	8.6%	9.2%	10.4%
Columbia	8.6%	9.0%	10.2%
Dodge	8.6%	9.1%	11.0%
Sauk	8.7%	9.3%	10.4%
Waupaca	8.7%	9.3%	11.2%
Wood	8.7%	9.1%	10.7%
Milwaukee	8.8%	9.1%	10.8%
Walworth	9.0%	9.5%	11.2%

COUNTY	Mar-11 RATE	Feb-11 RATE	Mar-10 RATE
Iowa	9.1%	9.2%	10.7%
Jefferson	9.1%	9.6%	11.4%
Manitowoc	9.1%	9.7%	11.7%
Price	9.3%	9.6%	12.9%
Barron	9.4%	9.8%	11.2%
Florence	9.6%	9.5%	11.9%
Kenosha	9.6%	10.1%	12.0%
Polk	9.6%	10.2%	13.0%
Racine	9.7%	10.0%	11.9%
Shawano	9.7%	10.0%	12.0%
Jackson	9.8%	10.5%	11.4%
Clark	9.9%	10.5%	12.7%
Crawford	10.1%	11.2%	12.4%
Green Lake	10.1%	10.6%	12.5%
Rock	10.2%	10.7%	13.1%
Washburn	10.2%	10.6%	12.5%
Waushara	10.2%	11.0%	12.4%
Langlade	10.3%	10.8%	12.5%
Oconto	10.4%	10.9%	12.7%
Juneau	10.5%	11.3%	12.1%
Marinette	10.8%	11.1%	12.8%
Taylor	10.8%	11.4%	14.2%
Ashland	10.9%	11.0%	12.8%
Forest	11.1%	11.8%	13.3%
Marquette	11.1%	11.4%	12.9%
Burnett	11.2%	11.6%	13.2%
Oneida	11.7%	12.0%	13.3%
Sawyer	11.7%	12.3%	13.6%
Lincoln	11.8%	11.8%	15.7%
Adams	12.3%	12.9%	14.2%
Bayfield	12.5%	13.4%	13.8%
Iron	12.5%	11.7%	15.0%
Rusk	12.8%	13.6%	15.6%
Door	13.2%	13.9%	13.5%
Menominee	13.2%	13.8%	14.8%
Vilas	13.5%	13.3%	14.9%

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
Division of Employment and Training
Bureau of Workforce Training
Labor Market Information

Labor Force and Employment Estimates
April 2011

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Apr-11	FINAL Mar-11	YEAR AGO Apr-10	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Year	PRELIM. Apr-11	FINAL Mar-11	YEAR AGO Apr-10	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Year
Total labor force	3,067,600	3,059,600	3,076,500	8,000	-8,900	3,044,800	3,050,900	3,056,000	-6,100	-11,200
Employment	2,843,600	2,833,900	2,806,900	9,700	36,700	2,819,000	2,803,500	2,789,800	15,500	29,200
Unemployment	224,100	225,700	269,500	-1,600	-45,400	225,800	247,400	266,200	-21,600	-40,400
Unemployment Rate	7.3%	7.4%	8.8%	-0.1%	-1.5%	7.4%	8.1%	8.7%	-0.7%	-1.3%
National Rate	9.0%	8.8%	9.8%	0.2%	-0.8%	8.7%	9.2%	9.5%	-0.5%	-0.8%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Apr-11	FINAL Mar-11	YEAR AGO Apr-10	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Year	PRELIM. Apr-11	FINAL Mar-11	YEAR AGO Apr-10	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Year
Statewide	2,762,200	2,759,900	2,738,500	2,300	23,700	2,740,400	2,703,000	2,724,400	37,400	16,000
Appleton	116,100	116,800	115,600	-700	500	115,000	114,200	114,700	800	300
Eau Claire	82,300	80,300	80,000	2,000	2,300	82,200	79,300	80,100	2,900	2,100
Fond du Lac	45,200	45,500	45,300	-300	-100	44,800	44,700	45,100	100	-300
Green Bay	165,700	166,500	166,000	-800	-300	164,400	163,500	165,200	900	-800
Janesville	62,500	61,500	61,600	1,000	900	61,900	60,500	61,700	1,400	200
La Crosse	73,300	73,100	74,500	200	-1,200	73,300	72,200	74,800	1,100	-1,500
Madison	347,100	346,200	345,100	900	2,000	345,400	340,200	343,900	5,200	1,500
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	829,300	826,600	806,600	2,700	22,700	826,000	814,200	802,600	11,800	23,400
Oshkosh-Neenah	92,000	93,000	92,900	-1,000	-900	91,400	91,500	92,400	-100	-1,000
Racine	75,100	74,900	74,500	200	600	74,500	73,600	74,000	900	500
Sheboygan	59,100	58,800	58,300	300	800	58,400	57,600	57,700	800	700
Wausau	67,300	67,100	67,000	200	300	66,600	66,100	66,500	500	100

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Apr-11	FINAL Mar-11	YEAR AGO Apr-10	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Year
Wisconsin	7.4%	8.1%	8.7%	-0.7%	-1.3%
Appleton	6.7%	7.3%	8.1%	-0.6%	-1.4%
Eau Claire	6.6%	7.4%	7.4%	-0.8%	-0.8%
Fond du Lac	6.9%	7.7%	8.5%	-0.8%	-1.6%
Green Bay	7.0%	7.6%	8.1%	-0.6%	-1.1%
Janesville	9.2%	10.2%	11.5%	-1.0%	-2.3%
La Crosse	5.9%	6.6%	6.4%	-0.7%	-0.5%
Madison	5.2%	5.7%	6.0%	-0.5%	-0.8%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	7.6%	8.1%	9.1%	-0.5%	-1.5%
Oshkosh-Neenah	6.5%	6.9%	7.6%	-0.4%	-1.1%
Racine	8.9%	9.6%	10.5%	-0.7%	-1.6%
Sheboygan	7.5%	8.2%	9.2%	-0.7%	-1.7%
Wausau	7.6%	8.2%	9.5%	-0.6%	-1.9%

Note: Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment estimates for MSAs are the only seasonally adjusted data below the statewide level.
County and city unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
Division of Employment and Training
Bureau of Workforce Training
Labor Market Information

Department of Workforce Development
Secretary's Office
201 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 7946
Madison, WI 53707-7946
Telephone: (608) 266-3131
Fax: (608) 266-1784
Email: sec@dwd.wisconsin.gov

State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Scott Walker, Governor
Scott Baumbach, Interim Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, May 25, 2011
CONTACT: John Dipko, Communications Director, 608-266-6753
On the Web: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm

APRIL LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT, JOB NUMBERS ANNOUNCED

Preliminary April numbers push metro Milwaukee job creation total to 18,700 this year

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development Interim Secretary Scott Baumbach today announced preliminary April jobs and unemployment data for Wisconsin metropolitan areas, cities and counties. Metro Milwaukee led the way with an additional 2,700 jobs during April – reflecting a net gain of 18,700 jobs so far this year – followed by an additional 2,000 jobs over the month in metro Eau Claire and an additional 1,000 jobs in metro Janesville.

"With four straight months of job growth in 2011, metro Milwaukee is reaping the economic benefits of Governor Walker's successful efforts to improve Wisconsin's business climate, and make job creation a top priority," Interim Secretary Baumbach said. "And, with over 30,000 jobs posted on www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com, employers across Wisconsin are ramping up their hiring efforts and advancing the message that Wisconsin is open for business."

JOBS DATA (METRO AREAS ONLY)

La Crosse, Madison, Racine, Sheboygan and Wausau also added jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis, while metro Appleton, Fond du Lac, Green Bay and Oshkosh-Neenah experienced decreases over the month.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

METRO AREAS
All 12 metro areas experienced a drop in their unemployment rates from March. Madison had the lowest rate at 5.2 percent, followed by 5.9 percent in La Crosse and 6.5 percent in Oshkosh-Neenah. Janesville had the highest rate at 9.2 percent but posted the largest one-year drop (-2.3 percent) from 11.5 percent in April 2010.

MUNICIPALITIES
All 31 municipalities with at least 25,000 residents posted a drop in their unemployment rate from March. Caledonia had the lowest rate at 3.5 percent, followed by Madison at 4.7 percent.

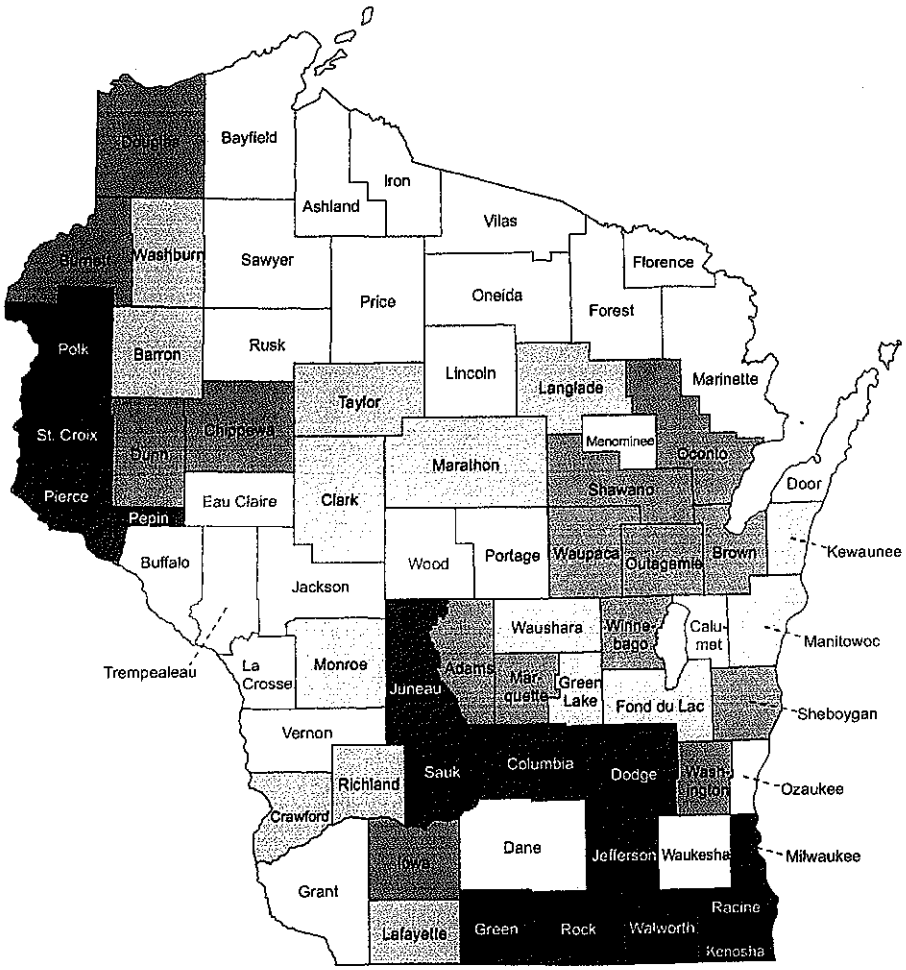
COUNTIES
Seventy (70) of 72 counties had lower rates in April than in March. Iron and Menominee counties posted increases. Menominee County had the highest rate at 16.8 percent, and Dane County, the lowest, 4.9 percent.

March numbers are preliminary and subject to revision within the next several weeks.

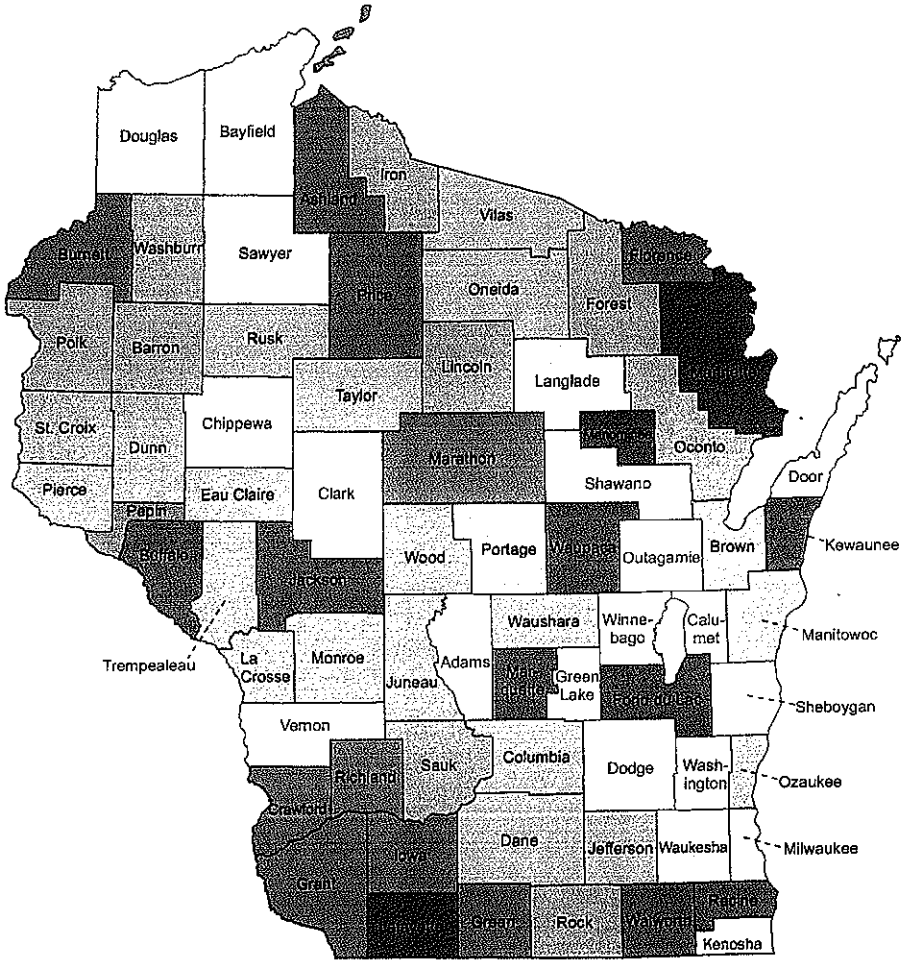
-30-

Annual Foreclosure Case Filings by County

Foreclosure Case Filings per 100 Housing Units in 2010



Percent Change in Foreclosure Case Filings - 2009 to 2010



Foreclosure Case Filings per 100 Housing Units

- 1st Quantile (0.01 to 0.66)
- 2nd Quantile (0.67 to 0.84)
- 3rd Quantile (0.85 to 0.98)
- 4th Quantile (0.99 to 1.17)
- 5th Quantile (1.18 to 2.06)
- No Data

Sources: Foreclosure case filings reported in the Wisconsin Circuit Court Consolidated Court Automation Programs case management system. Duplicate filings have been removed, Note that foreclosure case filings are based on initial legal filings for foreclosure proceedings and should not be confused with sheriff sales. Housing units are based on 2010 estimates from the Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services Center.

