

Trempealeau County Executive/Finance Meeting

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ernie Vold at 9:01 a.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, May 2nd 2011.

Committee Members Present: Ernie Vold, Doug Winters, Mark Smick, Wally Geske, Dave Suchla (10:10 am)

Others Present: Tom Bice, Paul Syverson, Jami Kabus, Laurie Halama, Rian Radtke

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

Adoption of Agenda – Motion/Second: Winters/Smick to adopt the amended agenda; Motion carried.

Adoptions of the Minutes from Previous Meeting – Motion/Second: Smick/Geske to approve minutes from 4/4/2011 meeting. Motion Carried

5. County Sales Tax Update - handout reviewed, no action taken.
6. General Fund Update – handout reviewed, no action taken.
7. Department Updates/Requests –
 - a. Child Support
 - i. A letter was received, notifying the County that a Certificate of Outstanding Achievement will be presented to the Trempealeau County Child Support Agency for demonstrating outstanding achievement in Paternity establishment, Court Order Establishment and Collections of current support. Only 20 agencies that qualify in all 3 areas (paternity rate, court order rate and current support collection rate). The 2010 award was presented at the 2011 Directors Dialogue in April, 2011.
 - b. County Treasurer
 - i. Halama presented a listing and a resolution addressing outstanding checks that have not been cashed by recipients. The resolution would cancel these checks and update the County's Cash Account. M/2nd by Geske/Winters to approve this resolution and forward to County Board. Motion Carried.
8. Sale of County-Owned Real Estate – Radtke updated the Committee on the process to be taken, stating that the next step is to get appraisals and set prices for the four properties. The Committee reviewed a property in Blair, which would require an appraisal. M/2nd Geske/Smick to use the same appraiser used before for the Blair property. Motion Carried. The Committee reviewed a property near Trempealeau. M/2nd Geske/Vold to set the price at \$1,000. Motion Carried. The Committee reviewed a property in the City of Independence. M/2nd Winters/Smick to set the price at \$25.00. Motion Carried. The Committee reviewed a property NW of Osseo. M/2nd Geske/Winters to set the price at \$50.00. Motion Carried. Discussion was had as to the advertising process for these properties. The Committee advised to advertize as legally required and an ad in the Blair Press because of the Blair property. Discussion was had regarding title searches. In past, the County has used a company out of Arcadia. Radtke asked if the committee would want to use this company again or rebid the process. The Committee advised to use the same company if they will go with the same price. If not, then bid out.

9. 2010 Overruns – Syverson distributed a resolution regarding two account overruns for 2010 budget. One is in Corporation Counsel due to a retirement and one is for Audit due to the cost of the audit last year. M/2nd Winters/Smick to approve the resolution and forward to County Board. Motion Carried.
10. Committee Meeting Recording – Discussion was had regarding tape recording the Committee meetings. Suchla would like to record the meetings so that anyone could go back and get a recording of a meeting to hear what was said. A small handheld recorder could be used at each committee meeting and saved onto the computer through a USB port. M/2nd Geske/Suchla that every committee have an audio recorder that is computer compatible (USB) and audio record the meeting and store onto the computer along with the written minutes. Motion Carried.
11. Postage Meter – Syverson said he sent out an e-mail to Department Heads regarding the postal meter. He received mixed reactions on the usability of the postage meter. The main concern was the schedule to use the meter. Some departments were going to use pre-stamped envelopes. Further discussion was had on the mail sorting and delivery process and access to the postage meter. Syverson will contact an interested Department and do a trial with the postal meter and will also price check self-addressed envelopes.
12. Biennium Budget/Act 10 update – no update available.
13. Employee Bonuses – M/2nd Suchla/Smick to table this item. Motion Carried.
14. Health Insurance Coverage for County Board Members – Kabus informed the Committee that in order for Board Members to have access to the health insurance, they must be eligible to participate in WRS, which requires 600 hours per year. If eligible, there is a percentage of County contribution towards the Health Insurance that would be required. As the committee structure is currently set up, Board Members do not reach the 600 hour mark and would not be eligible. Suchla asked about LaCrosse County, as their County Board members are able to buy health insurance. Kabus would contact LaCrosse County to inquire about their insurance coverage.
15. 2011 Budget – No action taken.
16. Schedule Appearances of Departments Overseen by Committee – Smick handed out a schedule of departments and appearances in from of E/F Committee. The Committee discussed meeting with Department Heads and the evaluation process. Suchla questioned how the committee can evaluate someone when they have no idea what they do. Geske said we can not ignore our responsibility as a committee to these employees and giving them feedback. Vold believes that the Committee's responsibility is the budget and this type of issue should fall under the County Board Chair and the Assistant Administrative Coordinator. Suchla suggested making that change in the County Board Rules. M/2nd Geske/Suchla to approve the schedule with Department Head updates for June, July and August. M/2nd Suchla/Smick to amend the motion to do the meeting schedule and do away with the performance reviews. Amendment failed with no votes from Vold, Winters, Geske, Suchla. Vote on the original motion – Motion Carried.
17. Set date for next meeting on 06/6/2011 at 9:00 am.
18. Adjourn @ 10:52 AM by Chairman Vold.