

IRON COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for July 16, 2024

Approved

1. Meeting called to order:
Wolff called the meeting to order at 7:00am in the board room.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
The pledge was recited.
3. Roll call taken:
Present were Wolff, Erickson, Lauer, Krall, Lutgen and Youngs.
4. Acknowledge that the meeting was properly noticed and posted:
The clerk certified that it was properly noticed.
5. Approve minutes of June 18, 2024 as presented:
Motion to approve the minutes as presented made by Lutgen, seconded by Krall. All yes, Carried.
6. Clerks Report:
None.
7. Public comment pursuant to Resolution #2341:
Youngs stated that the Memorial building is being sorted out and that they have found through the State that they are not a non-profit and that they are a business. They are also looking at the lease agreement and getting that situated.
8. Discuss/Recommendation for Corp Counsel Succession:
The current Corp Counsel is retiring at the end of the year, and we need to get a replacement. Lutgen stated that she had put together a job description that can be placed in the paper and internet. Motion to advertise for Corp Counsel to get by the end of the year made by Lutgen, seconded by Lauer. All yes, Carried.
9. Discuss/Recommendation for Opioid Settlement Dollars:
The current resolution needs to be approved by August 12. This is a national settlement agreement, so it only needs one reporting account. We can set up a separate ledger to keep track of the funds and it was discussed to open a separate checking account as well. Motion to set up a separate bank account for the opioid funds made by Lauer, seconded by Erickson. All yes, carried.
10. Discuss/Recommendation for ARPA and Tribal Funds:
ARPA funds need to be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expend funds by December 31, 2026. The County has \$13,191.41 remaining in this fund. Tribal Funds does not have a time frame attached to it and the remaining balance is \$57,218.40. To assist with the budget deficit, we would like to find items that would qualify that were either already spent or will be purchased with this year's budget. The clerk would send department heads the list of qualified expenditures and the committee would review what to use the remaining funds on. Motion to use funds that were or will be purchased in 2024 and then determine at the next meeting made by Lauer, seconded by Krall. All yes, carried.
11. Discuss/Recommendation 2025 Budget
 - a. Review 5-year Capital Plans:
Wolf noted that the cash account had declined \$7million over 9 years. He stated that the 2025 budget deficit may be \$1.2 million or even higher given the capital budgets that were submitted. Wolf noted

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that the levy is based off of net new construction and that this figure goes up roughly 1% which is approximately \$45,000.00 and expenditures go up over 2%. We can only borrow for debt and not for payroll and salaries. He also discussed ways to cut costs and explained that these are not decided on these are just items for discussion and to think about. One thought is Furlow days could save us up to \$208,000.00. Check with departments to see if any are overstaffed. Lauer noted that they get paid for the half hour lunch and that we should go unpaid and to look into overtime. Lutgen noted that we can look at services that are not required by Statute, also look at cutting back on travel and conferences that are not mandatory. Krall noted to look into staffing. The department heads and Committee Chair's will need to schedule meetings to come up with ways to assist in stopping the cash decline.

12. Discuss/recommendation Health Insurance Options:

Lutgen stated that she and Loreti had contacted Trina, our health insurance agent, to discuss the insurance. There have been no changes in coverage for several years, Trina stated that she was simply asked to send over the policy with no changes. Lutgen noted that she looked at other counties and the employees pay between 10 to 20% of the premiums. Iron County is at 10% and has a cost share where the employees pay \$100 to \$300 depending on the plan. Employees who opt out of the insurance get a payment of 30% of the premium. We have 80 of the 91 employees enrolled in the insurance. Some of the potential changes to consider are an increase in the cost share to 12%, deductibles go to a 50/50 split, an increase in co-pays or co- insurance. Another suggestion was to add another plan in place. We will have more information and options by August.

13. Review and discuss budget comparison for June:

The comparison was reviewed for June.

14. Treasurer's Report:

Reviewed the report and liked the extra page that was attached to tie in the balance sheet.

15. Review, discussion, and approval of credit card bills, voucher numbers 1630 through 1937 and check numbers 148952 through 149294 dated 6/12/2024 to 7/7/2024:

Motion to approve the vouchers and issue the checks and credit cards made by Lutgen, seconded by Lauer. All yes, carried.

16. Discussion/Recommendation for proposed resolution to Jailer Protective status issue:

This went through the Law Enforcement Committee, and they came up with options and this is what was finally brought back to bring to the Finance Committee. After Lutgen contacted ETF, this will not be possible as this would still be WRS reportable, so we will have to go back to law enforcement.

17. Adjournment:

Wolff adjourned the meeting at 9:26am.

Approved: August 20, 2024

Respectfully submitted
Christan Brandt, County Clerk