Percent Change in Foreclosure Filings - 2009 to 2010

Increase in Filings - 2009 to 2010

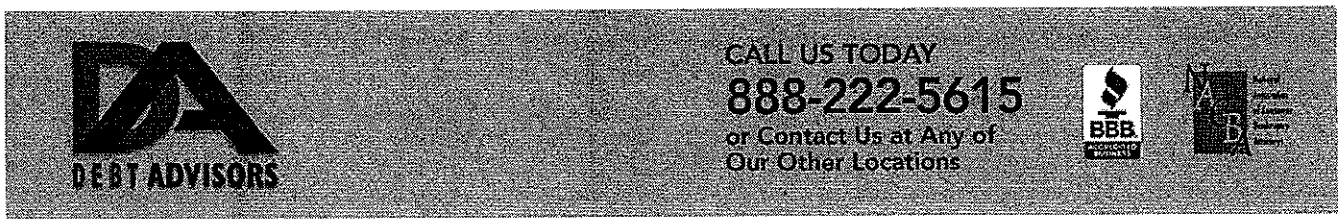
- 0.1% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 9.9%
- 10.0% or More*
- No Data

Decrease in Filings - 2009 to 2010

- -0.1% to -4.9%
- -5.0% to -9.9%
- -10.0% or More**

* Greatest increase is 39.7%
**Greatest decrease -66.7%

Produced by UW-Extension Center for Community and Economic Development and UW-Whitewater Fiscal and Economic Research Center. © January 2011



Wisconsin Bankruptcy Filings Continue to Rise

On behalf of Debt Advisors, S.C.

- 02
- February
  2011

Although the United States is now said to be out of the "Great Recession," bankruptcy filings continue to rise nationwide. According to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, "bankruptcy filings rose for the fourth consecutive year in 2010." In fact, there was a 9.4 percent increase in national bankruptcy filings in the past year.

Wisconsin filing rates have followed the national trend as well. There were 29,989 bankruptcy filings in Wisconsin in 2010, which mirrors the national increase of 9.4 percent since 2009.

The country's high unemployment rate has been a common cause of bankruptcies in the past four years. However, now as the economy continues to slowly recover, people are finding that their savings have been used up. Americans who have held a steady job, have always paid their bills on time and could not imagine being in the situation where they could lose their home are finding themselves in the predicament they feared. People's savings have not been able to outlast our country's lagging economy. As a result, savings and retirements funds are gone and many people are asking the now too common questions: What do I do now? How will I get by? How can I save my home?

Debt Relief Options are Available

Those in financial difficulty may feel hopeless and confused regarding how to seek help. It is important to know that there are debt relief options available. The best option for you will depend on your specific situation. For some, credit counseling services or a debt management plan may be the most beneficial. However, be aware that these types of services may not be able to help all consumers.

For many others, bankruptcy may give you the relief that you seek. To ensure you are choosing the best option for you and your family, speak to an attorney knowledgeable in debt relief matters. A trained professional can explain all the outcomes associated with your options, answer your questions and help you with any filings or proceedings.

Tags: Bankruptcy, Chapter 13, Chapter 7, Credit Counseling, Debt Management Plan, Debt Relief

Comments: Leave a comment

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Home > Bankruptcies soar to near 2005 levels

Bankruptcies soar to near 2005 levels

POSTED: Thursday, April 7th, 2011 at 8:07 am

BY: David Ziemer

Tags:

- Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act
- Bankruptcy Digest
- Eastern District of Wisconsin
- Janet Medlock
- Margaret Dee McGarity
- Western District of Wisconsin

Bankruptcy filings soared in 2010 to their highest levels since 2005, the year the pending Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act prompted record filings in order to beat the Act's effective date.

In the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2010, there were 20,687 bankruptcy filings in the Eastern District of Wisconsin, up 14.8 percent from 2009. 2010 filings were more than double the 9,947 filings in 2007, and slightly less than the record 22,021 filings in 2005.

In the Western District of Wisconsin, there were 9,541 filings in 2010, up 12.1 percent from 2009, and nearly double the 5,005 filings in 2007.

By the numbers

Bankruptcy filings in the state's Eastern and Western District courts are on the rise after dropping off significantly following passage of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005. All figures are for fiscal years ending Sept. 30.

Eastern District

2010: 20,687
2009: 18,025
2008: 13,706
2007: 9,947
2006: 13,185
2005: 22,021
2004: 18,222
2003: 19,073
2002: 16,079

Western District

2010: 9,541
2009: 8,513
2008: 6,574
2007: 5,005
2006: 6,646
2005: 10,697
2004: 9,222
2003: 9,342
2002: 8,163

Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

2005 also was a record year in the Western District, with 10,697 filings.

Those numbers are consistent with trends nationally. Across the country in 2010 there were 1,596,355 bankruptcy filings, up 13.8 percent from 2009. In 2007, there were only 801,269 filings nationally.

Bankruptcy Judge Margaret Dee McGarity said the numbers demonstrate the failure of the 2005 Act.

"The purpose of the Act was to make it harder to file bankruptcy and cut down on the number of bankruptcies," she said. "But it did nothing about the reasons for bankruptcy, so it is not surprising that we are back to where we were before the law changed."

The increased filings are keeping the bankruptcy courts busy. In 2010, the Eastern District terminated 19,265 cases, 23.4 percent more than the 15,606 terminated in 2009. In the Western District, 9,178 cases were terminated, up 20.8 percent from the 7,600 terminated in 2009.

In 2007, 9,499 cases were terminated in the Eastern District and 4,655 in the Western District.

Things may be improving, however. According to Janet Medlock, clerk of the bankruptcy court in the Eastern District, year-to-date filings were down about 8 percent during the first three months of this year.

But bankruptcy attorneys say they are as busy as they have ever been. Bruce Lanser, who has a private practice in Waukesha and also accepts appointments as trustee, says he is seeing an increase in both areas.

Lanser attributes the rise in bankruptcies to the real estate collapse, which he says affects any business that even touches the real estate market.

"The cases I'm busy with are high-end debtors, who are facing bankruptcy because of personal guarantees they made for companies that have failed or are failing," he said. "From people who have ownership interests in many LLCs that own real estate to masons and carpenters, all are affected."

David Ziemer can be reached at david.ziemer@wislawjournal.com.

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AP analysis: Economic stress at 2-year low

Associated Press

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, Associated Press -- 5 hours ago

The nation's economic stress fell to a two-year low in April, thanks to the strongest private-sector hiring in five years and a dip in bankruptcy filings, according to The Associated Press' monthly analysis.

The improved picture for jobs and bankruptcy filings offset a slight rise in foreclosures.

The easing of stress was felt most in Midwestern and mid-Atlantic states. But conditions brightened throughout the country: More than 90 percent of the nation's 3,141 counties were better off in April than in March.

Counties with heavy concentrations of workers in farming, retail and tourism benefited in particular. By contrast, counties with many workers in education and mining suffered the sharpest increases in stress.

The AP's Stress index calculates a score from 1 to 100 based on unemployment, foreclosure and bankruptcy rates. A higher score signifies more economic stress. Under a rough rule of thumb, a county is considered stressed when its score exceeds 11. By that standard, about a quarter of the counties were stressed in April, down from about a third in March.

The average county's Stress score was 9.8, the lowest since April 2009's score of 9.7. It was 10.5 in March and 11 in February. A year earlier, it was 10.5.

Nevada had the highest level of stress in April with a score of 19.36. Next were California (15.57), Florida (14.17), Arizona (13.78) and Georgia (13.38).

As it's been since the recession began in 2007, North Dakota was the least-stressed state, with a score of 3.88. It was followed by Nebraska (5.27), South Dakota (5.58), New Hampshire (6.38) and Vermont (6.39).

The nation's stress may have headed back up in May. A range of economic data showed the economy slowing last month, in part because of high gas prices. Consumers who have had to pay more for gas have had less money to spend on other goods and services — from furniture and appliances to restaurants and vacations.

On Friday, the government said the economy added a scant 54,000 jobs in May, the poorest showing in eight months. And the unemployment rate edged up from 9 percent to 9.1 percent. The question is whether the weakness will be a temporary setback, as was a similar economic slowdown last year, or something more chronic.

"We won't know for a few months," said Sal Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets. "A lot will depend on whether gasoline prices moderate."

Guatieri has downgraded his forecast for growth for 2011 to a modest 2.5 percent. That's weaker than last year's 2.9 percent increase, and it's below the 3.2 percent Guatieri was forecasting before gasoline surged to near $4 a gallon.

"It took a big bite out of people's pocket books and their psyche," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. "I think we will get back on track as the summer and fall progress, but that assumes that gasoline prices don't head higher."

Since peaking at $3.98 a gallon on May 6, gasoline has fallen by about 20 cents to a nationwide average of $3.77 a gallon, according to AAA's daily fuel gauge.

Over the past 12 months, stress has eased the most in two states that were among the hardest-hit during the recession: Michigan and Nevada. In both cases, the gains were driven by job growth, along with fewer foreclosures and bankruptcies.

Michigan benefited from manufacturing activity and hiring in health care in April. It outpaced the nation in its recovery during the January-March quarter. But so deep was Michigan's fall during the recession that a recovery is barely noticeable in some pockets of the state — places like Sanilac County, Mich.

That county's Stress score in April was a high 15.21, though down from 16.88 in March. Sanilac's wind-power industry is starting to take off, and wind mill construction jobs probably accounted for some job growth.

But not much.

"We're not seeing the housing market recover yet," said Kathy Dorman, the county treasurer. "There still are a lot of homes for sale, and the sales are very slow."

In Nevada, tourism has picked up in Las Vegas; 4,600 hotel and food service jobs were added in April. The state unemployment rate dropped to 12.5 percent in April, down from just under 15 percent in December.

Despite its year-to-year gains, Nevada endured the nation's worst scores in April in all three variables used in the AP Stress Map: The state had a foreclosure rate of just under 6 percent and

a bankruptcy rate of 2.6 percent.

Over the past year, the Mountain states of Idaho and Montana have suffered the sharpest increases in stress . Both were late to enter the recession, which started in December 2007. They didn't really feel the effects of the downturn until mid-2008. Now, both are trailing the rest of the nation in recovering.

"We've hit the bottom," said Bob Fick, a spokesman for the Idaho Department of Labor. "But how long we're going to stay at the bottom is the real question. We're just flat — there is no growth out there."

The nation's most-stressed counties with populations of at least 25,000 were Imperial County, Calif. (stress score: 31.33); Yuma County, Ariz., (27.22); Lyon County, Nev. (25.93); Sutter County, Calif. (24.86); and Merced County, Calif. (24.23).

The least stressed were Ward County, N.D. (3.25); Ellis County, Kan. (3.55); Burleigh County, N.D. (3.55); Buffalo County, Neb. (3.94); and Arlington County, Va. (4.04).

Schneider reported from Orlando, Fla., Crutsinger from Washington.

