

FINANCE
November 17th, 2021

- Call to order** The Finance Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Koch at 9:00 a.m. Committee members present were Geri Kozelka, Wayne Jerrett, Greg Russell and Gerry Krachey. Also present were Tom Cornford, County Board Chairman; Don Stirling, County Board Supervisor; Dale Klemme, CDA Inc.; Josh Lien, Richland Grant Telephone Co-op; and Roberta Fisher, County Clerk.
- Verify posting** The meeting was verified as being properly posted.
- Approval of Minutes** Jerrett moved; Kozelka second to approve the minutes from the November 3rd Finance Meeting. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- Approval of Bills** Krachey moved; Jerrett second to approve payment of the regular monthly bills. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- Richland-Grant Broadband Proposal** Josh Lien, Operations Manager for Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative appeared before the committee to inform that they were awarded a PSC Grant for Crawford County to provide over 100 miles of broadband expansion.
- The project is \$5.6 million. The grant awarded amount is \$2.3 million. Richland-Grant is asking the county to contribute \$450,000 of the ARPA funds toward this project. The Town of Scott and the Town of Clayton are each contributing \$20,000, and Richland-Grant portion is \$2.8 million. Richland-Grant is requesting half of the money to be paid at the start of construction and the other half when the project is complete.
- This project would provide fiber services to roughly 400 households in the Towns of Scott, Clayton and Haney. Construction would begin in the Spring of 2022, with plans to be complete by the end of 2022.
- Koch asked if there would be any future PSC grants to possibly reach some areas a little more south to include Town of Wauzeka and Town of Marietta. Josh said he would definitely look into that.

Josh Lien presented an ARPA Broadband Access Grant Application Public/Private Partnership Agreement that Richland-Grant had drawn up. The Agreement will be forwarded to corporation counsel for review. A contract will be prepared on behalf of Crawford County for Richland-Grant to sign regarding use of ARPA funds. These will then be brought before the full county board meeting in December for final approval.

Krachey moved; Jerrett second to approve the request to contribute \$450,000 towards the Richland-Grant Broadband project. A PPE Agreement will be signed by both parties and taken to full county board for final approval. In addition, a contract will be drafted on behalf of Crawford County for use of ARPA funding. Motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Next Meeting December 1st, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. to prepare December County Board Agenda.

Adjournment Russell moved, Krachey second to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with no negative votes cast, and the meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

Roberta A. Fisher, County Clerk