Co-chair Kaufert presided and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Senators Darling, Welch, Fitzgerald, Lazich, Harsdorf, Kanavas, Decker, Moore
Representatives Kaufert, Ward, Meyer, Stone, Rhoades, Schooff, Berceau
Absent: Huebsch

[Secretary’s Note: The Speaker of the Assembly designated Representative Berceau
to take the place of Representative Coggs.]

I. Educational Communications Board

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Senator Darling to approve a supplement of $97,400 GPR in 2003-04 from the unreserved balance of the Committee’s supplemental appropriation under s. 20.865(4)(a) to the Board’s energy costs appropriation under s. 20.225(1)(b) to offset an anticipated shortfall.

Ayes, 15; Noes, 0; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

II. Department of Transportation

Presiding Co-chair Representative Kaufert made a unanimous consent request to approve the proposed reciprocal motor vehicle registration exemption agreement with the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin. Without objection, it was so ordered.

III. Office of the State Treasurer

Moved by Senator Decker and seconded by Representative Rhoades to approve the revised request for supplemental funding of $200,000 SEG in 2003-04 for the college savings program administrative appropriation [s. 20.585(2)(tm)] but require that $100,000 of this amount be placed
in unallotted reserve subject to release by the Joint Committee on Finance under a passive review process, with the stipulation that a request from the State Treasurer's Office for release of funds in unallotted reserve must be accompanied by a detailed report for the expenditure of the remaining funds for the requested purposes of the supplement. The report shall include, but not be limited to the following: (1) the specific benchmark amounts that are included as a part of the contract for legal services; (2) the specific services that are going to be provided under the contract for each of the benchmark amounts; (3) the hourly fees that will be billed for the various services that are to be provided; (4) the benchmark amount or amounts that will be allocated for procurement services related to expanding the investment choices available to EdVest program participants; (5) the specific services that the Office intends to pay for under this benchmark amount(s); and (6) a projection of the amount of funds that may be needed for continuation of purchase of legal services and procurement services in fiscal year 2004-05.

In addition, direct that the State Treasurer's Office and the College Savings Program Board take actions to recoup from Strong Capital Management, Inc., and Strong Investments, Inc., all funds expended by the Office for the cost of legal services incurred in connection with this issue.

Ayes, 12; Noes, 2 [Fitzgerald, Moore]; Abstaining, 1 [Darling]; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

IV. Department of Administration – State Prosecutors Office

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Senator Darling to transfer 0.5 PR existing assistant district attorney position from the Outagamie County District Attorney’s Office to the Winnebago County District Attorney’s Office for anti-drug prosecution activities.

Ayes, 15; Noes, 0; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

V. Ethics Board

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Senator Darling to approve a one-time supplement of $15,000 GPR in 2003-04 to the Board’s s. 20.521(1)(b) appropriation from the unreserved balance of the Committee’s s. 20.865(4)(a) supplemental appropriation to fund investigation costs related to possible violations of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.

Ayes, 15; Noes, 0; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]
VI. Department of Health and Family Services

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Representative Stone to authorize the Department to expend $250,000 in income augmentation funds to contract with a private vendor to review cases of children in out-of-home care to ensure compliance with Title IV-E regulations.

Ayes, 15; Noes, 0; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Senator Darling to authorize the Department to expend $1,102,800 in income augmentation revenues for reinvestment in the food stamp program for penalties incurred in federal fiscal year 2002.

Ayes, 14; Noes, 1 [Welch]; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

Moved by Representative Kaufert and seconded by Senator Darling to authorize the Department to expend $1,137,500 in income augmentation revenues to support incentive payments to counties for MA administrative costs incurred between July and December, 2003. In addition, if, on June 30, 2004, there remains a balance, direct the Department of Administration Secretary to lapse these monies to the general fund.

Ayes, 15; Noes, 0; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

Moved by Representative Rhoades and seconded by Senator Lazich to direct the Department of Administration Secretary to credit $1,543,900 in income augmentation funds to the Joint Committee on Finance’s FED supplemental appropriation [20.865(4)(m)] in 2003-04, rather than lapsing these funds to the general fund in 2003-04.

Ayes, 11; Noes, 4 [Decker, Moore, Berceau, Schoof]; Absent, 1 [Huebsch]

Presiding Co-chair Kaufert made a unanimous consent request to receive the DOA report under s. 16.50 on federally-funded positions approved during the July 1, 2003 to September 30, 2003, quarter. Without objection, it was so ordered.