

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK,
STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF
CARTHAGE ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Board members present were Mark Menn, Wayne Bollin, Dennis Castlebury, Andrew Asbury, Alex Blythe, Tom Bergmeier and Harry Douglas. The County Clerk was in attendance to take minutes. Guests were Sam Harnack, Jeff Dedey and Travis Duffy.

Mr. Bollin updated the committee that there will be budget meetings on October 5, 2023, at 7 pm and October 10, 2023, at 7:15 following Building, Grounds and Insurance.

Ms. Harnack spoke on the Economic Development budget, and they are requesting a quarter of that from the County, \$18,725. She thanked the County for their help on the Hamilton sewer project and commented on all the good that has come from this project. Mr. Menn commented that through her effort's businesses were kept open and in Hancock County. Mr. Menn would like to see the County use their resources for more projects like this. There would need to be criteria to help with Hancock County employment.

Ms. Harnack stated there will be a meeting November 7, 2023, for the 136 project at the Hamilton Community Center.

More discussion was had on ways to use county dollars to help our county develop. Mr. Asbury likes the housing development but is not sure how the county can go about this.

Mr. Dedey spoke on the cyber insurance coverage and what will be required to qualify. He spoke on his budget and where those dollars will be used. He believes the county is already spending this amount, but it is in office budgets. Bellwether suggested in previous meetings leaving in office budgets, but office holders will need to understand that the money will be taken from there. Mr. Castlebury stated Mr. Dedey needs to oversee the claims that involve any type of technology before they are paid. Mr. Asbury suggested office holders update Mr. Dedey as the renew software licenses, this way Mr. Dedey can see what is being utilized. Mr. Menn suggested continuing as we are and Mr. Dedey using this next year to investigate what is being used. The board suggested Mr. Dedey compiling a list of possible things to look for and Ms. Wilde-Tillman preparing a letter for the board to send to office holders. Mr. Dedey has budgeted \$68,450 for IT, Mr. Bollin asked if this would cover the expenses and he believes it will. Mr. Menn suggested the salary needs to be amended to \$30,000 to ensure that we have enough.

Mr. Bollin went over the Extension budget. It has remained at \$118,000 for many years and that is what they are requesting. It was suggested that we ask Ms. Crow to attend the full board meeting.

Hancock County Soil and Water have requested \$3,000 and last year is was reduced to \$1,500. Mr. Bollin reviewed the services provided and it was also mentioned that they levy for tort. It was agreed to give them \$1500 and ask them to come to full board to present.

The website expense was discussed, and we have received a quote for \$16,200 for the website to be rebuilt and maintained. Mr. Dedey will look into this and get more information.

The fund that maintains 911 signs was discussed. Many signs need updated, and the board feels \$2500 is a good number to budget.

Mr. Duffy was asked about body cam expenses, and he does not see that we need to budget for this in 2024. He was asked how this process will look for acquiring them. Right now, it appears that the cost will be \$30 a month per unit, and we will need approximately 15. They will be leased from Motorola and will integrate with current equipment. Mr. Dedey asked about storage of footage and it will be on the cloud. There was discussion on the equipment fund 001-190-5445 and it was decided to budget \$8,000. Mr. Menn inquired about the vehicle fund 001-190-5345 and Mr. Duffy stated he would reduce the amount of \$97,000 to \$80,000 and make it work. He has two vehicles on order, they are down 4.

The safety act was discussed and how it might affect the department. Mr. Bollin asked about the meal fund and Mr. Duffy believes \$65,000 is sufficient. Scram monitors, prisoner medical, pharmacy, fuel funds were all examined for where we are currently with 2 months left. Mr. Menn commended the Sheriff for the overtime fund and how it has been managed.

The Warsaw contract was discussed, and they are waiting on Bellwether to advise. Discussion regarding other towns using Sheriff resources for coverage ensued and this being a possible revenue source if it continues.

Bellwether has provided a breakdown of court services from the different funds for it to be added to the budget.

The committee was informed that Ms. Davis had gone to the judges' meeting and received a check for counsel on the weekends. There needs to be clarification on this and the committee will consult Ms. James.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman updated two funds where there needs to be more money budgeted. Fund 027-000-5557 needs \$2000 and 001-160-5516 needs \$2000. Both of these increases are due to software licensing increasing.

The committee asked that Mr. Berry attend Finance on October 12, 2023, and ESDA to attend on October 5, 2023. Ms. Wilde-Tillman will reach out to both.

It was recommended that the ESDA position be posted. Mr. Asbury needed a few things clarified prior to posting. He will bring it to the committee.

Mr. Asbury made a motion to recess until October 5, 2023 at 7 p.m in the Hancock County Board room, it was seconded by Mr. Douglas. All members present voted "aye." Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wayne Bollin
Finance Chairman