

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 16, 2020

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, Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Also present – Nick Trimner, Carrie Kyle, Lynn Neeck, David Bockerstette, Ginny Strobl

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Communications and Correspondences: Census 2020 redistricting pilot program was done and issues were identified. NW Regional Planning compiling information regarding capital projects. WCA Board meeting via conference call. Presentation on their structure and responsibilities. Received notice that John Vlach is not doing well.
2. Meeting minutes June 11, 2020: Motion Palecek/Houdek to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer – Lynn Neeck
 - a. Treasurer's monthly report: Reviewed. Sales tax continues to do well. Interest rates have dropped drastically. Tax payments are coming in on schedule. Encouraging online payments.
 - b. In Rem / Tax Deed
 - i. Land Sale Auction: Auction goes through July 21st. Nine of eleven parcels currently have bids.
 - ii. 2016 Tax Deed: Petition has not been filed with the Court yet. It will be filed by end of July.
 - iii. 2017 Tax Deed: Title searches will start in November.
 - c. Delinquent Tax Status
 - i. Park Falls Development, LLC: Bob contacted Bruce Marshall and he indicated we have done what is needed and it's just a matter of waiting.
 - ii. Phillips Lionite Wood Products Company, LLC: No new information.
4. County Clerk – Jean Gottwald
 - a. 2020 Election Cycle: Very busy, and expensive, year for elections. There were four scheduled plus the addition of a special election. Strain on budgets.
 - b. County Election Security Sub-grant: Price County qualified for \$38,500. Application was submitted which included computer system security assessment, multi-factor authentication and security awareness training.
 - c. ICE Tabulator – Town of Hackett: Letter drafted to the Town of Hackett offering them one more chance to take ownership of the ICE Tabulator that has been held for them. If they still don't want their machine, it will be returned or sold. Motion Hintz/Palecek to approve sending the letter to the Town of Hackett. Motion carried.
5. County Administrator – Nick Trimner
 - a. Administrator Report: Continue to have hiring difficulty – particularly jailer/dispatch, Sheriff's Deputies, social workers. Several large private employers are raising their starting wage and improving their benefit packages making it very difficult to compete. Currently at nine positives. Discussion if/when the County should take more preventative actions. Government buildings remain public access by appointment only.
 - b. COVID Funding Resources: Public Health allocated \$245,758 for contact tracing, isolation, quarantining. The County qualified for CARES Act funding of \$231,117. The expenses need to be above budgeted amounts and relate to costs incurred for COVID specific issues. Have submitted requests for \$21,006. Costs have included providing for employees working from home, distancing public and employees in government buildings, planning for outbreaks. There are two more submissions due in September and November.
 - c. Debt Service
 - i. 2021: Reviewed current debt and what future debt will be required to cover needed projects.
 - ii. Future Projects (three years): Reviewed schedule of capital projects and costs.

- d. 2021 Budget: Health insurance 8-10% increase. 2% wage increase. Will have preliminary budget at next meeting.
6. Resolution – Safety Building Loan Refinancing: Motion Hintz/Houdek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption Motion carried.
7. Resolution – Support Price County Municipalities Adopt a Room Tax: Municipalities can adopt a 3% room tax. 70% goes to the local chamber of commerce for promotional services and 30% retained by the municipality. Motion Wartgow/Palecek to proceed with drafting a resolution. Motion carried on voice vote.
8. Large Assembly Ordinance Update: Developing an application and guidelines for who needs to apply.
9. Ad Hoc Committee on Damage to Fairground Buildings – Paula Houdek
 - a. Update: Committee has met twice. The members visited the Fairgrounds to view the damage to the Large Animal Barn and the Open Class buildings. Samuels Group presented several options. Costs vary from \$250,000 - \$900,000. Committee continues to look for viable options.
 - b. Requesting Funds for Soil Borings: The engineer advised doing soil borings to find the functionality of the site. Motion Hintz/Houdek to approve funds for soil borings at the Fairgrounds. Motion carried.
10. Monthly Vouchers: Motion Palecek/Hintz to approve accounts payable and payroll for June in the amount of \$2,046,830.84 and vouchers in the amount of \$343,458.39. Motion carried.
11. Future Agenda Items: None.
12. Date of Next Meeting: August 13, September 10, October 8.
13. Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk