

MINUTES OF A FINANCE AND FEES MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON JULY 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman Wayne Bollin. Members in attendance included Harry Douglas, Tom Bergmeier, Mark Hanson, Dennis Castlebury, Janet Fleming, Mark Menn, Wayne Bollin, and Delbert Kreps. Visitors included Kris Pilkington, Keara Weber, Kasey Livingston, Holly Wilde-Tillman, and Travis Duffy. Stephanie Swisegood was in attendance to take notes of the meeting.

Ms. Weber gave a report of Circuit Clerk's office. They need to get these documents microfilmed, and there is a 100-box minimum. Their copier broke down and to get it repaired cost more than buying a new one. There is a Sharp NX-M3071 that is \$5000 with a 5-year lease and a maintenance bundle included. Mr. Bollin stated this would be able to come out of the ARPA funds. Mr. Menn made a motion to buy a Sharp NX-M3071 for \$5000 with a 5-year lease and maintenance bundle out of the ARPA funds. Mr. Douglas seconded this. All members present voted "aye". Motion passed.

Ms. Weber gave a staffing report. The Chief Deputy from McDonough County that has been coming in will not be coming in any longer until August. She is training Ms. Weber for the trial that will happen next week. Rachel James has been coming in a couple of hours a day to pull files since we have been short a clerk. Ms. Weber needs a second signor for the circuit clerk's checking accounts. She asked if the Chief Deputy Allison Davis could be approved. She would also like Ms. Pilkington to have view-only access to the accounts also. Mr. Bergmeier motioned that Ms. Davis be a second signor and Ms. Pilkington have view-only access to the Circuit Clerk's accounts. Ms. Fleming seconded. All members present voted "aye". Motion passed.

Ms. Weber informed the committee that the Circuit Clerk's office is in the process of going through a transitional audit. Ms. Weber left at 9:11 a.m.

Ms. Livingston gave the assessor report. All of the assessors have turned in their book. She has a concern with the deputy's salaries with the cost of living going up so much. She stated that it is hard to find a deputy at the current salary. She was advised when she presents her budget to the board to include this.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated that we are going to start collecting taxes for Hunt Drainage District. She talked to their attorney John Hauk. Mr. Menn asked if this was our responsibility? Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated it is their choice to collect it themselves or have us do it. Ms. Mast presented at 9:16 a.m. Ms. Wilde-Tillman does not remember seeing anything in the statute that talks about reimbursement. Mr. Menn states he would like to find out. Mr. Menn told Ms.

Livingston to keep up the good work, Mr. Bollin welcomed her to the job. Ms. Livingston left at 9:16 a.m.

Ms. Mast gave a report of the states' attorney's office. She has concerns w pay consistency between the offices. She requested that the board review each office's pay for their respective employees. There will be a case that will be costly to the county prosecution-wise, she believes next year. The case may go to trial and will involve a lot of out-of-state witnesses. Mr. Bollin asked if she received her color copier. She stated no she has not received it yet. Mr. Pilkington wanted to bring up the worker's compensation audit that CIRMA wants us to pay for. They did not give us a bill until over a year after we discontinued their services. You only have 30 days to contest this audit but it was years later. Ms. Mast stated to contact our current insurance company and run this through legal. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated that Brianna is aware of the situation. Ms. Pilkington stated that they are holding this over our head and will not give us our lost runs. The total bill is \$2680.

Ms. Mast stated she got a letter from the opioid settlement stating that after August 5, 2022, we may have a figure for narcotic disbursement. There was a lawsuit filed against us [22CH-0003] in relationship to not responding to a FOIA request in a timely manner. She is working with their attorney. This request went to an email that we did not have access to. Mr. Menn asked how we could prevent this in the future. Ms. Mast stated they have updated the website and staff. She got 2 more FOIA requests yesterday. Ms. Mast left at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Duffy arrived at 9:30 a.m. Ms. Pilkington gave the treasurer's report. There are some loose ends on the audit. The first distribution has been sent out. Schools do not want their money until July 1. There is \$163,312.60 in the ambulance fund. We have to pay back \$140,000 for tax anticipation warrants. Ms. Pilkington asked what is going on with selling the ambulance barn. Mr. Bollin stated Mr. Jacquot could not come today and is going to appoint himself and Mr. Menn to meet with Mr. Simon as he is doing the EMS analysis at this point. Ms. Pilkington stated that financially we are in the good right now. Mr. Bollin talked to Mr. Krohe who stated he will be here next month. Everything is going smooth with the health insurance. Ms. Pilkington stated that everyone has been reimbursed for the Air Evac.

