

Finance Committee

Minutes

February 20, 2019

The Finance Committee of the Piatt County Board met on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 9:00 p.m. in Room 104 of the Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Spencer. Attending were board members: Randy Shumard, Robert Murrell, Renee Fruendt, Shannon Carroll. Also in attendance: Jennifer Harper, Linda Leach, Jennifer Bryant, Kyle Reynolds, Doug Winder, Darlene Baker, Eric Seibring, Scott Porter, Kara Olsen, Jami Trybom, Meta Creek, Keri Nusbaum and Steve Hoffman. Not in attendance was board member Dale Lantz who was experiencing travel delays.

MOTION: Murrell made motion, seconded by Fruendt to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2018 finance committee meeting as written. On voice vote all in favor, and the motion passed.

Audit Review Steve Grohne of MCK was in attendance for the audit review. The 2017 audit was delayed but has been issued. The non nursing home portion of the 2018 audit is on schedule, with most of the field work done.

Working Cash Fund There was a question regarding an entry for the repair of the courthouse roof in 2018. There was no resolution recorded. Grohne recommends either a retroactive resolution, or a correction of the entry. It will be addressed with an audit journal entry.

Budget Review Linda Leach reviewed the status of the current budget. CIRMA insurance cost increased substantially from previous years, and that line item is over. Animal control department –equipment maintenance and repair was not funded in this budget, but a new computer was needed, so they are over in that line item. EMA is over on new equipment as well. The Elections budget is over on Cyber Security because that line was not funded in this budget. It is a new requirement. However, that will be reimbursed by grant money. Maintenance shows slightly over on supplies and equipment, but that may be due to differences in record keeping with the appointment of a new supervisor. The reimbursement for the States attorney's victim's advocate has been received. Legal services is over because it was not funded in this budget, but has been needed. Murrell said there needs to be a solution other than dipping into the reserves. Spencer noted that expenses are increasing and revenue has been declining. Shumard commented the county should look into raising some of the fees such as zoning.

Personnel policy changes to finance – Linda Leach said the change to accrual of vacation time has presented a challenge especially with employees who have been here a long time. She requests that she be allowed to start the accrual policy on December 1, 2019. It is a possibility that the change will incur additional costs for the county. This would not affect the Sheriff's department or Circuit clerk's office since they have union contracts.

MOTION: Shumard made motion to authorize Linda Leach to defer implementation of the vacation accrual program until December 1, 2019. Shannon Carroll seconds. Roll was called, all in favor, and the motion carried.

Probation budget update Kyle Reynolds informed the board that the detention fund will go over the \$20,000 budget by March 1 due to circumstances beyond their control. He provided each board member with a detailed report prior to the meeting.

Nursing Home Levy Shumard brought to the attention of the Committee that a large amount owed by the Nursing Home to the county to reimburse insurance costs had been forgiven in 2017 by the Nursing Home committee. This would be one half of the 2016 taxes received in 2017. It was not approved at the Board level and he is questioning if it should have been approved at the board level or if it should be repaid. This was due to financial difficulties at the nursing home at that time. The total amount in question is approximately \$215,000.

Scott Porter said that Nursing Home financials are improving but if re-payment is required it would have an effect.

No one was in attendance from EMA. Ray Spencer reports he has attended the recent EMA trainings. If the EMA department is brought up to speed, there may be additional grants available. If more people are trained, they may be able to recapture more funds in the event of an emergency event. Shannon Carroll has also attended training.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tom Corbin has a family member in the nursing home. He says the nursing home does a wonderful job, and the county needs that service. He has attended committee meetings, and he said to require the nursing home to repay the funds would be a burden. Individuals pay over \$70,000 per year. He asks the County Board to forgive the payment.

Shannon Carroll asked if every department was looking for available grants and funding. Doug Winder in maintenance is working on a grant for the boiler tune-ups.

Shumard said zoning permit fees should be raised. Nusbaum will send the information regarding the fees to the board members.

MOTION: Shumard made motion, seconded by Fruendt to adjourn. All in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum
Piatt County Zoning Officer