

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

May 20th, 2021

The meeting was held in the Rusk County Government Center, County Board Room.

Present: Randy Tatur, Michael Hraban, Thomas Hanson, Tony Hauser and David Willingham.

Also present: Kitzie Winters and Andy Albarado

Chair Tatur called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Motion by Hraban second by Hanson to approve the minutes of the April 15th, 2021 Finance Meeting. Motion Carries.

No public was present for public comment.

Tom Hall was present to discuss an ambulance remount at a cost of \$123,318. **Motion by Hraban second by Hauser to approve the purchase for \$123,318 from Lifeline. Motion Carries.**

Jeff Wallace was present to request the two resolutions for the jail study and complete building study to the County Board for approval. **Motion by Hanson second by Hraban to bring the two resolutions to the County Board for discussion. Motion Carries.**

Nick Stadnyk was present to discuss the non-metallic mining fees. **Motion by Hraban second by Hanson to move the non-metallic mining fees back to the Zoning budget to be used within the year. Motion Carries.** No fund balance will be created.

Nick also was present to discuss a reimbursement for an employee who used his ATV and boat for County use to assist with a project. No payroll reimbursement has ever been established. **Motion by Hraban second by Hauser to establish an hourly rate of \$19 per hour for personal ATV use and \$11 per hour for personal boat use for the past usage. Motion Carries.** They instructed Winters to work with the liability insurance for future activities.

Connie Meyer was present for discussion on the postage meter. The current lease expires in 6/21. **Motion by Hraban second by Hauser to terminate the Pitney Bowes lease and renew with Quadient. Motion Carries.**

Meyer was also present to discuss election machines and purchasing options for the municipalities. The Finance Committee will commit to purchasing 30 machines at no more than \$7,500 a machine within the 2022 budget. **Motion by Hraban second by Hanson to agree with the County committing to purchasing them on behalf of the municipalities to obtain the group rate with reimbursement to be paid back to the County from the municipalities. Motion Carries.**

Motion by Willingham second by Hraban to approve the out of County travel for Connie Meyer to Black River Falls. Motion Carries.

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Verna Nielsen was present to discuss the Treasurer's report. She has 4 tax deed properties. An adjacent landowner whom owns all property around one parcel has requested to purchase a potential tax deed property that will be up to take this year. If we take it for tax deed it is required to be put out for bids. The committee decided to have Verna proceed with taking the tax deed property. No action was taken.

Nielsen has two properties in the Village of Bruce and one in the City of Ladysmith that possibly will be raised. Verna will work with Corporation Counsel to see if the municipalities will commit to purchase for the cost of the back taxes prior to taking the property for tax deed. No action was taken.

Hraban was excused at 10:30.

Verna has a Money Market that is currently at 1.25% that they will renew at .5%. The Committee supported this renewal.

Nielsen has a CD coming due in June and would like to purchase a \$1 Million CD from Cumberland Federal at .6%. **Motion by Hanson second by Hauser to approve the purchase of the CD from Cumberland Federal. Motion Carries.**

Jim Rassbach was present for the discussion on the ME and ME Deputy wage increase resolutions. No action was taken and a resolution will be presented to the County Board.

The bank loan was discussed for the squad purchases and body and dash cameras. Funds have been received this week.

The HHS Financial Manager position was discussed. It is the consensus of the committee to proceed with hiring a Finance Accountant II under direction of HHS with coordination from the Finance Director.

The NWRPC resolution of support was discussed. **Motion by Hauser second by Willingham to forward the resolution to the County Board. Motion Carries.**

Motion by Hanson second by Hauser to approve the invoices paid from 2021-04-14 to 2021-05-17. Motion Carries.

Albarado updated the Committee on the Personnel meeting.

Albarado updated the Committee on the Economic Development report.

No Lighthouse Hot-line notifications were received to review year to date.

The funds from the American Rescue Plan Act were discussed. Winters has received the first tranche from the U.S. Treasury. No action was taken.

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The 2022 budget process and capital projects were deferred to a separate meeting to be held on June 4th at 1:00. No action was taken.

The County Clerk report was reviewed by the Committee.

Kitzie Winters presented the Finance Director Report. She told the committee about a Priority based budget document from another County to use within the 2022 budget process. The RCTC accounting process was discussed and the DOT grant audit.

Hanson was excused at 13:00.

The next monthly Finance meeting will be held on Thursday June 17th, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room. A special meeting will be held for the 2022 budget on June 4th at 1:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:35 p.m. by consensus of the committee.

Kitzie Winters, Recording Secretary

If you are deaf and/or hard of hearing, call us through Wisconsin Relay at 711.