

FINANCE
September 16, 2020

- Call to order** The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Tom Cornford in the absence of Duane Rogers at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Geri Kozelka, Wayne Jerrett, Gerry Krachey and Greg Russell. Clerk Janet Geisler was also present.
- Verify posting** The meeting was verified as being properly posted.
- App of minutes** Krachey moved, Russell seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- App of bills** Russell moved, Jerrett seconded to approve the bills. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.
- 3C Co-op** Dale Klemme, Community Development Alternatives, addressed the committee regarding the Bug Tussel proposal that was presented at the August County Board meeting. He is asking that the County rescind the action that was taken to support the Bug Tussel proposal and instead appoint a committee to make a recommendation to the Board in the next 90days.
- Emille Smith from the 3C Co-op addressed the committee and stated that they have been working three years to get fiber into the County. He stated that the County already has what Bug Tussel is offering. It depends on how much you want to pay and the speed. He is also requesting that the County reconsider their action pertaining to the Bug Tussel proposal.
- Community Dev. Educator** Craig Saxe, Area Extension Director, addressed the committee regarding reinstating the costs for the Community Development Educator. Jessica Spade participated in the meeting via Zoom. She explained what she has been doing for the County. The first year that she was here she was one-fourth by State; one-fourth by the County and one-half by Driftless Development. After July 1st, Driftless Development was no longer contributing. The State has picked up the difference. With the 2021 budget the County's amount will increase from \$20,000 to \$40,000 since the County will now be contributing one-half.

ADRC Budget

Roby Fuller, Director, appeared to explain their 2021 Budget. She explained that her department is \$80,000 over the levy from last year. She may need to use another account if necessary so that her budget will remain the same but her carry over account will be decreasing.

Audit contract

Krachey moved, Kozelka seconded to approve a three year audit contract with Johnson Block. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Garrity Funeral Home Claim

Donna Steiner, Clerk of Court, appeared to explain that changes have been made in her department so this type of an error doesn't happen again. No official claim has been filed at this time.

Dept reports

Treasurer Deanne Lutz appeared and distributed sales tax information. There have been no decrease in collections. She explained that with the extension of the second installment of tax payments moved to October 1st, everyone was assigned a foreclosure number even if they intend to pay their taxes. The cost to send out the certificate notices cost an additional \$1,500 in postage. These notices must be mailed out according to statutes.

Sheriff Dale McCullick reported that his revenues are way down due to the COVID virus.

Jim Hackett, Emergency Government, reported on the Routes to Recovery money that would be coming back to the County. A total of \$270,997 will be returned to the County from the State. Townships and villages are able to return any money that they cannot use to the County. A number of municipalities have indicated that they would be doing this. The County will also be receiving one-third back on salaries for the Sheriff, Chief Deputy, Jail Administrator and Emergency Government. This will result in \$96, 750 being returned to the County which will offset the lack of revenue in the Sheriff's department.

Jim also advised of an agreement with the Prairie du Chien Chamber of Commerce and the County for 2020. The Chamber of Commerce agreed to provide one employee for emergency operations to act as a community and business liaison in response to COVID. In this agreement the County agreed to pay to the Chamber of Commerce \$18,000. The County has always given the Chamber \$6,000 in their annual budget request. Either FEMA or Routes to Recovery will be providing reimbursement. There will be no additional costs to the County since the \$6,000 already paid is the County match.

2021 Budget

Clerk Janet Geisler distributed information showing the costs for salary increases at 2.5% and at 1%. The Clerk was instructed to proceed with the 2.5% increase.

The 2021 health insurance rates have been received. This will result in an increase of \$144,300 or a 6.7% increase from 2020. While the family rates only increased by \$19 and the single plan by \$8.82 the major cause of the increase was due to the fact that the plans from 2020 that were considered Tier 1 for the purpose of calculations are now Tier 2. This resulted in a sizable increase for the Medical Associated plan, Another factor of the increase is that there are two additional employees from last year.

Next Meeting

October 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to set the County Board agenda.

Adjournment

Krachey moved, Jerrett seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with no negative votes cast and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Janet L. Geisler, County Clerk