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

| Voting Committee Members (X) Present: | | Others Present: |
|---|---|---|
| ☒ Chair: **Ron Kinsley** | Andy Albarado | Mike Stamp |
| ☒ Vice Chair, John Righeimer | Lynn Fitch | Ron Buckholtz |
| ☒ Stacey Hessel | Mike Markgren | Linda Zillmer |
| ☒ Tom Duffy | Tweed Shuman | |
| ☒ Dale Schleeter | Janeen Abric - Virtual | |

**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 November 10, 2022, meeting; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Treasurer's Report** -- Ms. Aibric advised that taxes are being printed and some have been mailed.

**Ambulance Billing Summary Update** -- A billing analysis was provided. Mr. Markgren advised that the recent six months were compared to previous similar periods. He reviewed the highlights of the findings; though our calls are down, the billing remained consistent. He believes we are doing a good job of billings now. The billings and collection are up overall, so while calls are down, we are doing a good job of collecting.

**Second Courtroom Expense** – Mr. Albarado advised that the expenses for the second courtroom resulted in an increase in cleaning cost and other ongoing costs. The timeline is still on track for a turnover on March 10th. Board members will be invited to tour the facility prior to the December board meeting.

**2022 Budget Actual Update** – A written presentation was provided. Mr. Markgren advised that we are on target for revenues and expenses year-to-date. We are currently at 85% of expenses and revenues are at 95%.

**2023-2025 Banking Services** – Our current relationship is expiring and five RFPs were submitted. Mr. Markgren advised that he also reviewed each banks' community involvement level so each proposal was considered strong. He reviewed interest rates, anticipated balances, and reviewed their interest-bearing structure along with several other criteria. Based on the calculations made, Frandsen Bank met the most criteria. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Schleeter to use Frandsen Bank as the bank of services. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Consider County Investment Policy –** Mr. Albarado advised that we currently have an investment policy and with interest rates changing, we want to review better options for investments. A Resolution Establishing a County Investment Policy was presented by Mr. Albarado outlining a recommended policy. The proposed policy was shared. This resolution would authorize the County to establish an investment committee to oversee investments and report back to committees and board on a regular basis. A motion was made by Mr. Righeimer; second by Ms. Hessel to approve the Resolution Establishing a County Investment Policy and forward to the County Board. A roll call vote was taken and passed 5-0 with "yes" votes from Kinsley, Righeimer, Hessel, Duffy and Schleeter.

**Native American Property Taxation** – Treaty of 1854 Update – US Court of Appeals Decision – Mr. Albarado provided an overview of the court case. We may now have properties that will no longer be taxable but we do not know what that figure is yet.

ARPA Funds – We got a request from Norvado for the funds of one completed project.

Opioid Funds – We received our second disbursement and have approximately $65,000 to-date.

LATCF – Local Area and Tribal Consistency Fund is a new grant and we will receive $755,463. There are no restrictions on use of the funds and it can be treated as general revenue.

**Closed session – 2023 Wages & Collective Bargaining Update** -- A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Duffy to enter closed session for deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. In addition, the committee will be discussing collective bargaining strategy and thus is excluded from open session requirements under statute 19.82(1). A roll call vote was taken at 9:32 am and passed 5-0 with "yes" votes from Kinsley, Hessel, Duffy, Righeimer and Schleeter. Mr. Ron Buckholtz was in attendance.

At 9:51 am, a motion was made by Mr. Duffy; second by Ms. Hessel to return to open session. Motion carried without negative vote.

Open Session – A motion was made to give staff a 2% raise in January and 1% in July by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Righeimer and forward to full Board. A roll call vote was taken and passed 5-0 with "yes" votes from Hessel, Righeimer, Duffy, Kinsley and Schleeter.

**Meeting Date/Time –** The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be Thursday, January 12, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 am
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk