

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

November 5, 2013

A Finance Committee meeting was held Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Administration Building, Quorum Court Meeting Room, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Committee Members Present: Allen, J. Harrison, Jones, Chiocco, Curry, Moore, Moehring

Others Present: JPs Anglin, Sandlin, Meyers, Hernandez, and McKenzie, County Judge Bob Clinard, Comptroller Sarah Daniels, Accounting Manager Mike Crandall, Administrator of General Services John Sudduth, Administrator of Public Services Marshal Watson, Fire Marshal Marc Trollinger, Human Resources Manager Barbara Ludwig, Election Commission Chair John Brown, Election Commissioners Robbyn Tumey and Russ Anzalone, Election Coordinator Kim Dennison, Department of Emergency Management Director Robert McGowen, Major Rob Holly, and CENCOM Director Michael DeRose

Tom Sissom – Benton County Daily Record

Chair JP Allen called the meeting to order.

01. Grants Administrator Report

Accounting Manager Mike Crandall reported that: 1) Dept. of Homeland Security – SHSGP FY 13 Grant for \$494,839 to be used for HAZMAT and the Bomb Squad had been awarded with no match requirement; 2) the Department of Homeland Security LETPP FY 2013 Grant for \$63,401 to be used for the Bomb Squad was awarded with no match requirement; 3) Department of Justice – Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant 2012 to cover the cost of training and to renew the International Association of Coroner and Medical Examiners (ACME) accreditation was not awarded; 4) and the Department of Health and Human Services SAMHSA Grant to provide Drug Rehab and Mental Health Services for Drug Court clients and training for staff up to \$325,000 a year for three years was not awarded.

02. Election Commission Software

Comptroller Sarah Daniels stated the funds for this request are in the Election Commission 2013 Budget.

Election Commissioner Robbyn Tumey stated that they are asking permission to purchase a software program that would allow the Election Commission and county to create its own ballots for elections rather than pay an outside company to do that work. She added they are looking at this as a cost savings measure.

Election Coordinator Kim Dennison reported that the software will cost approximately \$60,000 and that they estimate that the savings from doing the work in house will more than pay for the cost.

Discussion was held on the Election Commissions request to purchase a software program to allow the county to create its own ballots.

JP Moehring made motion to approve the purchase of the Program Your Own program costs from available funds in the 2013 Election Commission budget, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

03. Appropriation Ordinance Request – Emergency Services, Dept. 30, Fund 010

Comptroller Sarah Daniels stated that this is to appropriate additional funds to replace damaged equipment due to lightning striking the Administration Building in May.

JP J. Harrison made motion to approve and forward the appropriation ordinance request to the November 12, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

04. Appropriation Ordinance Request – Sheriff’s Boating Safety, Dept 05, Fund 160

Sarah Daniels stated that this appropriation ordinance request is to transfer \$10,000 from Dept. 17, Park Patrol Beaver Lake, Fund 350 to Sheriff Boating Safety, Fund 160 as the original request was in error.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the appropriation ordinance request to the November 12, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

05. Appropriation Ordinance Request – Jail, Dept. 67, Jail Maintenance Fine Fund, Fund 931

Sarah Daniels stated that this appropriation ordinance request is for expenditures within the Jail Maintenance Fine Fund for the purchase of food for the prisoners.

Major Rob Holly reported that the increase in prisoner housing has caused extreme overcrowding of the County Jail and that the cost to provide meals for the extra prisoners had increased.

JP Moore made motion to approve and forward the appropriation ordinance request to the November 12, 2013, Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP Curry.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

06. Appropriation Ordinance Request – Non-Departmental Maintenance, Dept. 23, Fund 440

Sarah Daniels stated that this appropriation ordinance request is for remodeling work at the new Benton County Offices of Rogers.

County Judge Bob Clinard stated that this appropriation request is necessary to start the renovations to the new Benton County Offices of Rogers. He stated that the remodel should be a 90 day project.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the appropriation ordinance request to the November 12, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP Curry.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

07. Appropriation Ordinance Request – Sheriff’s Forfeiture Fund – Mobile Forensic Unit

Sarah Daniels stated that this appropriation ordinance request has been removed from the agenda

08. Sheriff’s Office Overtime Breakdown

Sarah Daniels stated that an appropriation ordinance request for \$300,000 is to pay overtime in the Sheriff’s Department and Jail, if they continue using overtime as they have been.

Lengthy discussion was held on the overtime breakdown of the hours and costs of the Sheriff’s Office and Jail.

JP Moore made motion to forward an appropriation ordinance request for \$300,000 to pay for the Sheriff’s Department overtime to the November 12, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion, seconded by JP Curry.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

09. Sales Tax Numbers

Sarah Daniels reported that September sales tax receipts were up 7.55% for the month, showing an increase of 9.94% for the year, with a net gain of \$554,122 for 2013.

10. Jail Collections

Sarah Daniels reported that Jail Collections were up 7.35% over the revised \$950,000 budget amounts through October 2013 and that \$849,864 has been collected for the year.

11. Fuel Analysis

Accounting Manager Mike Crandall reported that the Road Department is at 97% of their budget, while the Sheriff’s Department is at 93% of their budget. He stated that average unleaded fuel costs have decreased 21% to \$2.58 per gallon and that diesel has decreased 13% to \$3.04 per gallon. He stated that year-to-date, \$81,753 has been transferred back to the Road Department.

12. Fund Summary

Mike Crandall reported on the Monthly Fund Summary, stating that the General Fund is at 78.9%, and the overall budget is at 70.22%.

Other Business

JP Allen stated that he thought that a Christmas bonus would provide a morale boost to employees, coming at a time when many are facing added expenses.

Human Resources Manager Barbara Ludwig said that the Health Fund has a balance of about \$1.7 million and that giving a \$500 bonus to every employee would cost \$320,000, which could be taken out of the health fund.

Lengthy discussion was held on the costs to provide a one-time Christmas bonus to the county employees.

JP Curry made motion to approve a Christmas Salary Adjustment of \$500 for all county employees from the county Health Fund and forward to the November 12, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP Chiocco.

Motion passed by show of hands vote.

6 yeas: Allen, J. Harrison, Jones, Chiocco, Curry Moore
1 nay: Moehring

Announcements

Public Comments

None

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.