

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board:

Finance Committee

Date of the Meeting:

October 20, 2022

Chair Mr. Dennis Bork called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Mr. Dennis Bork, Mr. William Bruegger, Mr. Brian Michaels, and Mr. Max Weiss. Mr. Brad Schmidt knecht was excused.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting in Person and Via Teams: Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Lee Engfer, Ms. Lisa Schuh, Mr. Dave Rynders, Mr. Cale Severson, Mr. Chris Woda (Teams), Ms. Carol Burmeister (Teams), Mr. Dave Brommerich (Teams) and Mr. Brian Della (Teams).

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Previous Meeting Minutes: Mr. Weiss made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Establish the Reclamation Plan Review Fee and Annual Fees for Nonmetallic Mines in Buffalo County: Mr. Severson explained the review process of mines and how the fees are calculated. The DNR would like more time spent on the program. Mr. Severson would like this fee structure reviewed yearly. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to pass the resolution, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution Relating to the Issuance of a General Obligation Note Not to Exceed \$1,700,000.00 for 2023 and 2024 Road Improvement Program: Mr. Della explained the process of applying for the bond. With borrowing the \$1,700,000.00 it would give more bidding power and be more attractive to banks than if we did \$850,000.00 each year. The current interest rates are higher than in 2019 but we can take the second \$850,000.00 and invest it and earn some money. Once all bids are in and documents are signed the interest rate can be locked in for the full 10 years. This resolution will take a full $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the elected members to pass, which means 11 members must be present and vote yes on the resolution. Mr. Michaels made a motion to approve the initial resolution, seconded by Mr. Weiss. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution for the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of \$1,700,000.00 General Obligation Note: This resolution is a draft and the blanks will be completed once a bank is chosen and the interest rate is set. It can be approved now and then will be formally approved at the November County Board meeting. Mr. Michaels made a motion to approve the draft resolution, seconded by Mr. Bruegger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the City of Alma Tax Deed Property Value and Auction Timeline: Ms. Halverson explained this property is located in the City of Alma up by Noll Dairy Farm. It is approximately 2 acres but has a very deep gully in the center of the property. The amount owed in taxes, interest, penalty, and other expenses is approximately \$2,600.00. One of the prior owners is interested in purchasing the property when it goes up for sale. Mr. Weiss made a motion to approve the sale of the property for \$5,000.00 per acre and to have bids due by November 16th, seconded by Mr. Bruegger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Tax Deed Sales Act 216 Distribution of Funds: Ms. Halverson explained this Act was passed by legislature and essentially requires the county to give any proceeds from tax deed sales to the prior owner. If the prior owner cannot be found the County must hold the funds for 5 years before they can keep the funds. This will be a loss of revenue for the County as in years past if the previous property owner did not claim the property as homestead the County could keep the proceeds of the sale. There is no action required, this is for informational purposes only.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution for County Aid for Town Bridges and Culverts – Sec. 82.08 Wis. Stats: Ms. Halverson explained this resolution is part of the budgeting process. Towns petition for cost share of culvert and bridge projects. These expenses are outside of our levy limits. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Michaels. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Allow for the Sponsoring of Commercial Driver's License Education Costs in the Highway Department: This resolution is an effort to find individuals that do not have a CDL but would otherwise be qualified to work at the Highway Department. The cost of the CDL licensure would be sponsored by the County and the employee would then sign a contract to work for a minimum of 3 years or would have to pay back the cost of the CDL. Mr. Rynders posed questions about the possibility of this type of sponsorship being done by another department. This would need to be handled on a case by case basis. Mr. Weiss made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2023 Proposed Budget: Mr. Engfer explained the final budget is still being put together. There are some departments that need to be adjusted.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2022 Financial Update: Ms. Schuh gave a presentation of where accounts are at for the 2022 budget year. Most are where they should be. A discussion was held on two departments behind in the financials and what could be done to get them up-to-date.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Monthly Vendor Invoices/Vouchers/ Employment Payroll: Mr. Weiss made a motion to approve the invoices and vouchers, seconded by Mr. Bruegger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Investment Report: The investment report was in the packets to review.

Chairperson Report: None.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Mr. Engfer reported the health insurance quote came in at 42.9% higher than our current rate. He will be working with Cottingham & Butler to find another company or get this rate reduced.

Public Comment Unrelated to Agenda Items: None.

Next Date and Time: The next special meeting will be November 10th at 8:30 a.m. and the next regular meeting will be November 17th at 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment: Mr. Weiss made a motion to adjourn at 11:03 a.m., seconded by Mr. Bruegger. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk