

FINANCE
July 22, 2020

- Call to order** The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Duane Rogers at 9:00 a.m. Committee members present were Geri Kozelka, Wayne Jerrett, and Gerry Krachey. Greg Russell was excused. County Board Chairman Tom Cornford, County Board Member Derek Flansburgh, Treasurer Deanne Lutz and Chief Deputy Clerk Roberta Fisher were also present. Others present were Steve Schneider, Bug Tussel Wireless and Tom Martin, Wauzeka/Steuben school district.
- Verify posting** The meeting was verified as being properly posted.
- Approval of Minutes** Krachey moved, Kozelka second to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- Approval of Bills** Jerrett moved, Kozelka second to approve the bills. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- Broadband Discussion** Steve Schneider representing Bug Tussel Wireless and Tom Martin of Wauzeka/Steuben school district appeared before the committee to discuss rural broadband. Mr. Martin explained the need to bring broadband to Crawford County, particularly because of new regulations regarding teaching students online due to CoVid 19.
- Mr. Schneider is here to ask if this is something that Crawford County has a need for, and would the county residents be receptive to this idea. The towers are the most controversial issue with broadband. There are 30 towers currently in Crawford County that are registered with the FCC, and none in the rural areas surrounding Wauzeka and Steuben.
- Bug Tussel Wireless typically writes for Public Service Commission grants. They would be willing to work with the county's existing towers, as they would be more cost efficient than building brand new towers.
- The Finance Committee has requested that a presentation on wireless broadband be added to the August 18th County Board Agenda. Mr. Schneider suggested having as much public support as possible. Mr. Martin agreed to get in touch with all of the superintendents of the school districts in Crawford County, and encourage them to come and support this discussion at the next County Board meeting.
- OPEB Proposal** Duane Rogers explained to the committee what the OPEB actuarial liability study is and why it is needed annually. The first study was

done by Key Benefit Concepts, LLC a couple of years ago. The county has received a proposal from them for the next two years, which will be approximately \$4000 the first year, and then about \$500 to update it the following year.

Duane is suggesting that every other year the county put in a line item for Audit, and to adjust the budgeted amount to include the cost of this study to be done.

Rogers moved; Krachey second to approve the Key Benefits, LLC proposal for the actuarial liability study done for years 2020 and 2021, and to make payment from the contingency fund. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Wheel Tax

Duane Rogers is asking the Finance Committee to move forward and bring the Wheel Tax discussion to full county board. Essentially, the county could implement a \$20 wheel tax for every vehicle that is registered in Crawford County. Some “special” plates would be exempt from this tax. The Wis DOT would keep .17 cents per registration as an administration fee, and then return the rest to the county.

For example, if there were 17,000 vehicles registered with a \$20 wheel tax attached to it, the county could receive approximately \$330,000 in revenue.

Krachey moved; Kozelka second to present this information to the full County Board in August. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Deanne Lutz, Treasurer will look into surrounding counties’ resolutions.

Sale Tax Report

Deanne Lutz, Treasurer presented the committee with the monthly Sales & Use Tax for Crawford County.

Dept Head Mtg. Report

Duane Rogers updated the committee of his meeting with the department heads. He would like to have these meetings periodically to come up with ideas on ways to increase the county revenues and decrease the expenses. He also encouraged the department heads to keep their committees informed of budget shortfalls as well.

Next Meeting

August 5th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to prepare the County Board agenda.

Adjournment

Jerrett moved; Rogers second to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with no negative votes cast and the meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Roberta A. Fisher, Deputy Clerk