Jefferson County
Finance Committee Minutes
December 3, 2020

Committee members: Jones, Richard (Chair) Kutz, Russell (Secretary)

Rinard, Amy Nelan, Conor

Jaeckel, George (Vice Chair)

1. Call to order – Finance Committee Chair Richard Jones called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

- 2. Roll call (establish a quorum) Finance Committee members present were Richard Jones, George Jaeckel, Russell Kutz, Conor Nelan and Amy Rinard. Additional board members present were Laura Payne. Staff in attendance were County Administrator, Ben Wehmeier; Finance Director, Marc DeVries; Assistant Finance Director, Tammy Worzalla; Child Support Director, Stacee Jensen; Corporation Counsel, Blair Ward; and Paralegal, Sarana Stolar. Members of the public present were William Miller of Watertown.
- **3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law** County Administrator Wehmeier certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law.
- **4. Approval of the agenda** The agenda was approved as published.
- 5. Approval of Finance Committee minutes for November 5, 2020 A motion was made by Rinard/Kutz to approve the minutes for November 5, 2020. The motion passed 4-0 with Jaeckel abstaining.
- 6. Communications None.
- **7.** Public Comment None.
- 8. Discussion and possible action on supporting an increase in County Child Support Funding Child Support Director Jensen explained that costs for child support enforcement services are rising faster than the rate of increase in federal and state funding statewide. A resolution supporting an increase of state general purpose revenue of \$4 million is included in the agenda packet to assist Child Support agencies with increasing costs, caseloads, and regulations. Motion by Rinard/Nelan to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.
- 9. Discussion and possible action on capital funding for Courthouse, Jail, and Sheriff Complex Finance Director DeVries asked the Committee for further guidance on how to proceed with consideration of funding for the proposed project. Supervisor Nelan suggested a decision tree showing how the project would progress piece by piece and potential considerations at each decision point. Supervisor Rinard suggested that Administration and Finance prepare a list of repairs to the building to date. Supervisor Payne explained that the Building and Grounds Committee was not acting on this item until February. No action was taken.
- 10. Discussion and possible action on reauthorizing self-insuring worker's compensation liability DeVries explained that every three years, the Department of Workforce Development requires counties to compare the cost of workers compensation coverage on the open market to that of

self-insuring and pass a resolution supporting the continuation of self-insured coverage. Finance has completed the study and the results show a significant cost savings by self-insuring. Motion by Jaeckel/Jones to approve the resolution authorizing Jefferson County to remain self-insured for worker's compensation claims and forward to the Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.

- 11. Discussion and possible action on insurance policy renewals for 2021 County Administrator Wehmeier explained that Jefferson County's insurance consultant, TE Brennan, had prepared a comparison of coverages and costs for the 2021 calendar year. Overall, cost increases are consistent with what the County has budgeted for 2021. Administration and Finance are still working with TE Brennan to determine whether it makes sense to switch property insurance coverage from Chubb to MPIC. Motion by Kutz/Jones to authorize the County Administrator to enter into the coverages recommended by TE Brennan and negotiate the best property insurance policy for the County. The motion passed 5-0.
- 12. Discussion and possible action on determining disposition of foreclosed properties, setting minimum bids for the sale of foreclosed properties, and considering offers to purchase on foreclosed properties Corporation Counsel Ward presented the Committee with the bids for the foreclosed properties that had been advertised for sale. No action was taken.
- 13. Convene in closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats. for deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, for the purpose of discussion and possible action on setting minimum bids, selling and considering offers to purchase on tax foreclosed properties and other county owned properties and pursuant to section 19.85 (1)(g) Wis. Stats. to confer with legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted by Jefferson County with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved for the purpose of discussion and possible action on claims against Jefferson County Motion by Jones/Rinard to convene into closed session. The Committee voted by roll call to convene into closed session. The motion passed 5-0.
- 14. Reconvene in open session for action on closed session items if necessary Motion by Jones/Rinard to convene into open session. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Jaeckel/Rinard to offer to sell the property at 525 Kingfisher in Watertown to the highest bidder in the amount of \$12,369 and give this bidder the option to rescind the bid based on contractual restrictions imposed by the homeowner's association, and should high bidder rescind, accept the bid from the next highest bidder in the amount of \$8,200. The property is to be sold within 10 days. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Jones/Jaeckel to accept the highest bid in the amount of \$6,000 for the property at 538 J Drive in Watertown. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Jaeckel/Rinard to accept the highest bid in the amount of \$6,000 for the property at 315 J Drive in Watertown. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Jones/Rinard to direct Corporation Counsel to continue to advertise the foreclosed properties on Lamp Road with any sale having restrictions on development. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Jones/Jaeckel to extend the letter of intent to sell the property at the old highway shop in the City of Jefferson for three months to allow further time for financing. The motion passed 5-0. The committee also discussed that the Corporation Counsel and the Committee Chair should determine an appropriate minimum bid for the property at 236 Union in Johnson Creek.

- **15.** Discussion and possible action on 2020 projections of budget vs. actual revenues and expenditures DeVries reviewed the unadjusted November 30 results and comparison to prior years at November 30, noting that current trends are favorable and if continued, Jefferson County will end the year in a stronger position than previously anticipated. DeVries also explained that the County expected to fully utilize its allocation of CARES funding from the Department of Administration. No action was taken.
- **16.** Review of the financial statements and department update for October **2020** Finance **Department** No action taken.
- 17. Review of the financial statements and department update for October 2020 Treasurers

 Department No action taken.
- 18. Review of the financial statements and department update for October 2020 Child Support Department No action taken.
- **19. Update on contingency fund balance** The balance of the 2020 contingency funds is \$529,534. The balance of the 2021 contingency funds is \$508 579. There are currently no contingency funds budgeted in the other contingency line for 2020, and the vested benefits balance is \$300,000. For 2021, other contingency is budgeted at \$105,960 in anticipation of further unfunded COVID-19 related expenses, and vested benefits balance is \$300,000.
- **20.** Discussion of funding for projects related to the new Highway Facilities and sale of old Highway Facilities. Wehmeier updated the Committee on the progress of the old highway site.
- **21. Set future meeting schedule, next meeting date, and possible agenda items –** The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.
- **22. Review of Invoices -** After review of the invoices, a motion was made by Jaeckel/Kutz to approve the payment of invoices totaling \$4,605,010.55. The motion passed 5-0.
- 23. Adjourn A motion was made by Jaeckel/Kutz to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. The motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Kutz, Secretary Finance Committee Jefferson County /mad