

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 10, 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, Joe Baratka, Ginny Strobl

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Communications and Correspondences: The Administration Committee discussed public comment at meetings. If Board members are contacted by a constituent, they should bring that comment/concern to the meeting as their representative. Ginny Strobl commented that public comment should be allowed.
2. Meeting minutes August 13, 2020: Motion Hintz/Houdek to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer – Lynn Neeck
  - a. Treasurer's monthly report: Sales tax revenue continues to do well. Tax collections are going well. 2019 tax delinquent taxes were issued tax certificates to start the In-Rem process.
  - b. In Rem / Tax Deed
    - i. 2016 Tax Deed: 31 parcels. Court order filed September 4th. Final redemption will be end of October.
    - ii. 2017 Tax Deed: Title searches will start in November.
  - c. Delinquent Tax Status
    - i. Park Falls Development, LLC: Anticipating a payment late September.
    - ii. Phillips Lionite Wood Products Company, LLC: Letter sent to investor asking if they would be interested in a payment plan. The County received a notice that they will be deficient filing their annual report of hazardous chemical with the State of Wisconsin.
  - d. Positive Pay – Bank Security System: Several counties have reported that this protection plan has caught some illegal activities. Cost is \$30 per month. Forward Bank has offered free use for one year. Motion Hintz/Houdek to sign up for Forward Bank's Positive Pay with reevaluation after one year. Motion carried.
4. County Administrator – Nick Trimner
  - a. Administrator Report: Several employee recruitments. Updating Employee Handbook. Continuing to work closely with Public Health on COVID issues. Discussions with schools regarding fall reopening.
  - b. COVID Funding Update: First round funding request approved. Requesting additional funds of the \$231,000 allotment in second round. Received \$38,000 election security funding. Public Health has been allocated approximately \$200,000.
  - c. 2021 Budget – Preliminary: Current overage of \$230,963. Nick will bring options for employee packages to next meeting. Budget discussions need to include nonmandated programming: UW Extension. Motion Palecek/Hintz to request the Land Use / UW-Extension Committee to request justification of current level of funding for the UW-Extension Department. Motion carried.
    - i. Debt Service: Discussion of current and future debt options.
    - ii. Health Insurance: Increase came in at 3.8%
    - iii. Employee Wage Increase: 2%.
    - iv. Library – Books-by-mail: Would need \$8,600 to meet the \$17,500 requested.
    - v. Payments to Nonprofits and Community Partners: Discussed: \$15,000 to Park Falls Area Community Development Corporation who have been discussing more involvement from all county municipalities. \$30,000 to Chambers of Commerce who were discussing combining into one county-wide chamber. \$9,000 to Park Falls and Prentice airports.
5. Resolution - Request to Apply for WDNR Cost Share Grant: Motion Houdek/Palecek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption, contingent on approval of the Forestry & Parks Committee on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

6. Resolution - Approve Transfer to Offset 2019 Budget Overages: Motion Hintz/Palecek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
7. Resolution - Approve Price County 2021 Highway Department Road Construction Projects to be Financed with Short-term Debt - \$300,000: Motion Wartgow/Houdek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
8. Resolution - Approve Price County 2021 Highway Department Road Construction Projects to be Financed with Short-term Debt - \$400,000: Motion Palecek/Hintz to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
9. Resolution - Implement Price County 2021 Capital Projects to be Financed with Short-term Debt - \$650,000: Motion Wartgow/Palecek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
10. Amend Resolution 33-19; Town of Fifield Bridge Aid Request: Motion Hintz/Wartgow to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
11. Wisconsin County Association Conference Resolutions: The resolutions that will be presented to the WCA voting assembly.
  - a. #1 Rusk County; Implications of Verso Mill Closures: Discussion on references to financial assistance. Committee consensus to leave as is.
  - b. Other Resolutions: No discussion.
12. Ad Hoc Committee on Damage to Fairground Buildings – Paula Houdek: Met yesterday. Engineer offered initial soil borings report. Nothing planned for 2021. Requesting four more meetings. Motion Wartgow/Palecek to approve request for four more committee meetings. Motion carried.
13. Monthly Vouchers: Motion Hintz/Wartgow to approve the accounts payable and payroll for August in the amount of \$2,556,539.10 and vouchers in the amount of \$4,640,126.28. Motion carried.
14. Date of Next Meeting: September 24, October 8, November 5.
15. Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk