

Trempealeau County Executive/Finance Meeting

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mike Nelson at 9:00 a.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, January 7th, 2013.

Committee Members Present: Ernie Vold, John Aasen, David Suchla, Tom Bice, Mike Nelson

Others Present: George Brandt, Paul Syverson, Jami Kabus, Jeff McIntyre, Cindy Currier, Kevin Lien, Ann Hempel, Nick Gamroth, Chuck Gauger, Robert Mittelstadt

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

Adoption of the amended Agenda – **M/2nd by Bice/Aasen to adopt the agenda; Motion carried.**

Adoptions of the Minutes from Previous Meetings – **M/2nd by Aasen/Vold to approve minutes from the 12/3/2012 and 12/17/2012 meetings. Motion Carried**

5. County Sales Tax Update - handout reviewed. No action taken. Suchla asked that Syverson put the report in a calendar year format.
6. General Fund Update – handouts reviewed, no action taken.
7. Department Updates/Requests:
 - a. Real Property Lister – Gamroth advised that he eliminated funding for Assessor training in his 2013 budget, as the training is available at no cost on line, but is still available at an in-person training in Eau Claire. Unbeknownst to him, an Assessor chose to attend the in-person training in Eau Claire rather than the free, on-line training and Gamroth has now received a bill for mileage costs for that Assessor. The Committee recommended Gamroth to inquire the Assessor's intentions for the training this next fall (free on-line or in-person creating a mileage expense) and advise the committee of his intentions and will address at that time.
 - b. Land Management –LIDAR Project/Funding: Lien and Hempel reviewed the budgeting history in regards to the LIDAR project. A lengthy discussion was had as to the value and uses of LIDAR and flight photo updates. Bice advised that a representative from the USGS office would be able to attend the February meeting to discuss the issue at the State level. **M/2nd by Suchla/Bice to table until the February committee meeting, with Bice to arrange a representative from the USGS office to address the committee in regards to LIDAR project funding in the future. Motion carried, with a NO vote from Vold and an Abstention from Aasen.**
8. Tax Foreclosure Property –
 - a. Robert Mittelstadt addressed the committee, asking for an additional extension regarding the lien against his house. He has been in contact with the Department of Revenue. He advised the taxes are current with the County, but still has pending matters with the State. He is requesting an extension to address and correct the issues. He hopes to meet with the state by the end of this month. **M/2nd by Suchla/Aasen to approve the additional extension until 4/8/2013 and Mr Mittelstadt report back to the Committee at the 4/8/2013 Committee meeting. Motion Carried.**
9. Paperless Courthouse – Discussion was had as to the amount of paper used within the Courthouse departments and if there are ways to reduce the use of paper and utilize more electronic options.

Currier advised of the already established efforts made by the County to minimize the use of paper and more use of sharing computer folders, e-mails, scanning, etc. Further discussion was had as to the use of monitors for power point presentations, laptops, I-pads, etc. for employees and County Board.

10. Official County Newspaper – Syverson advised that the County annually designates an official newspaper. The Trempealeau County Times was the official newspaper for 2012. Syverson is asking the Committee to designate an Official County Newspaper for 2013. **M/2nd by Suchla/Aasen to appoint the Trempealeau County Times as the official County Newspaper for 2013. Motion Carried.**
11. Long Term Planning- Brandt commented that priorities change for the County every two years when a new County Board is elected. Unless a County commits and implements a long term plan, efforts are not effective. But, he further advised, a new County Board membership may not agree with what the previous Board implemented and can change the direction again. Syverson advised that he is awaiting results from WCA regarding Adams County's long term planning process. Suchla asked about doing a survey of the County Board Members. No action taken.
12. Items for next agenda: Assessor's Fees, LT Planning/Survey, LIDAR/USGS Representative, Broadband
13. Set next meeting date: February 4, 2013

Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting @ 10:52 AM.