

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, October 7th, 2013.

Committee Members: Mike Nelson, Ernie Vold, Tom Bice, John Aasen, David Suchla (left at 9:45 am)

Others in attendance: Dick Miller, Paul Syverson, Jami Kabus, Rian Radtke, Gary Bixby, Nancy Bergman, Linda Massman, Brian Reilly, Donna Brogman

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

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

Adoption of Minutes from previous meeting(s): **M/2nd by Bice/Vold to approve the minutes from the 9/3/2013 meeting. Motion Carried.**

5. County Sales Tax Update - handout reviewed.
6. General Fund Update – handout reviewed.
7. Brian Reilly – Highway Project Bonding: Discussion was had regarding capital projects and long term construction project plans over the next 5 years. The committee discussed with him interest rates, the County's current financial position, bond ratings, etc. Suchla does not believe bonding is the right thing to do, stating there is money in the budget. He pointed out and questioned many departments in the proposed 2014 budget that had increases in the requested column compared to the 2013 budget. Syverson advised Suchla to reference the adjusted budget columns. Syverson advised that the committee has balanced the 2014 budget, with highway getting extra funds. Syverson pointed out that by paying off the bond in 2014, the levy will go down. But if we bond again, we will maintain our levy, advising that bonding is a good idea. Bice asked about a wheel tax. He advised he is in favor of a \$25 wheel tax versus a \$10 tax.
8. Department Update/Requests
 - a. Veteran's Service – Bill Thoma: Thoma advised that the Veteran's transportation funding was running low in the 2013 budget. Due to factors, including the cost of gas, higher numbers of veterans in need, the cost was higher than anticipated. Thoma distributed a resolution outlining the request to present to County Board asking for an increase in funds. He discussed efforts in bundling appointments, doctors schedules and transportation vans. **M/2nd by Aasen/Bice to approve the resolution and forward it to County Board. Motion carried.**
9. Fraud Hotline – Syverson advised he will be watching a webinar on 10/10/2013 regarding this topic and will bring back for further discussion at the November meeting.
10. Consider and approve bids for tax foreclosed properties. Radtke reviewed the bidding process with the committee. He summarized that two parcels were sold directly to the Town of Lincoln. One bid for parcel number 241-00278-0000 in the City of Independence was received, but was below the minimum bid set by the committee. The attorney for the City of Independence has inquired if the County would consider a bid lower than what was set. Radtke advised them to put the request in writing, but has not yet received anything. One bid was received for parcel number 022-00385-0005. A bid of \$30 was received. **M/2nd by Aasen/Bice to approve the**

bid. Motion Carried. Parcel number 121-00189-0005 and 016-00155-0005 did not receive any bids. **M/2nd by Bice/Vold to readvertise these two properties in the spring. Motion Carried.**

11. Review and Revise Duties and Compensation Policy for County Board Supervisors: Radtke distributed a copy of the policy and advised that it needs updating. Radtke reviewed the hours requirements and limits and the guidelines on committee appointments. Discussion was held regarding consolidating different committees and making the committee process more efficient, eliminating multiple committee approvals. **M/2nd by Aasen/Bice to table and bring this back to the November meeting. Motion Carried.**

12. HIPPA Compliance – Radtke advised that he is looking at the County HIPPA policy. He is reviewing what the Health Care Center does and has also looked at what other Counties have done, which have been using outside consultants. He believes he can address in-house. If he feels the need to consult with outside consultants, he will come back and discuss with the committee. No further action taken at this time.

13. County Board Rules – Nelson and D. Miller shared an experience where the Property Committee had a scheduled monthly meeting with a person attending from out of state. The committee did not have enough members attend to make quorum and asked if there would be a possibility to have a board rule that would allow the County Board Chair to serve as a stand in or substitute to avoid this from happening again. Aasen advised that this has also happened to the Board of Health. Examples also shared were alternates who serve on the Board of adjustment. Radtke did not believe that this would be possible, but would look into this issue and bring back to the committee next month.

14. 2014 Budget process: Syverson advised that the committee has the latest draft of the 2014 budget. He advised that the mill rate would stay the same. **M/2nd by Bice/Vold to keep the per diem compensation the same for County Board members in the 2014 budget. Motion Carried. M/2nd by Aasen/Vold to approve the 2014 County Board Budget and forward to the County Board. Motion Carried, with a NO vote from Bice.**

15. Items for next agenda:

16. Next Meeting date: 11/4/2013

17. Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 11:08am.