

Trempealeau County Executive/Finance Meeting

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ernie Vold at 9:00 a.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, January 3rd, 2012.

Committee Members Present: Ernie Vold, Doug Winters, Mark Smick, Dave Suchla

Others Present: Rodney Severson, Jami Kabus, Laurie Halama, Rian Radtke, Rose Ottum, Jeff McIntyre, Jaime Flores, Engracia Saavedar

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

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

Adoptions of the Minutes from Previous Meetings – Motion/Second: Winters/Suchla to approve minutes from previous meeting. Motion Carried

5. County Sales Tax Update - handout reviewed, no action taken.
6. General Fund Update – handout reviewed, no action taken
 - a. Resolution to transfer \$16,684.40 to Mississippi Valley Health. McIntyre summarized the program and its origins from the 2008 Unified Board merger. M/2nd by Suchla/Winters to approve the resolution. Motion Carried.
 - b. Resolution to transfer \$650,000 to Debt Service Fund for Bond Redemption. Vold presented a resolution to the Committee. This is the designation part of the process to pay off the Bond for Prior Service Retirement, which was presented at the 12/2011 County Board. M/2nd by Suchla/Winters to approve the resolution. Motion Carried.
7. Department Updates/Requests –
 - a. County Clerk –
 - i. GASB 54 Auditing Reporting –M/2nd by Suchla/Smick to table and review at next meeting. Motion carried.
 - b. Corporation Counsel/Treasurer
 - i. Set appraised value on Tax Foreclosed properties. Radtke advised that the County took possession of 5 properties, of which 4 will need appraisals. One property (Dominic Lane) will not and the committee can set a value on the property to be used as a minimum value for the bidding process. Discussion was had on how to handle the unclaimed property. M/2nd by Smick/Suchla to set the value of the Dominic Lane property a \$100.00. Motion Carried
 - c. Register of Deeds
 - i. Scanning Project. Ottum reviewed with the committee the history and status of the scanning project and what is being scanned. Discussion was had regarding where and how the electronic data is being stored, the need for creating a backup for the original, hard copies and what is left to be done. Ottum estimates that it would be approximately \$30,000 to complete the project, which is currently on hold. M/2nd by Suchla/Winters to approve at least \$30,000 from the General Fund for the scanning project in the Register of Deeds office. Motion Carried.
8. Request for extension of time to buy back foreclosed property – Jaime Flores & Engracia Saavedar. Radtke reviewed the process of this property taken into foreclosure due to outstanding taxes. He advised of the County ordinance regarding foreclosures and the process citizens have to request an extension of time beyond the 30 days outlined in the ordinance. Flores and Saavedar requested

more time to pay the outstanding amount. M/2nd Suchla/Smick to approve a 90 day extension to Flores and Saavedar to pay the outstanding taxes, interest and expenses in full, with the 90 days starting 1/3/2012. Motion carried with one no vote from Winters.

9. Humane Society Funding. Vold reminded the committee of the representative from the Humane Society that spoke at the December County Board meeting. He asked if the committee should consider the County contributing to the Humane Society. Vold suggested assigning the unused dog damage funds to be given to the Humane Society rather than turning it over to the townships. Winters would like more information regarding township funding and the Humane Society. Committee tabled until February committee meeting.
10. Distribution of WIMCR (WI Medicaid Cost Reporting) Payments to Public Health and Human Services. McIntyre read from the federal regulation, which requires Medicaid payment adjustments be made to county providers (Human Services, PH and TCHCC). For HS, in recognition of the Medicaid payment, DHS reduces the basic county allocations to Human Services. Both Human Services and Public Health departments receive WIMCR payments, however Community Aids Basic County Allocation Adjustments are made only to Human Services departments because they are the sole recipients of the Community Aid Allocations. It is often necessary for the health dept to transfer a portion of the WIMCR payments to the HS dept to offset the Community Aid Services.
11. Nepotism / Code of Ethics – combined in discussion below.
12. Work on County Board Rules – Suchla presented a resolution which temporarily amends board rules to allow the new Chair, Vold, to remain serving on his original committees, as well as the ones served by the Chair, for the remainder of this term. The resolution was changed to add a mention that no one applied for the District 10 vacancy created by Geske's resignation. M/2nd by Suchla/Smick to approve the resolution and forward to full County Board. Motion Carried. M/2nd Smick/Suchla to take the Nepotism / Code of Ethics/County Board Rules issue from the table. Motion Carried. Smick distributed his proposed changes of standing committees and a "navigation guide" of current county board rules vs. Smick's proposed board rules for governance. He also distributed copies of his proposed board rules, with some minor changes from the previous month's copy, and copies of his proposed code of ethics. Discussion was had regarding personnel policies, code of ethics and county board rules. Smick wants a current copy of the County Board Rules given to Board members to compare his proposals against. M/2nd by Suchla/Winters to table. Motion Carried
13. Items for next agenda:
 - a. Humane Society
 - b. GASB54 Audit Reporting
 - c. Nepotism/Code of Ethics/County Board Rules
14. Set date for next regular meeting 2/7/2012 at 9:00 am.
15. M/2nd by Suchla/Winters to adjourn @ 11:04 AM. Motion Carried