

**FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
COUNTY BOARD ROOM
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
MINUTES
4:30 PM**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 PM.

2. Roll Call

Chuck Nagel (chairman), Autum Jones, Dan Steffen, Justin Faulk, and Jerry Smith were all present. Ansel Burditt was excused.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of March 9, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve March 2021 minutes made by Steffen, seconded by Smith. *Motion passed.*

4. Public Input

None

5. Approval of Claims

Motion to approve claims made by Smith, seconded by Jones. *Motion passed.*

6. Treasurers Report

All accounts have positive balances. The sales tax report continues to show an increase in the 1 cent, ¼ cent and public safety sales taxes. It was asked when the public safety tax would end. There is no end date on the tax. The previous Board decided to continue with the public safety sales tax as it was originally brought to the tax payers for the building of and maintaining the Public Safety Building. The cost to maintain the building will be on going.

7. Budget

8. New Business

a. Presentation of the County Audit – CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Adam Pulley from CliftonLarsonAllen presented the audit report. They have issued a clean audit report, no misstatements of funds. There was also a single audit done over the Federal funding of grants we received. There were four findings – 1) segregation of duties; 2) financial statement preparation; and 3) audit adjustments, are the same findings as last year, and are common to small counties. These three findings will probably never go away. The fourth finding is with regard to reporting on the Coronavirus Relief funding. The report was submitted, but not in the required time frame. There was a miscommunication in the Health Department and this finding has been corrected. They issued two letters – one regarding the outstanding checks in the Circuit Clerk Offices. This is an issue that was inherited in the mess the previous Clerk left. The second letter of governance stated that there was no disagreement or difficulties with management. We will continue to keep 6 months of reserve funds. It is hoped that with this year's budget we can include extraordinary expenses to repair issues that need to be addressed.

b. Discussion and recommendation of building project bids

The RLF project was started three years ago. The intention was to offer to communities/municipalities the opportunity to fix things that were not ADA compliant. There are two projects – building and sidewalks. This morning the bids were opened for contractual work for the buildings. The lowest bidder did not meet the bid requirements and therefore was removed from consideration. It was recommended by the architect that the lowest bid that met the requirements be awarded the contract. Motion to accept the bid of Phil Schindler & Sons for

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construction of improvements associated with CDBG RLF Closeout Grant 18-248651 – buildings, was made at the regularly scheduled meeting of your Executive Development Committee, April 13, 2021, and to recommend to the County Board that the contract be awarded for the above-mentioned work to the name construction company in the total amount of \$368,000, contingent on the availability of funds made by Jones, seconded by Steffen. The lowest bid came in higher than what was anticipated. Therefore Mr. Cummings will have to adjust funds between the two grant projects. It was explained to the communities/municipalities that the County only had so much grant money to use, and that they may have to contribute finances to their projects should expense be more than anticipated. *Motion passed.*

c. Ongoing discussion on pay equalization

The purpose of this is to bring non-union employees pay equal with union employees pay. States Attorney Minger is working on a policy to be placed in the Employee Handbook. Next month there should be a resolution to go before the Board. Those non-union employees that are paid more than the union contract specifies, will not receive a raise in base pay, but will continue to receive a cost of living raise. There are two questions that arose that need to be addressed – 1) what happens when a person moves from a non-union position to a union position; 2) A union person retires after so many years - what to start their replacement as. Discussion on if the Board wants to bind the department heads to a stringent pay scale. Elected officials can run their office the way they see fit and pay their employees what they deem appropriate. The Board however, has the ultimate control in that they approve the budget for that office. It is hard to compare office to office work as each office is so different. This will be discussed next month.

9. Unfinished Business

10. Other

CEDS – There has been a lot of money given to the County lately from the Government. However, the scope of what that money can be used for has been the same. We hate to pass up free money to help the community. We will be receiving another grant and need to figure out what projects we want to take on. Several idea were discussed, but we have not seen the requirements for use as of yet. We will continue to discuss this matter.

11. Executive Session

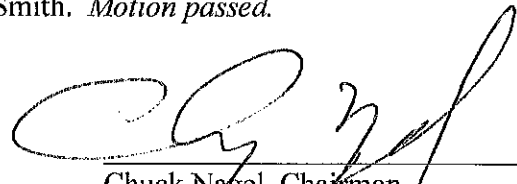
12. Any Action Coming Out of Executive Session

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Steffen, seconded by Smith. *Motion passed.*

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Submitted by: Deb Breyman



Chuck Nagel, Chairman
Finance Committee