

Trempealeau County Executive/Finance Meeting

Committee Members: Mike Nelson, Ernie Vold, Tom Bice, John Aasen, David Suchla. Others in attendance: Paul Syverson, Jami Kabus, Rian Radtke, Jim Johnson, Deb Suchla, Sheriff Anderson, Linda Mossman, Tim Zeglin, Kathy Zeglin, Erika Bauer, Doug McPharson, Carol Howard, Susan Marks, Faber, Jayne Benedict, Gary Bixby, Mary Bixby, Nancy Bergman, Jeanne Nutter, Susan Faber, Tonya Neiderkorn

- 1 Meeting called to order by Chairman Mike Nelson at 9:03 a.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, March 3rd, 2014.
- 2 Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.
- 3 Adoption of the Agenda – **M/2nd by Aasen/Suchla to adopt the agenda; Motion carried.**
- 4 Adoption of the minutes from previous meetings (2/3/2014 and 2/24/2014): **M/2nd by Aasen/Bice to adopt the 2/3/2014 minutes. Motion Carried with corrections noted. M/2nd by Vold/Aasen to adopt the 2/23/2014 minutes. Motion Carried.**
5. County Sales Tax Update: Handout was reviewed. No action taken.
6. General Fund Update: Handout reviewed, no action taken.
7. CapX2020 Impact Fee for Trempealeau County
 - a. Set date to review requests: **M/2nd by Suchla/Vold to recommend that the County Board hold a special meeting or set a date to review requests once the new board is seated. Motion Carried.**
8. Personnel Requisition – Human Services: Deb Suchla presented information regarding Human Services and re-organizing some key parts of the Family and Children’s unit. She is proposing to add two lead worker positions and a Program Aide position, resulting in a net gain of one position. She reviewed the overall organizational chart of the department, struggles the unit has experience over the years and how this would strengthen the unit, improving efficiency, better use of staff time, improve training and support of staff, reduce turnover, etc. She also reviewed the financial plan to pay for these changes which would result in no increase to the levy. **M/2nd by Bice/Aasen to approve and forward to the County Board. Motion Carried.**
9. Jail Repair Funding – Suchla advised that the Jail has had a long list of repairs needed to be done over the past several years. Neiderkorn passed around a spreadsheet of the repairs still pending, which she shares with Cheline and the Property Committee each month. Questions were had as to why these repairs were not being completed, as some of them seemed to be simple repairs, basic maintenance and upkeep. Suchla advised that the Jail has been dealing with these issues long enough and could go to outside contractors to get it resolved once and for all. Bice disagreed with allocating more money for outside contractors when our own staff should be addressing the issues and questions why they were not being completed after all this time. The Sheriff advised that there are many problems and issues in the Jail, including plumbing, gates, jail elevator, peeling paint, etc. that are not being addressed. He advised that they have had outside contractors in the Jail on a weekly basis for things that the maintenance department says they cannot do. Bice recommended hiring an employee who has the skills to do these repairs in-house. Sheriff pointed out that another option would be to increase the number of hours of the maintenance custodian. Radtke advised that a budget amendment

from the undesignated general fund would be required if the committee would like to appropriate funds for outside contractors to complete the repair list. Once that has been approved, the Sheriff would be able to use the funds for those repairs as he needs. **M/2nd by Suchla/Vold to approve transferring \$50,000 from the undesignated general fund into the Sheriff's Jail Repair fund. Motion Carried, with a NO vote from Bice.**

10. Fraud Hotline – Dropped from the agenda

11. County Board Rules: Discussion was had regarding how and when board rules can be changed. Suchla stated that these were only recommendations. Vold advised that the board rules say that changes are to be made during odd-numbered years. Radtke advised that he did not see making changes now to the County Board rules as a problem nor binding to make future changes. **M/2nd by Vold/Aasen to leave the County Board rules as is (referencing 7/13/2013 version) and let the new County Board make any changes they deem necessary. Motion Carried with NO votes from Bice & Suchla.**

12. Funding for Humane Society – Syverson sent a question via e-mail to municipalities asking for their support or opposition to giving money from the dog licensing fees to the Humane society rather than being reimbursed. He shared the survey results he received so far, showing an even split of support and opposition. The Humane Society asked what the letter said and worried that it did not explain the request enough. Syverson read the letter. McPharson addressed the committee, stating that it would be easier if the County would just budget \$20,000 to the Humane Society each year instead of the dog tag license route. Discussion was had regarding what is required to be designated as the County pound and the limitations that the Humane Society has in fulfilling that requirement. Radtke advised the Humane Society attendees that the County has no authority to direct the municipalities to give the money to the humane society if there is no county designation. The County cannot designate if the requirements cannot be fulfilled. If the Humane Society wants the cooperation of and money from the municipalities, that is between the Humane Society and the Municipalities, the County is not involved. It was suggested to the Humane Society to contact the Town's Association and try to work something out between them.

13. Items for next agenda: CapX2020

14. Date for next meeting: April 7, 2014

15. Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 10:38 am.