

**Crawford County
Delinquent Tax Committee Meeting
March 17, 2022**

- Call to order** The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chairman Derek Flansburgh. In attendance were Committee members Derek Flansburgh and Mark Gilberts, with Geri Kozelka being absent/excused. Also in attendance were Tom Cornford – County Board Chairman, Mark Peterson – Corporate Counsel, Gionne Collins – Real Property Lister and Julie Jackson – Chief Deputy Treasurer.
- Verify posting
& Approval of
Minutes** Flansburgh verified that the meeting notice was properly posted. Motion made by Gilberts, seconded by Cornford to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (February 15, 2022). Motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- Removal of
properties from
online sale** Gionne Collins explained the questions on County Properties #1 & #2 (Owner Uncertain), which are located along the Kickapoo River. She was contacted by Rick Hadley, adjoining property owner, who expressed concern regarding the sale of these properties. Collins found several issues with legal descriptions that trace back to a plat from the 1950's. She noted that Mr. Hadley had hired a surveyor and was working with his neighbor to resolve the legal description issues. After Collins discussed this with Mark Peterson (Corporate Counsel) and the County Surveyor, it was determined that it would be in the County's best interest to pull these properties from the current sale pending the outcome of the survey. Cornford asked whether a timeline would be necessary, and Collins suggested that these properties be kept on the next sale in case the survey doesn't get done. Motion made by Cornford, seconded by Gilberts to approve pulling the properties from the sale, due to survey, and holding them until the survey comes in. Motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- Bids from
online sale** Julie Jackson provided handouts from Kramer Real Estate & Auction, as well as information prepared by Deanne Lutz, County Treasurer, regarding total expenses and revenue incurred with the sale. Collins reminded the committee that there will be no assessments yet since the properties were County-owned as of January 1st and will remain tax exempt for 2022. A brief discussion followed on the sale amounts. Motion made by Cornford, seconded by Gilberts to approve the sale as submitted by Kramer Real Estate & Auction Service. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote with no negative votes cast.
- Owner Uncertain
properties** Collins opened the discussion by explaining how the Owner Uncertain properties are created and the issues involved. Some are deed or description errors and the new GIS mapping is also a reason why these are showing up. She gave information on attempting to find ownership and putting them on the assessment roll, while adding that the only power the County has in doing anything with them is if they are taken in foreclosure or by tax deed. She is finding a lot of these property issues while submitting parcel data to the State of WI through Act 20 and she felt this process would eventually limit/eliminate the owner uncertain properties.

Collins questioned whether government lines can cross section lines and said she had reached out to Richard Marks, County Surveyor, on the matter. She also mentioned that she was unclear on what to do with gaps that occur. She presented the committee members with several examples of different types of property issues that have occurred throughout the county, while questioning the best way to handle them.

Mark Peterson was excused and left the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

The discussion continued and Collins felt that there needs to be some decision by the committee on whether she should continue putting these properties on the assessment roll as Owner Uncertain and taking them by tax foreclosure. Gilberts thought that we could start by researching the government lots crossing other lines, while Cornford felt that these properties should be looked at if they are truly deed errors. Flansburgh suggested that the committee could review them on a case-by-case basis and possibly re-confirm the access criteria for sealed bids.

No action taken at this time.

Next meeting date Flansburgh recommended we wait and schedule the next meeting at a later time.

No action taken at this time.

Adjournment Motion made by Cornford, seconded by Gilberts to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with no negative votes cast. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Julie Jackson, Chief Deputy Treasurer