



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
*Milwaukee County*  
SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 12, 2010

For more information, please contact  
Fran McLaughlin (414) 278-4244, cell: (414) 235-6592

**WALKER ANNOUNCES 2009 BUDGET SURPLUS of \$8.9 MILLION**  
County Executive Will Use Surplus to Balance 2011 Budget and To Cut Tax Levy

MILWAUKEE – County Executive Scott Walker announced a preliminary, unaudited 2009 budget surplus estimated at \$8.9 million. The estimate was prepared by the county Fiscal and Budget Administrator and the county Controller and is set at a surplus of \$8,880,925 for the fiscal year that ended December 31, 2009. The figures were provided as part of the quarterly report that was released today.

Corrective actions were taken throughout 2009 to offset projected deficits as high as \$14.9 million. Among the actions taken that allowed for the surplus were 3% reductions across all departments, implementation of two furlough days (enacted with support from the County Board), and a hiring and wage freeze. In addition, a major contributing factor was the actual health care savings that resulted from the new healthcare provider for the county.

The importance of ending each fiscal year without a deficit is especially critical to the County due to the lack of financial reserves and overall structural deficit. State statute requires the County to apply any year-end surplus to the next year's budget. The \$4.1 million year-end surplus from 2008 was counted as revenue for the 2010 budget. The 2009 surplus will be counted as revenue for the 2011 budget.

The most recent fiscal forecast completed by DAS projects a \$47 million budget gap for 2011, assuming a \$4.1 million year-end surplus. The \$8.9 million surplus increases the amount available for the 2011 county budget by \$4.8 million. County Executive Scott Walker stated in his 2010 State of the County Address that he will present a 2011 budget that will cut the property tax levy so that more residents and employers can afford to stay in the county. The larger surplus will make that goal easier to obtain during the budget process.

###