

Draft

Minutes of the April 16, 2020, Finance Committee Meeting, Sawyer County Board of Supervisors

Members present:

In Assembly Room: Ron Kinsley, Troy Morgan

Virtually: Bruce Paulsen, Dawn Petit

Others present: Tom Hoff, Carol Williamson, Mike Keefe, Tweed Shuman, Mike Coleson, Rose Lillyroot

Motion by Morgan, 2nd by Kinsley, to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2020 meeting.
Motion carried

Sawyer County Administrator Tom Hoff informed everyone this was a virtual meeting. The public could view on YouTube.

The Committee discussed options for a second courtroom. Architects had provided two plans to add on to the courthouse and one plan to build a court facility next to the jail. A fourth option could be to remodel the courthouse utilizing other areas. The architects will do a review to remodel the courthouse for \$8500. The Public Works Committee should look at building options. County Board needs a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote to approve issuing debt. If construction starts spring of 2022, could be complete by May 2023. This should be first step. Committee discussed how a second courtroom would affect the jail population. The inmate count could go up. The county could construct a second courtroom without agreeing to a second judge. Can the County afford a second judge? If we add a second judge, where do we cut expenses to make up for the additional operating costs? Some additional staff is included in the budget. Waiting for answers to questions from January. Providing a summary of past actions and discussion on a second courtroom and second judge needs to be part of the new County Board members orientation.

Accounting Manager Mike Keefe provided reports and reviewed how COVID 19 may affect revenues and expenses. Projecting a \$300,000 to \$500,000 sales tax shortage.

The Committee discussed a referendum in the fall of 2020 to exceed levy limits to maintain the current services. This was necessary before COVID 19 and is necessary without adding a second judge.

Keefe asks department heads to work on budgets and submit in June and July. This will need to move up to May. Keefe and Hoff will work on 2020 projections and the 2021 budget

County Board needs to resolve second judge issue before going to referendum.

Hoff met with Ron Petit regarding the Winter Depot. Fundraising continues.

Sawyer County Treasurer's Department provided a Financial Report and Sales Tax Report.

Adjourned 9:58 am

Minutes prepared by Carol Williamson