

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND COMPUTER COMMITTEE MEETING

August 8, 2022

County Board Room

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Roy Granger.

Present: Steven Thomas, Herb Dannenberg, Katie Steinke, Denise Giebel, and Lori Chipman.

Absent: Jim Parrett, John McGinley, Mike Hunkins

Motion Thomas, second Dannenberg, to approve the minutes of June 13 and July 11. Motion carried.

Travis Schultz, Public Works Director, briefly discussed the highway projects that have been approved by the State through various funding sources. They are generally 80-20 matches. The Committee requested that he do a five year plan of road projects to be discussed during the 2023 budget hearings.

Fred Hebert from Central Wisconsin Community Action Counsel was present to present a request for \$150,000 from ARPA funds. This request is coming through the Community Action Teams. This will be a portion of a \$1.26 million housing project for the elderly in Necedah. CWCAC pays the water and sewer and the tenants pay for electric and heating. Motion Thomas, second Granger to take a resolution to the August board meeting. Motion carried.

Howard Fischer stated that the County is looking at FirstNet for cell phone service and devices in the squads. The group that is meeting on this is requesting permission to test the FirstNet devices side-by-side with the current US Cellular devices to determine coverage issues. Motion Thomas, second Dannenberg to allow them to proceed with testing. Motion carried.

Lori presented the 2021 Supplemental Appropriation resolution to the Committee. After a brief discussion, motion Granger, second Dannenberg to take the resolution to the August County Board meeting. Motion carried.

Lori also presented the 2023 budget calendar to the Committee. Motion Dannenberg, second Thomas to approve provided the absent Committee members agree. Motion carried.

Lori updated the Committee on the securitization of the Opioid Settlement funds coming from the lawsuit. The lawsuit with Johnson & Johnson (manufacturer) and 3 distributors has been settled. WCA is proposing to issue revenue bonds backed by the Counties and the settlement payments. WCA and their partners are saying that there is no risk to the Counties. Our Financial Advisor, Carol Wirth, cautions that there is risk to the county if the distributors go bankrupt or stop paying because the bondholders will still have to be paid. She is not sure of anything from this group, as no paperwork has been drafted yet with the details. WCA wants anyone interested in securitization to put their name on the list. Lori cautions that it is hard to make a decision with no paperwork available that spells everything out and also, this is funding that we didn't know we would receive, so anything received is a bonus. This money can only be spent on specific items as agreed to in the lawsuit. After a lengthy discussion, motion Dannenberg, second Thomas to not put Juneau County's name on the list as being interested in securitization. Motion carried.

Denise presented the Cash on Hand Report.