Mr. Bollin stated the newspaper misrepresented funds being given to the Hamilton Industrial Park. Ms. Pilkington asked when budgets needed to be turned in. Mr. Bollin stated to have budgets turned in by August 15, 2022. Ms. Swisegood will send out emails to all office holders along with a budget form. Mr. Bollin asked is there was any interest built up in the ARPA fund. She states interest is at 0.76-0.80%. Mr. Bollin asked if Ms. Pilkington would like us to get Bellwether on the current fiscal year? She stated yes and asked Ms. Wilde-Tillman if she could take care of it and use budget line item 000-130-5200.

Mr. Duffy stated that the deputy that was involved with the shooting yesterday is safe and in good condition. The state police are doing an investigation. Officers did what they are trained to do. They will be running short again without this officer. They lost the back-up squad car, it is trashed. Mr. Duffy and Ms. Pilkington left at 9:43 a.m.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated that the election went very well. The Ballot-on-Demand was amazing. The ambulance has been utilizing her credit card for some purchases. She wanted the board to be aware that there will be purchases made on her card done by the ambulance. She has to get election judges approved for the next 2 years. This needs to be approved at full board and then published. Ms. Fleming made a motion to approve the election judges as listed for the next 2 years. Mr. Bergmeier seconded. All members present voted "aye". Motion passed.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman asked about the mileage and pay for the election judges. She stated they make 35 cents/mile which was set in 2005. The county employees make 57 cents/mile. We pay the election judges \$120/day. Ms. Fleming asked why we pay for mileage for both election judges? Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated we need to pay them both fairly. Mr. Menn stated that he believes 70 cents/mile is fair but if 2 election judges come out then maybe a per diem could be implemented. Mr. Menn stated he would restructure the mileage, pay the person driving 57 cents/mile and the rider per diem. Mr. Bollin instructed Ms. Wilde-Tillman to come up with something for the budget. Mr. Menn asked how many election judges there were, 165. In April we will only have 3 because it is a consolidated election.

Mr. Bollin stated we have a resolution to sell another piece of property. Mr. Menn made a motion to approve the tax sale for property #22-32-000-514 and #15-09-471-000. Mr. Douglas seconded. All members present voted "aye". Motion passed.

Mr. Hanson had Mr. Bollin look over the workers comp claims. There were 13 claims since December 1, 2020. He wondered if anything can be done. Mr. Bollin stated he did not know of anything that could be done.

Motion to pay the claims was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Menn. All members present voted "aye".

Mr. Menn stated he has been approached by Mr. Avise and Mr. Erik Krekel if it is possible to have an ambulance at the Hancock County Fair for 3 different events. It would not be all day events. If there is not an ambulance at these 3 events they will need to be canceled. They need to know by Monday, July 18. Mr. Kreps stated he is going out to the ambulance barn today and will discuss this. He will get in touch with Mr. Krekel.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated Jean Westby called her asking about storing the old coroner's records, and she also needs storage for herself. It has to be climate controlled, easily accessible, and be under lock and key with some kind of security. Mr. Menn stated to use the secretary's office for now to keep the coroner's records in.

Mr. Menn asked if there were any building on the square. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated yes but you would probably need to rent them and pay for utilities. Ms. Fleming told Ms. Wilde-Tillman to find out how much rent would be. Mr. Menn asked about Mr. Curfman's building at the Highway Department and if there was room there. Mr. Castlebury said to look into how much scanning documents for storage would cost.

Motion to recess until August 11 was made by Mr. Menn with Mr. Hanson seconding. All members present voted "aye". Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bollin, Chairman