## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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## For Immediate Release

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## County Executive Kreuser introduces 2015 Budget proposal

*Kenosha* – Highlighting an expansion project for Brookside Care Center, an increase in mental health services, a major county highway project and a new voting system, County Executive Jim Kreuser introduced his 2015 Budget Proposal to the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors today.

## Highlights include:

- Brookside Care Center expansion and renovation:
  - New Two Story 48-bed Rehab Center with large therapy area and separate main entrance
  - o 24 Bed Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF)
  - Renovate existing residential and community areas to create home-like neighborhood concept
  - o Levy-neutral
- Infrastructure improvements:
  - o 13 miles of paving and repairs to County Trunk Highways
  - o County Trunk S, major improvement project
  - Addition of two Park & Ride lots
- Mental Health Care service improvements:
  - o \$200,000 to increase mental health services in the jail to provide 80 hours a week; and
  - \$81,500 to add a nurse practitioner or Physician's Assistant through a contracted service of Department of Aging and Disability Services. It would address the shortage of psychiatric services within Kenosha, particularly the scarcity of psychiatrists who accept Medicaid patients. It will result in 750 to 1,000 additional clients served, doubling the amount served currently.
- Health Insurance costs will be flat
- Classification and Compensation study implementation, pegging wages and benefits to the market, aiding retention and recruitment efforts.
- For a home valued at \$100,000, it would be less than 33-cents a month or about \$3.90 for the year.