

Finance Committee  
Minutes

October 17, 2019

The Finance Committee of the Piatt County Board met on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 9 a.m. in Room 104 of the Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Spencer. Attending were members: Robert Murrell, Dale Lattz, Randy Shumard, and Renee Fruendt. Shannon Carroll joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m. Also in attendance: States Attorney Rhoades, Jennifer Harper, Linda Leach, Darlene Baker, Jennifer Bryant, Mike Holmes, Scott Porter, Kara Olsen, Jami Trybom, Seth Floyd, Debbie Marshall, and Keri Nusbaum.

**MOTION:** Fruendt made motion, seconded by Shumard to approve the minutes of the October 8 and October 15, 2019 finance committee meetings as written. On voice vote all in favor, and the motion passed.

**FY 20 Budget**

Board member Dale Lattz provided a spreadsheet with suggestions to make equitable cuts to the overall budget to board members. He estimates 15% in cuts are needed to balance the budget. To make the reductions work, layoffs or furloughs would be needed. Lattz walked the board through the spreadsheet. He suggested recommending amounts to department heads and allowing them to make adjustments to the line items to meet the reductions.

The proposal would get the budget down to an approximate \$100,000 deficit. The states attorney will research if furloughs are a possibility with the union contracts. The states attorney asked if grant monies were included in the proposal. Revenue from grants is included. Lattz reiterated this was an attempt to give the board a starting point, and move the discussion further.

Shumard proposed giving each department the suggested cuts, and asking them to get back to the committee on Monday. Then the committee will make the changes as necessary.

Spencer asked if each member could review the information today, and return to the meeting tonight with ideas to discuss.

Spencer said the separate department information will be sent out today, asking for revisions back by Monday morning meeting.

The budget allows for no raises in 2020. Bryant asked what the county board was cutting. The per diem cannot be changed until the next election, but the members could voluntarily cut payments made to them by not turning in all their meetings.

Murrell said to balance a budget in one year that has not been realistically balanced for 6 years is beyond the pale.

Sheriff Hunt says his jail has generated a lot of revenue, and now the cuts he is being asked to make will cut that revenue. It will not be easy to make the cuts, and still generate revenue.

Lattz pointed out that previous budgets have not been executed. The budget is not monitored close enough. Baker pointed out that there has been no communication back to department heads regarding what remains in the budget, or has already been cut. The mental health department general funds request has been cut.

**MOTION:** Lattz made motion, seconded by Murrell to adjourn. All in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum  
Piatt County Zoning Officer

