



Finance Committee Meeting – Thursday, August 12, 2021

Third Floor Boardroom, Old Lee County Courthouse - 9:00 a.m.
112 E Second St, Dixon, Illinois 61021

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair Arlan McClain

Member Roll Call: Chair Arlan McClain, Vice Chair Jim Schielein, Lirim Mimini, and Doug Farster attended in person. Rick Humphrey attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Members absent: Tom Kitson

Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees present: County Board Vice Chair John Nicholson (9:16-10:56), Marilyn Shippert and Jack Skrogstad (Board Members), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator)(9:19-10:56), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Nancy Petersen (County Clerk)(9:05-10:48), Paul Rudolphi (Chief Deputy Treasurer), Jennifer Boyd (Assessor), John Simonton (Sheriff), Dave Glessner (Chief Deputy Sheriff) Jonathan Henrikson (IT), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were all present in person. Sam Schmitt (Treasurer's Office) attended the meeting via Zoom video conferencing.

Motion by Jim Schielein: To approve the July 8, 2021, Finance Committee minutes, July 22nd Budget Workshop minutes, Budget Hearing minutes July 29th, 30th, and August 2nd, and the August 3rd Social Services meeting minutes without modification.

Second by Lirim Mimini. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Paul Rudolphi walked the committee through the latest County financial statements, reporting that revenues were coming in very strong, and expenditures were right on pace with the numbers that were budgeted.

Insurance Report: Jim Schielein reported that the Insurance Committee met with representatives from Gallagher on August 6, 2021, to get clarity on how the County insurance works and what the actual cost to the County was.

GREDCO (Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation) Report: Lirim Mimini reported that Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation has requested a meeting with Chairman Bob Olson, himself, Jason Anderson, Dave Anderson, and Wendy Ryerson to discuss a potential 2000-acre development near Stewart that requires assistance with infrastructure by Lee County to secure funds through the Federal Government and IDOT. Wendy reported that she had attended an LCIDA meeting that reported, similar to the ARPA Funds, there would be grant money for economic development flowing down from the Federal Government that would be specifically focused on regional economic development opportunities.

Motion by Jim Schielein: To approve the four (4) Joseph Meyer Resolutions and forward to the Executive committee.

Second by Doug Farster. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Board Member or Department Head Reports: No reports aside from the agenda items.

Old Business: None

New Business

Amy Johnson reported that during budget hearings she had requested \$10,000 in capital funds to cover an upcoming Supreme Court mandated software change/update. Since then, she has met with the Winnebago County Circuit Clerk and they have agreed to split the cost of the January 1, 2022, mandated software. Lee County's cost is \$65,000. She does have the money in the miscellaneous expense line item in her document storage and automation fund. She met with the Treasurer and the court document storage fund line item in her budget was amended by \$20,000. The \$20,000 is being absorbed by two other line items that are already in her budget.

There was a brief discussion regarding the UTV ordinance. A motion was made by Jim Schielein and a second by Doug Farster to pass to Executive, but because the agenda item was for discussion only, the motions were rescinded. Changes discussed included windshields and safety eyewear and use of the UTV's on Township roads.

Wendy Ryerson reported that DevNet was the County's tax administration software shared by the Assessor, Treasurer, and County Clerk. The County has had the software for roughly 20 years and renews every five years. The contract for the next five years has been reviewed by the State's Attorney's Office.

Nancy Petersen reported that the request for proposal for new election equipment had been advertised in the local newspaper and posted on the County website. The deadline for the proposals is August 20, 2021, at noon. The election equipment purchase will be discussed in the American Rescue Plan Act Committee meeting at 1:00 p.m.

The committee discussed the Highway Department's equipment purchases.

Motion by Jim Schielein: To amend the Highway Department's 2021 budget to allow for the purchase of an excavator, trailer, and pickup truck in the amount of \$270,000.

Second by Doug Farster. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The committee took a short break at 9:38 and returned at 9:48.

John Simonton and Dave Glessner were asked to return to the Finance Committee to address budget staffing concerns and to answer questions from the committee. The office is requesting five (5) additional employees, one (1) employee in the detective bureau, two (2) in the law enforcement division as floats, and two (2) in the corrections divisions as floats, one during the day and one at night. There was a lengthy discussion regarding staffing but no action was taken.

Motion to adjourn by Doug Farster:

Second by Jim Schielein. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Becky Brenner – Lee County Board Secretary

The next scheduled Finance Committee meeting will be 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2021