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0 5 10 15 20 25 +

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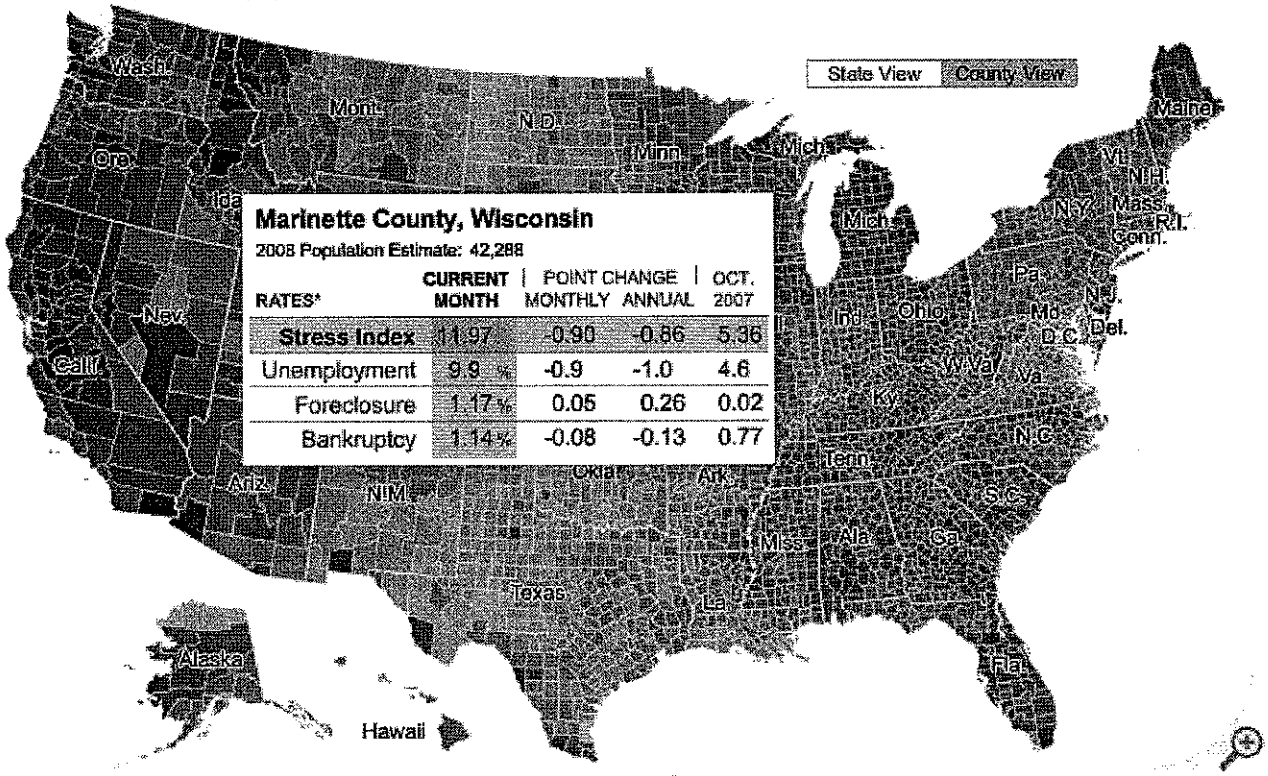
Economic Stress Index: April 2011

The combined impact of unemployment, foreclosures and bankruptcy



Marinette County, Wisconsin

2008 Population Estimate: 42,288

RATES*	CURRENT MONTH	POINT CHANGE MONTHLY	POINT CHANGE ANNUAL	OCT. 2007
Stress Index	11.97	-0.90	-0.86	5.36
Unemployment	9.9 %	-0.9	-1.0	4.6
Foreclosure	1.17 %	0.05	0.26	0.02
Bankruptcy	1.14 %	-0.08	-0.13	0.77

2007 2008 2009 2010

O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A

The recession began in Dec. 2007

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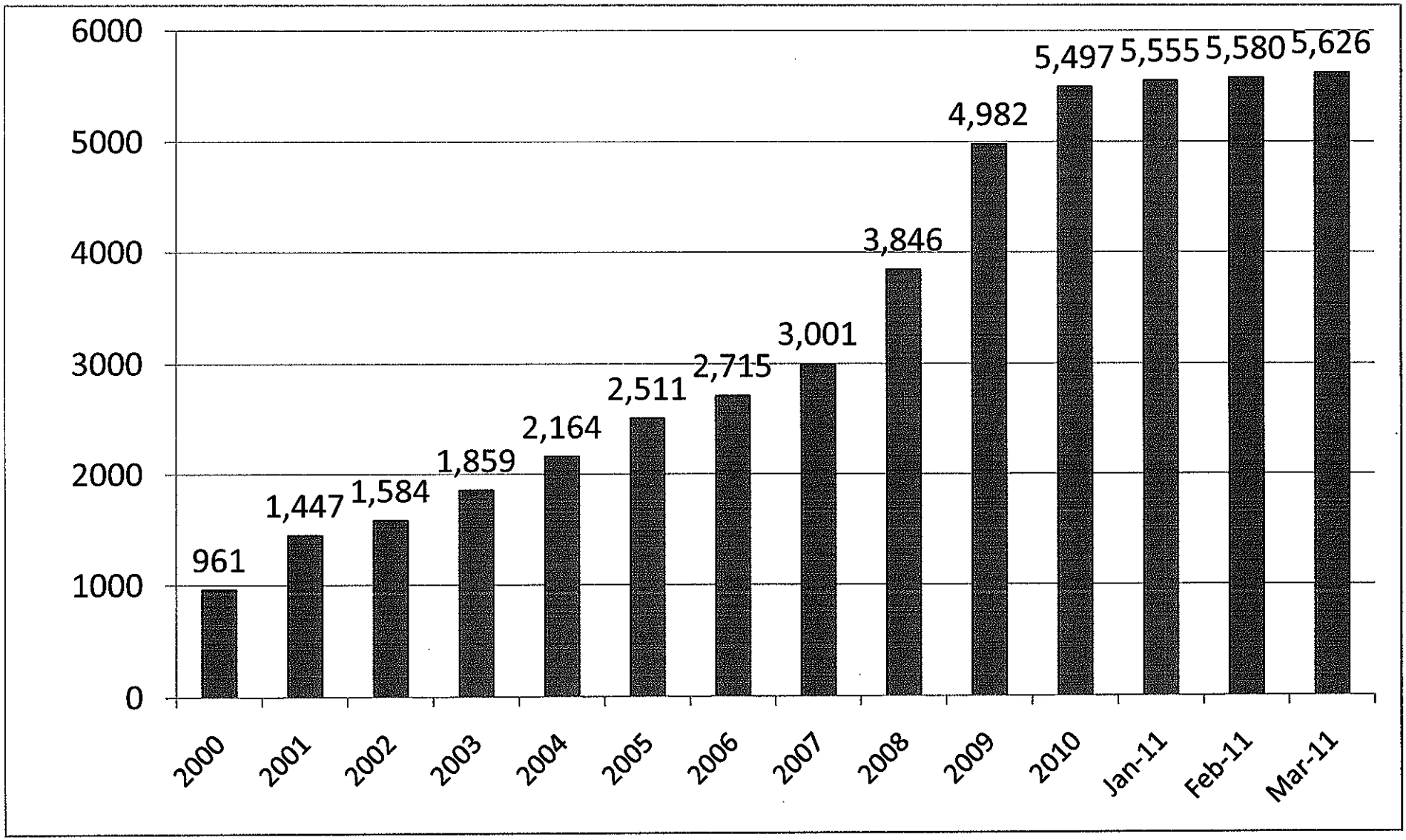
Food Stamp (Food Share) Participation, December of Each Year, Marinette County



The number of eligible persons who were in an open Food Share Case for the report month.
Wisconsin Department of Health Services

