

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Finance Committee

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, August 17, 2016

Electronic and Hard Copy Filing Date: Monday, August 22, 2016

Chair Douglas Kane called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Ms. Nettie Rosenow, Mr. Douglas Kane, Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. Larry Grisen, and Mr. Donald Hillert.

Others Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Ms. Sonya Hansen and Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Steve Schiffli, Mr. Dave Rynders, Mr. Jason Poser, Mr. Allen Carothers, Mr. Colin Severson, and Mr. Mike Owecke.

Public Comment regarding Posted Agenda Items: Mr. Schiffli spoke in favor of the readdressing proposal. He feels it is important as current emergency services can have a hard time finding addresses. Mr. Allen Carothers spoke in regards to the readdressing. He indicated that the Towns Association voted twice to not change the addresses.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding previous meeting minutes: Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding an update of the August 11th Flood: Mr. Severson, Mr. Danzinger, Ms. Hansen and Mr. Schiffli gave an update on the status of the flood. County Road Z is the only road that remains closed as a bridge is out. There are no residences on that end of the road. There are several roads that are open, but only have 1 lane of traffic. Letters are being sent out to schools to have the buses drive their routes to make sure they understand the conditions of the roads and to caution them that shoulders are soft or in some cases not there. There is financial help to repair the roads from the State. The State will pay 75% of repairs and the County or Municipality needs to pay 25%. Currently we do not qualify for FEMA because we have not reached the \$8 million in loss to infrastructure. We would also need to have 25 or more houses destroyed and we have approximately 6 houses. There will be a press release going out to the papers updating the public of the status. Red Cross has donated free flood kits to help people with the cleanup. Buffalo County is offering free water testing. There will also be free inspections of homes before people can move back in. Kwik Trip has also donated water for those affected. There will be a meeting Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 7 p.m. to discuss with the Municipalities options for repairs and rebuilding. Mr. Schiffli said there was help needed for displaced families. Currently another entity has been paying for the hotel stay, but that is running out on Friday and the families need more time to find housing. He is asking for additional funding from the County to temporarily house the families. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$5,000.00 from the general fund to help with housing and flood support, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Cancel a Tax Deeds: Ms. Halverson explained the conversation she had with the attorney handling the quiet title action on the tax deed property. The attorney spoke with the title company regarding their concern

that notice was not sent to the holder of the second mortgage by the Treasurer's Office. The attorney recommends passing this Resolution, canceling the Tax Deed and beginning the process over again. The Committee had concerns over the length of time this had taken and how this would affect future sales. Ms. Halverson explained that with the new bidding forms all potential bidders would be notified that properties are being sold as-is with no title guarantee. Bidders would need to do any title research prior to bidding or risk losing their down payment if they withdraw their bid.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Updates from the Department of Health & Human Services on the TAD Grant Application: Mr. Rynders explained that the TAD Grant application was submitted on July 19th and we will not know if it is awarded until September. If approved the process will begin on January 1, 2017. He is hoping they have more information prior to budget finalization. The current plan is to not use any county tax dollars. The matching funds required in the Grant can be in-kind costs, for example rent, electrical, phone and internet.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding a Resolution to Authorize the Submission of an Application by Buffalo County to Operate a Multi-County Aging and Disability Resources Center in Buffalo and Pepin Counties: Mr. Rynders updated the Committee on the changes to the ADRC and conversations he has had with the State about forming a new ADRC with just Buffalo and Pepin Counties. He will be submitting the application as soon as it is available. The application is due September 1st, but has not been released as of yet by the State. There are a few things that will need to be changed to meet the requirements for ADRC standards, for example, a dedicated reception area and receptionist and the widening of restroom doors to accommodate wheelchairs. There are some funds available to help with this, but need to be used by December 31st or the State wants those funds back. Mr. Rynders will apply for an extension of that deadline. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding a Resolution to Purchase Unbudgeted Replacement Sheriff's Office Patrol Vehicle: Mr. Severson explained that with the savings in wages due to vacant positions and the sale of old vehicles there would be enough money in the budget to purchase an extra vehicle this year. This would also help the 2017 budget by reducing the number of vehicles that would need to be purchased. They have located a vehicle, but there are other interested parties. If this vehicle sells the Resolution would give them options to look for other vehicles before the end of the year. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Rosenow. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Purchase One New Trailer Mounted Dura Patcher: Mr. Danzinger explained what a Dura Patcher is and how it works. This equipment will be used on the State roads and will be shared with Trempealeau County, but housed in Buffalo County. This equipment could be used on other roads but there would be a fee charged for using it on anything other than a State road. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Clarification on Designated Vehicle Parking & Lease Terms: At a previous meeting it was discussed to have one parking space designated for each lease agreement and additional spaces would be available for an additional fee. There is need for clarification that this parking space is for agency vehicles not for an employee's personal vehicle. Each additional space will be \$50 and it will be

