

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 10, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI

Meeting called to order by Robert Kopisch, Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call: Present – Jim Hintz (arrived 9:52 a.m.), Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Also present – Nick Trimner, Lynn Neeck, Carrie Kyle, Jeff Hallstrand

Nick reviewed process for those attending electronically.

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment: None.
  2. Communications and Correspondences: Price County Historical Society is putting up a new building in Fifield and they are asking for donations to complete the project.
  3. Meeting minutes May 13 and May 18, 2021: Motion Houdek/Palecek to approve the minutes of the May 13 and May 18, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
  4. Treasurer – Lynn Neeck
    - a. Treasurer's monthly report: Two money market accounts opened at Prevail Bank and transferred \$4.7 million to get the better interest rate. Sales tax doing well. Discussed results of the Wisconsin State Treasurer's Homeowner Task Force Report.
    - b. Tax Delinquencies / In Rem / Tax Deed
      - i. 2017: Petition to be filed within next couple of weeks. 30 parcels.
      - ii. 2018: In process.
      - iii. 2019: Not started.
      - iv. Delinquency and Payment Plan Status:
        1. Park Falls Development, LLC: Bruce Marshall filed with the receivership. \$3,454 was received. \$15 million of State funds may be available for loan to purchase the Park Falls Paper Mill.
        2. Phillips Lionite Wood Products Company, LLC: Requested a larger payment – no response. Receive monthly payments of \$2,500.
  5. County Administrator – Nick Trimner
    - a. 2020 Actual vs Budget and Audit: Working with auditors on completion. Highway Department audit came through fine. Accounting operations there have continued to improve. Expect October report to the Board.
    - b. 2021 Actual vs Budget: Reviewed report. HVAC/chiller failures in Normal Building. Engineering and bid process is required, so will take roughly two months for repairs. Buying portable units and providing water. HVAC/chiller repairs needed in Safety Building. Sales tax increases seem to be tied to stimulus payments. Stumpage payments are doing well. Tax payments are coming in well. New report format offers more comparative data in specific areas.
    - c. 2022 Preliminary Budget Goals: Letters going out to departments. Following the standard timeline. Will start with 2% wage increase, 5-8% health insurance increase. Will put together list of borrowing projects. Highway borrowing should not need to increase.
- Hintz arrived at 9:52 a.m.
- d. American Recovery Plan Act Update and Spending: Received first of two transfers of \$1,296,638. Reviewed spending options.
  - e. Administrator Report: Nothing more.
6. Reallocate Loan Proceeds – Loan #40165922: \$110,000 intended for Courthouse roof project. This project needs to wait until the chiller project can be completed. Those funds will remain in the debt service account until such time as the project can be done.
  7. Funding Replacement of Chiller/AC in Normal Building: Discussed needs and costs. Motion Wartgow/Palecek to proceed with project by hiring Jamar as general contractor for Courthouse, Safety Building and Normal Building projects. Motion carried.
  8. 10:00 a.m.: Presentation on Wireless Internet by Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC: Presentation and discussion with representative on their plan for wireless service in Price County. They would need the County to guarantee a \$12.2 million bond. Looking for bonds to be issued by the end of the year.

Motion Houdek/Palecek to proceed exploration of the proposition. Motion carried. Nick will work with them to gather more information.

9. County Ordinance Code Review and Republish: Will do internal review with departments and vendor will check for statutory compliance. Motion Houdek/Palecek to proceed with the County Ordinance Code review and republish. Motion carried.
10. Northwoods Rail Transit Membership: \$500 annual membership. Price County had been a member, but left several years ago. The group is becoming active again. Motion Palecek/Wartgow to rejoin the Northwoods Rail Transit Commission. Motion carried.
11. Economic Development
  - a. Park Falls Area Community Development Corporation Restructuring Status: Meeting with the group on July 1st to discuss county-wide economic development options and the involvement of Price County. Consensus of committee of need to combine Price County tourism and economic development into one unified entity.
  - b. Future Economic Development Spending: Dependent on future of group.
12. Chambers of Commerce / Tourism Status: Continue to monitor.
13. Monthly Vouchers: Motion Houdek/Palecek to approve the accounts payable and payroll for May in the amount of \$2,132,576.68 and invoices in the amount of \$701,660.06. Motion carried.
14. Date of Next Meeting: July 15, August 12
15. Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk