Jefferson County
Finance Committee Minutes
May 7, 2024

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

Christensen, Walt Drayna, David

Jaeckel, George (Vice Chair)

1. Call to order – County Administrator Ben Wehmeier called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

- 2. Roll call (establish a quorum) Finance Committee members present were Richard Jones, George Jaeckel, David Drayna, Russell Kutz, and Walt Christensen. There were no other board members present. Staff in attendance were Finance Director, Marc DeVries; Assistant Finance Director, Tammy Worzalla; Corporation Counsel, Danielle Thompson; Paralegal, Sarana Stolar; Assistant to the County Administrator, Michael Luckey; County Treasurer, Kelly Stade; Economic Development Director, Deb Reinbold; Human Resources Director, Terri Palm; Human Services Director, Brent Ruehlow; Parks Director, Kevin Weissman; and Highway Commissioner, Bill Kern. There were no members of the public present.
- **3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law** Wehmeier certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law.
- **4. Approval of the agenda** –The agenda was approved as presented.
- **5. Election of officers** Motion by Jaeckel/Drayna to elect Richard Jones to the position of Chair. The motion passed 5-0. Motion by Christensen/Drayna to elect George Jaeckel to the position of Vice Chair. The motion passed 5-0.
- **6. Approval of minutes for Finance Committee for April 10, 2024** Motion by Jaeckel/Kutz to approve the minutes for April 10, 2024. The motion passed 5-0.
- **7. Communications** None.
- **8. Public Comment** None.
- 9. Discussion and possible action on transfer of \$10,000 of contingency funds to Central Services for replacement of bay lights in County Annex building Motion by Christensen/Jaeckel to approve the request to transfer \$10,000 of contingency funds to Central Services for replacement of bay lighting in the County Annex building. The motion passed 5-0.
- 10. Discussion and possible action on authorizing a grant application to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Program, the Federal Recreational Trails Program, and the Land & Water Conservation Fund Parks Director Weismann explained that the Parks department is raising funds from grants and donors to rehabilitate a trail that connects the Glacial Drumlin trail to Korth Park via Cedar Lane. The Parks Department has collected \$127,242 in donations restricted for Korth Park improvements that could be used as matching funds for any grants received. Motion by Jaeckel/Christensen to approve the application for funding from the

state Stewardship grant, Federal Recreational Trails Program, and Land & Water Conservation fund and forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.

- 11. Discussion and possible action on authorizing a grant application to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program Recreation Boating Facilities Grant in Aid Program Weismann explained that the Parks Department is seeking grants to install a floating pier and kayak launch at Kanow County Park. Motion by Christensen/Drayna to approve the application for funding from the state Stewardship grant and forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.
- **12.** Discussion and possible action on amending the 2024 budget for the Parks Department by adjusting the fee schedule Weismann explained that the Parks Department is taking reservations for 2025 and would like to have the upcoming year's fee schedule approved so that they accurately quote and price any advanced scheduled services. Motion by Christensen/Jaeckel to approve the changes to the 2025 fee schedule proposed by the Parks Department. The motion passed 5-0.
- **13.** Discussion and possible action on approving quote for broadband expansion at the Fair Park grounds Motion by Jaeckel/Kutz to approve Underground Specialists in the amount of \$31,241 as the low bidder for installation of fiber and United Electric in in the amount of \$32,000 as the low bidder for installation of access points at the Fair Park and forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.
- **14. Discussion and possible action on amending the Classification of Authorized Positions in the 2024 budget** Wehmeier explained various proposed staffing changes intended to be effective for 2024. For all but one of the changes, the fiscal impacts were minimal, if any. However one change, which would potentially move up to 100% of the cost of the Highway Operations Manager to Administration, could cost up to approximately \$75,000 in general levy. The actual impact is still subject to ongoing discussions and needs of the two departments. Motion by Jaeckel/Christensen to approve the classification changes and forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.
- **15. Discussion and possible action on accepting BEAD grant award from the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission and amending the 2024 budget for the Administration department** Motion by Jaeckel/Drayna to accept the BEAD grant from the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission to expand broadband in Jefferson County and amend the 2024 budget for the Administration department and forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.

A resolution was presented by Wehmeier summarizing items 16-20 into one resolution. The following agenda items were considered concurrently by the Finance Committee:

- 16. Discussion and possible action on request from City of Jefferson for certain utility easements on Food and Beverage campus
- 17. Discussion and possible action on request for dedication of right of way for north position of Food and Beverage campus
- 18. Discussion and possible action on cost share agreement for lift station at Food and Beverage Campus

- 19. Discussion and possible action on transfer of property adjacent to Park Maintenance Facility from City of Jefferson to Jefferson County
- 20. Discussion and possible action on out lot line adjustment and ownership at Food and Beverage Campus

Motion by Jaeckel/Drayna to approve items 16-20 and forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.

- 21. Discussion and possible action on status of Courthouse/Sheriff/Jail improvement project and 2021A and 2022A bond funds DeVries updated the Committee on the status of the building project bond funds.
- **22. Discussion and possible action on update on American Rescue Plan Act funding** DeVries discussed the status of the ARPA funding. No action was taken.
- 23. 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 Corporation Counsel Thompson updated the Committee on the status of delinquent tax properties. Discussion on the proposal from Michal Nass to catch up on delinquent taxes. The Committee reaffirmed its position to move ahead with foreclosure. No action was taken.
- 24. Convene in closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats. for deliberating or negotiating the sale of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, specifically for the purpose of discussion and possible action regarding the proposed sale of approximately 100 acres of county owned property to Project Dove, LLC The Committee did not convene into closed session.
- **25. Reconvene in open session for action on closed session items if necessary** No action taken.
- **26. Update on contingency fund balance** Before any action taken during the meeting, the balance of the 2024 general contingency is \$489,999.38, other contingency is \$198,250, and vested benefit contingency is \$300,000.
- 27. Review of the financial statements and department update for March 2024-Finance **Department** no action taken.
- 28. Review of the financial statements and department update for March 2024-Treasurer's Office no action taken.
- **29.** Review of the financial statements and department update for March 2024-Child Support no action taken.
- 30. Discussion of funding for projects related to the new Highway Facilities and sale of old Highway Facilities. No action was taken.
- **31. Set future meeting schedule, next meeting date, and possible agenda items** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 4, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. Possible agenda items are review of 2023 audit results.

- **32. Review of Invoices** After review of the invoices, a motion was made by Jaeckel/Kutz to approve the payment of invoices totaling \$9,362,636.17. The motion passed 5-0.
- **33. Adjourn** A motion was made by Jaeckel/Kutz to adjourn at 10:26 a.m. The motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc DeVries, Finance Director Jefferson County