asked that if you take the agency vehicle you place your personal vehicle in that space to free up parking spaces for other individuals.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Review of 2015 Year End Income and Expenses:

Anticipated expenditures were less than budgeted and revenues were higher than budgeted making 2015 come in better than anticipated. The General Fund had approximately \$740,000.00 more in it at the end of the year than at the beginning and the HHS Fund had \$113,000.00 more in it at the end of the year. The auditors will be coming at the end of August to finish up their audit.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding 2017 Budget Meetings and Strategies: There will be meetings August 23, 24, and 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. to review each department's initial request and explanation of the request. On the 25th there will be a discussion of possible options regarding the budget and what has been presented. September 21st will be the regular Finance meeting. There will need to be 2 additional meetings in September to discuss the budget and make final decisions. Those meetings will be September 15th and 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A presentation of the budget will be held at the September 26th and October 19th County Board meetings followed by publication of the budget and final approval in November.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding an Update on Education Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network (EPIC-N): Ms. Rosenow gave an update of the EPIC-N program. There will be meetings coming up at the end of August to discuss potential projects with UW professors. She would like to have someone attend these meetings.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Courthouse Office Utilization Plan: Following the tours of the building and ideas of placement of offices there needs to be discussion of costs to move those offices. Ms. Hansen would like to discuss ideas with department managers and bring this back in September.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Readdress the Unincorporated Area of Buffalo County, To Install New Retroreflective Address Signs, to Financially Fund the Technology, Data Coordination and Hardware Requirements of Readdressing, Execute a Comprehensive Revision of the Buffalo County Uniform Addressing Ordinance: Mr. Owecke and Mr. Poser spoke regarding work they have done regarding the readdressing. This has been an effort that started a year and a half ago to bring awareness to the issues with the numbering. They feel the current addressing system has faults that bring along very serious consequences and would like the opportunity to bring in experts to discuss this with the full County Board. Marathon County is currently working on a complete overhaul of their addressing system. There was a letter from Mr. Dooney stating that the problem could be fixed by making the GIS data and the 911 system match. Mr. Dooney also believes that the addresses that are incorrect could be fixed without a complete overhaul. There are 141 addresses that have letters after the number and there are also addresses that have a variation of the letter "W/S" before the number depending on the curves in the road. There are also a few numbers out of sequence. There were questions of who notifies the landowner of the address change, who pays for the notification, and who is responsible for the cost of the signs. Mr. Danzinger talked with the Towns Association at their recent meeting. There were nine townships in attendance, eight of them said they were not in favor of readdressing and one said they would be okay with it if it did not cost anything. The Finance Committee would like a survey sent to every town asking if they are satisfied

with the present system or if they are not what the problems are. Mr. Grisen made a motion to table this Resolution pending finding a consultant to give a presentation on this issue, seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Monthly Vendor Invoices, Vouchers, Employee Payroll, and Funds Investment Report: Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Rosenow. Carried.

Public Comments: Mr. Carothers expressed his concerns about the readdressing, but understands there are issues.

Adjournment: Ms. Rosenow made a motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m., seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk