

## Buffalo County Minutes

**Committee/Board: Finance Committee:**

Finance Committee

**Date of Meeting:**

Thursday, October 22, 2020

Chair Dennis Bork called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Finance Committee Members Present:** Mr. Dennis Bork, Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. Donald Hillert, and Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht. Mr. Max Weiss was absent.

**Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting:** Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Kelly Herold, Mr. John Dewitt, Ms. Janet La Duke, Ms. Carol Burmeister, Ms. Felicia Hager, Mr. Dave Rynders, Mr. Gary Schlosstein, and Mr. Justin Watts.

**Public Comments Regarding Posted Agenda Items:** None.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Previous Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Prior Owner Request to Repurchase City of Mondovi Tax Deed Property:** Ms. Halverson explained she received a call from Mr. Watts to repurchase the property. He had indicated that he would be at the meeting and therefore she requests this item and setting the sale price be moved towards the end of the agenda to allow Mr. Watts time to attend the meeting.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Historical Society Office Location & County Contribution Request:** The committee discussed the long-term goals of the Historical Society and how much office space is needed. Mr. Herold indicated that he will be leaving employment with the Historical Society at the end of 2020. They are currently looking for a replacement for him but at 30-hours per week not the 40 he was working. They hope to open back up Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with being closed one hour each day for lunch. If asked to relocate they would need at least a month to secure their belongings and move to a new location.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Veteran Services Support Specialist**

**Position:** Ms. Hager spoke regarding her request for office support. She reviewed the options of sharing staff with other departments, moving to the thirds floor, and working in collaboration with Pepin County. She thanked everyone for the time they took to work on these ideas but respectfully withdrew her request as she does not feel these options would be a good fit for her office. She understands the budget constraints and will try again in the future for additional staff.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2021 Highway Department Preliminary Budget:** The original budget presentation showed an increase of 5% and did not use

any bond funds. Bond funds will be added to the budget to reduce the request of levy money for road maintenance and construction. The bond money does need to be used up in 2021 or returned and can only be used on road work. Road construction may need to be contracted out to get everything caught up.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Approve County Aid for Town Bridges and Culvert Section 82.08 of the Statutes:** These are culverts and bridge replacements that the towns have petitioned for cost share funds. This expense is outside of the levy. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Approve Health Insurance Benefit Plan for 2021:** The health insurance premium will increase 1.5% for 2021. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Add Communicable Disease Program Duties to One Limited Term 2020 Health Position:** Mr. Rynders explained this will allow flexibility in job duties and allow the individual to assist with other communicable disease programs. Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Prior Owner Request to Repurchase City of Mondovi Tax Deed Property:** Ms. Halverson explained Mr. Watts was now available to discuss repurchasing his property. Mr. Watts had called a few weeks ago to repurchase his property and at that time Ms. Halverson explained to Mr. Watts that all past due taxes and expenses would need to be paid. At that time the cost was over \$2,200, but since then some bills have come in from the City of Mondovi for water, sewer, and yard care. The new amount is \$3,024.46. Mr. Watts explained he had been out of work but has since found employment and does intend to live at the residence. He does have the \$2,200 today and would pay the rest by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to allow Mr. Watts to repurchase the property for all back taxes and bills due at the time of payment, seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Setting the Bid Amount for Tax Deed Properties:** At this time there is one property in the Village of Nelson that needs to be advertised for sale. The property is a vacant wooded lot with an assessed value of \$13,400. Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to sell the property through Wisconsin Online Surplus starting at \$100 with a reserve of \$2,000, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Generator Bids:** Ms. Hansen explained during the budgeting process Mr. Rieck was asked to obtain bids to replace the generator. Total Energy submitted a bid for \$60,782 and another bid was received for \$25,418, but this was not the same specs as the Total Energy bid. This item is just for future planning needs.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2021 Preliminary Budget:** Mr. Rynders and Ms. Zeman reviewed the ADRC budget that will need to be added to our budget this year. It will not have an impact on the levy. Ms. Hansen reviewed budget guidelines, how funds are handled, items that were reduced or cut from the budget, and any transfer of funds that will need to take place. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to recommend the approval of the budget to the County Board, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Monthly Vendor Invoices, Vouchers, Employee Payroll, and Funds Investment Report:** Invoices were reviewed. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the invoices, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Chairperson Report:** None.

**Administrative Coordinator Report:** Ms. Hansen gave her report.

- A request to purchase the old recycling compactor was received. This should be put out for public bids if it is decided to sell it.
- The Law Enforcement Committee approved the purchase of the UPS battery by using unspent budget funds.
- A program to allow employees to see their payroll information online is available. There is a monthly fee of \$250 with a 5% increase each year. The initial setup could be covered by CARES funds, but the ongoing monthly fee would not be covered.

The next meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to adjourn at 12:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hillert.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann Halverson  
County Clerk