JOB DESCRIPTION	WAGES & LONGEVITY	151 S.S.	152 RET	154 H&D	155 LIFE	159 W/C	TOTAL WAGES & BENEFITS
					$ 2.76		
PATROL SUPERINTENDENT	$ 65,175.00	$ 4,986.00	$ 7,560	$ 29,794	$ -	$ 2,933	$ 110,448.00
CONSTRUCTION/MAINT SUPERVISOR	$ 56,413.00	$ 4,316.00	$ 6,544	$ 20,263	$ -	$ 2,539	$ 90,075.00
CONSTRUCTION/MAINT SUPERVISOR	$ 59,534.00	$ 4,554.00	$ 6,906	$ 20,263	$ -	$ 2,679	$ 93,936.00
PURCHASING MGR/SUPERVISOR	$ 59,504.00	$ 4,552.00	$ 6,902	$ 20,263	$ -	$ 2,678	$ 93,899.00
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR	$ 95,467.00	$ 7,303.00	$ 11,074	$ 28,191	$ 263	$ 162	$ 142,460.00
EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR	$ 51,463.00	$ 3,937.00	$ 5,970	$ 20,263	$ 142	$ 87	$ 81,862.00
FINANCE DIRECTOR	$ 80,694.00	$ 6,173.00	$ 9,361	$ 20,263	$ 223	$ 137	$ 116,851.00
CHILD SUPPORT DIRECTOR	$ 55,508.00	$ 4,246.00	$ 6,439	$ 9,393	$ 153	$ 94	$ 75,833.00
REGISTER IN PROBATE	$ 46,188.00	$ 3,533.00	$ 5,358	$ 16,116	$ 127	$ 79	$ 71,401.00
CORPORATION COUNSEL	$ 89,465.00	$ 6,844.00	$ 10,378	$ 9,393	$ 247	$ 152	$ 116,479.00
EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR	$ 47,354.00	$ 3,623.00	$ 5,493	$ -	$ 131	$ 947	$ 57,548.00
COURT COMMISSIONER	$ 80,754.00	$ 6,178.00	$ 9,367	$ 9,393	$ 223	$ 137	$ 106,052.00
FORESTRY/PARKS ADMINISTRATOR	$ 69,657.00	$ 5,329.00	$ 8,080	$ 20,263	$ 192	$ 1,449	$ 104,970.00
ASST FORESTRY ADMINISTRATOR	$ 59,549.00	$ 4,555.00	$ 6,908	$ 28,191	$ 164	$ 1,239	$ 100,606.00
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	$ 55,221.00	$ 4,224.00	$ 6,406	$ 28,191	$ 152	$ 94	$ 94,288.00
LAND INFORMATION DIRECTOR	$ 80,964.00	$ 6,194.00	$ 9,392	$ 28,191	$ 223	$ 1,619	$ 126,583.00
PROPERTY LISTER	$ 51,478.00	$ 3,938.00	$ 5,971	$ 9,393	$ 142	$ 88	$ 71,010.00
COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST	$ 59,594.00	$ 4,559.00	$ 6,913	$ 28,191	$ 164	$ 1,192	$ 100,613.00
FACILITIES DIRECTOR	$ 55,133.00	$ 4,218.00	$ 6,395	$ 28,191	$ 152	$ 1,103	$ 95,192.00
ASST PARKS ADMINISTRATOR	$ 59,474.00	$ 4,550.00	$ 6,899	$ 28,191	$ 164	$ 1,189	$ 100,467.00
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR	$ 74,844.00	$ 5,726.00	$ 8,682	$ 28,191	$ 207	$ 127	$ 117,777.00
BUSINESS MANAGER - SHERIFF	$ 51,163.00	$ 3,914.00	$ 5,935	$ 20,263	$ 141	$ 87	$ 81,503.00
SHERIFF LIEUTENANT	$ 64,535.00	$ 4,937.00	$ 10,713	$ 20,263	$ 178	$ 1,613	$ 102,239.00
SHERIFF LIEUTENANT	$ 56,899.00	$ 4,353.00	$ 9,412	$ 28,191	$ 157	$ 1,422	$ 100,434.00
SHERIFF LIEUTENANT	$ 64,250.00	$ 4,915.00	$ 10,666	$ 28,191	$ 177	$ 1,606	$ 109,805.00
SHERIFF LIEUTENANT	$ 67,378.00	$ 5,154.00	$ 11,185	$ 16,116	$ 186	$ 1,684	$ 101,703.00
CIVILIAN JAIL ADMINISTRATOR	$ 59,684.00	$ 4,566.00	$ 6,923	$ 28,191	$ 165	$ 1,492	$ 101,021.00
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR	$ 59,474.00	$ 4,550.00	$ -	$ 28,191	$ 164	$ 101	$ 92,480.00
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER	$ 55,343.00	$ 4,234.00	$ 6,420	$ 20,263	$ 153	$ 94	$ 86,507.00
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR	$ 64,625.00	$ 4,944.00	$ 7,497	$ 20,263	$ 178	$ 1,293	$ 98,800.00
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	$ 72,704.00	$ 5,562.00	$ 8,434	$ 28,191	$ 201	$ 124	$ 115,216.00
CHILD FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER	$ 58,700.00	$ 4,491.00	$ 6,809	$ 28,191	$ 162	$ 1,174	$ 99,527.00
ECONOMIC SUPPORT MANAGER	$ 64,385.00	$ 4,925.00	$ 7,469	$ 9,393	$ 178	$ 109	$ 86,459.00
ELDERLY PD SUPERVISOR	$ 64,490.00	$ 4,933.00	$ 7,481	$ 20,263	$ 178	$ 1,290	$ 98,635.00
ENERGY PROGRAM SUPERVISOR	$ 55,403.00	$ 4,238.00	$ 6,427	$ 20,263	$ 153	$ 94	$ 86,578.00
HSD FINANCIAL MANAGER	$ 62,313.00	$ 4,767.00	$ 7,228	$ 16,116	$ 172	$ 106	$ 90,702.00
MEDICAL DIRECTOR	$ 165,479.00	$ 12,659.00	$ 19,196	$ 28,191	$ 457	$ 3,310	$ 229,292.00
COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR	$ 60,498.00	$ 4,628.00	$ 7,018	$ 9,393	$ 167	$ 1,210	$ 82,914.00
HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR	$ 84,741.00	$ 6,483.00	$ 9,830	$ 28,191	$ 234	$ 144	$ 129,623.00
CSP SUPERVISOR	$ 62,403.00	$ 4,774.00	$ 7,239	$ 20,263	$ 172	$ 1,248	$ 96,099.00
DEPT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR	$ 87,030.00	$ 6,658.00	$ 10,095	$ 28,191	$ 240	$ 148	$ 132,362.00
INFORMATION SERVICES DIRECTOR	$ 80,844.00	$ 6,185.00	$ 9,378	$ 28,191	$ 223	$ 137	$ 124,958.00
ASST INFO SVCS MANAGER	$ 59,579.00	$ 4,558.00	$ 6,911	$ 9,393	$ 164	$ 101	$ 80,706.00
ACCOUNTANT	$ 47,579.00	$ 3,640.00	$ 5,519	$ 28,191	$ 131	$ 81	$ 85,141.00
PAYROLL COORDINATOR	$ 47,444.00	$ 3,629.00	$ 5,504	$ 9,970	$ 131	$ 81	$ 66,759.00
ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	$ 43,898.00	$ 3,358.00	$ 5,092	$ 28,191	$ 121	$ 75	$ 80,735.00
LEGAL/EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	$ 44,780.00	$ 3,426.00	$ 5,194	$ 28,191	$ 124	$ 76	$ 81,791.00
HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST	$ 43,913.00	$ 3,359.00	$ 5,094	$ 9,970	$ 121	$ 75	$ 62,532.00
OFFICE MANAGER	$ 44,243.00	$ 3,385.00	$ 5,132	$ 20,263	$ 122	$ 75	$ 73,220.00
	$ 3,147,210.00	$ 240,763.00	$ 370,799.00	$ 1,039,526.00	$ 8,019.00	$ 39,774.00	$ 4,846,091.00