

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

January 7, 2014

The Finance and Personnel Committee met on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 9:00 a.m., in the County Board Room, located on the Third Floor of the Courthouse, 181 West Seminary Street, Richland Center, Wisconsin.

Committee members present included: Jeanetta Kirkpatrick, Fred Clary, Bob Bellman, Tom Crofton, Gaylord Deets, Bob Holets and Lew Van Vliet.

Others present included: Victor Vlasak, County Clerk; Julie Keller, County Treasurer; Cathy Cooper, County Conservationist; Mike Bindl, Zoning Administrator; and Damon Anderson, Anderson Realty.

Committee Chairman Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order.

The Clerk verified that the meeting had been properly noticed. Copies of the agenda were sent either by mail or email to all Committee members, a copy was posted on the Courthouse Bulletin Board, a copy was faxed to The Richland Observer and copies were sent by e-mail to WRCO and to all County Department Heads.

Motion by Crofton, second by Van Vliet to approve the agenda, as amended, with the addition of one agenda item. Motion carried.

Motion by Bellman, second by Crofton to approve the printed copies of the minutes for the meeting held on December 19th. Motion carried.

Cathy Cooper addressed the Committee regarding funding in the amount of \$7,500 that is available through Trout Unlimited for reimbursement for Land Conservation staff time and mileage for providing technical assistance on a cost-sharing basis with local landowners to undertake conservation practices. Motion by Holets, second by Van Vliet to approve placing revenues received from the grant in Fund 72. Motion carried.

Mike Bindl addressed the Committee regarding Farmland Preservation conversion fees that have been collected and can now be used for farmland preservation planning, zoning and compliance monitoring. Currently fees totaling \$12,947.25 are being held in a Due To State account. Motion by Van Vliet, second by Deets to close the Due To State account to the General Fund and transfer funds in the amount of \$12,947.25 from the General Fund to a non-lapsing account. Motion carried. Use of the funds will be determined during the 2015 budget process.

Damon Anderson, Anderson Realty, and County Treasurer Julie Keller presented summary reports on tax deed properties that have been sold in 2013.

Motion by Van Vliet, second by Holets to postpone the agenda item regarding the use of funds in Fair Donations Fund 33. Motion carried.

The contract from Johnson Block and Company, Inc. of Viroqua for audit and accounting services for the County for 2013 was presented. Fees for the services will range between \$26,200 and \$27,500. Any additional accounting and auditing work needed by various County departments will be billed at the firm's usual hourly rate. Motion by Van Vliet, second by Holets to present a resolution for approval of the contract. Motion carried.

Chairman Kirkpatrick gave an update on the regional consortium of the counties of Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jackson, La Crosse, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland Trempealeau and Vernon. The purpose of the Consortium is to form a regional cooperative known as the Southwest Wisconsin Housing Region to implement and deliver Community Development Block Grant housing programs funding within the geographic boundaries of the Region. La Crosse County will serve as the lead county for the Southwest Wisconsin Housing Region.

Chairman Kirkpatrick gave an update on the Southwest Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Regional Revolving Loan Fund proposed for the consolidation of the Community Development Block Grant Business Revolving Loan Funds of Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette and Richland Counties into a regional loan fund. It has been determined that this proposed consolidation would not remove existing Federal regulations regarding the use of the funds. In addition, the State has withdrawn support of the concept. The Director of the Richland Chamber and Development Alliance has provided information and assistance to applicants in completing applications for funds from Richland County's Revolving Loan Fund.

The Committee reviewed the Cash Trial Balance and County Investment reports for the period ending December 31, 2013.

Chairman Kirkpatrick reported receipt of the following:

- Fred Clary has been appointed a member of the Wisconsin Counties Association Underwriter Advisory Committee for 2014.
- The 2013 Annual Jail Inspection report.
- Liberty Mutual Insurance 2012 rating plan adjustment.
- Wisconsin Counties Association 2014 dues notice and statement of benefits and membership.

Motion by Clary, second by Holets to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Victor V. Vlasak
Richland County Clerk