

**Jefferson County  
Finance Committee Minutes  
March 3, 2022**

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 11:16 a.m.
2. **Roll call (establish a quorum)** – Finance Committee members present were Richard Jones, Amy Rinard, George Jaeckel, Russell Kutz, and Conor Nelan. There were no other supervisors in attendance. Staff in attendance were County Administrator, Ben Wehmeier; Finance Director, Marc DeVries; Assistant Finance Director, Tammy Worzalla; Financial Systems Specialist, Cindy Diestelmann; Corporation Counsel, Blair Ward; and Paralegal, Sarana Stolar; and Land and Water Conservation Director, Patricia Cicero. There were no members of the public present.
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.
5. **Approval of Finance Committee minutes for February 3, 2022** - A motion was made by Jaeckel/Rinard to approve the minutes for February 3, 2022. The motion passed 5-0.
6. **Communications** – None.
7. **Discussion and possible action on Resolution to Request State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula** – Finance Director DeVries explained that the County Register of Deeds had forwarded a resolution from Vilas County supporting a revision to the current formula for distributing real estate transfer fees. Currently the County receives 20% and the remaining 80% is remitted to the State. Motion by Rinard/Jaeckel to send to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The motion passed 5-0.
8. **Discussion and possible action on increasing fees in the Land & Water Conservation Department** Land and Water Conservation Director Cicero explained that the current refundable deposit for spades and soil probes was under the replacement value, and that as a result people are not bringing them back. – Motion by Jaeckel/Nelan to approve an increase to the tree space and soil probe rental deposit to \$80 and \$65, respectively. The motion passed 5-0.
9. **Discussion and possible action on property at 302 S Center Avenue** – The Committee discussed possible uses and disposal of the property. Motion by Nelan/Jaeckel to keep the property and solicit bids for the demolition of the existing structure, and to solicit bids on the salvageable materials. The motion passed 5-0.
10. **Public comment** – none.

- 11. Discussion and possible action on determining the disposition of foreclosed properties, setting minimum bids for the sale of foreclosed properties and considering offers to purchase on foreclosed properties** – No action was taken.
- 12. 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** – The Committee voted by roll call to convene into closed session. The motion passed 5-0.
- 13. Reconvene in open session for action on closed session items if necessary** – Motion by Jones/Rinard to reconvene to open session. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Rinard/Nelan to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate the development of the old highway property with the City of Jefferson, in whole or in part, with final approval of any such negotiation by the Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.
- 14. Update on contingency fund balance** – Before any action taken during the meetings taking place the morning of March 3, 2022, the balance of the 2022 general contingency is \$460,000, the balance of other contingency is \$250,000 and the vested benefit balance is \$300,000.
- 15. 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.
- 16. Set future meeting schedule, next meeting date, and possible agenda items** – The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. Agenda items include ARPA update/revised ARPA guidance and update on Flood Mitigation project.
- 17. Review of Invoices** - After review of the invoices, a motion was made by Jaeckel/Nelan to approve the payment of invoices totaling \$5,194,741.63. The motion passed 5-0.
- 18. Adjourn** – A motion was made by Jaeckel/Kutz to adjourn at 12:06 p.m. The motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Kutz, Secretary  
Finance Committee  
Jefferson County  
/mad