

Minutes of the September 8th meeting of the Sawyer County
Finance Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- Chair: **Ron Kinsley**
- Vice Chair, John Rigeheimer
- Stacey Hessel
- Tom Duffy
- Dale Schleeter

Others Present:

- Andy Albarado
- Lynn Fitch
- Mike Coleson
- Tweed Shuman @ 8:38am
- Janeen Abric
- Mike Markgren
- Ron Buckholtz
- Linda Zillmer

Call to Order –Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call taken and quorum was met.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments – Linda Zillmer

Minutes of the previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2022, meeting; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote.

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Mr. Albarado advised that the Housing Authority funds have been disbursed; no other updates.

Treasurer's Report -- A written sales tax report was provided. The August settlements have been completed and notices of delinquent taxes have been sent out. They will continue to work with lottery credits. Properties with delinquent taxes over five years are now being put in the online auction per the new process that was approved at Committee.

Ambulance Revenues/Expenses Update – Mr. Albarado and Mr. Markgren met with LifeQuest last week. Mr. Albarado shared a billing report dated July 2022. Net payments received is \$103,000+. LifeQuest charges a percentage if revenue collected. A Call Summary report as of 7/31/22 was shared; charges to date equal \$738,117 with a \$545,808 balance outstanding.

Carbon Credit Update – Mr. Albarado has been working on getting a second proposal but it has not come in. The value of the credits have been going up since our last presentation from BlueSource. Many other Wisconsin counties have already signed on with the BlueSource program. We will schedule a public hearing on the topic to be held prior to a county board meeting, most likely in October.

Sheriff's Department Budget – Mr. Markgren advised that a 3% salary increase has been budgeted for 2023, and the Sheriff is requesting an additional four job positions. Our preliminary budget is accounting for at least two of the positions. Union negotiations are about to begin.

Preliminary 2023 Budget – Mr. Markgren shared a preliminary 2023 budget package. He has had a good response from department heads. Preliminary net new construction is 1.17%, about \$125,000-\$130,000, the highest level in the last 13 years. Estimated sales tax is \$2.8M but he used \$2.6 in the projection. Bond Council is advising to not issue CIP debt in December, but to roll it into the second Courthouse Bond issue. The General Fund, Fund Balance is \$7,981,437 as of December 31, 2021.

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be Thursday, October 13, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

DRAFT