

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2014

Committee Chair Tim Shafer called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. in the committee meeting room within the Livingston County Historic Courthouse.

Present: Shafer, Bullard, Campbell, Cohlman, Mays, Vietti

Absent: Runyon

Also Present: Marty Fannin, Alina Hartley, June Slagel, Earl Rients, Barb Sear, Carolyn Gerwin, Randy Morgan, Bill Bertram, Seth Uphoff, Mike Shaughnessy, Adam Dontz

Chairman Shafer requested the agenda be amended to add, update on scanning by Barb Sear. Shafer then called for any additional changes to the agenda with none being requested. *Motion by Vietti, second by Mays to approve the agenda as presented.*
MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the July 9th, 2014 meeting. *Motion by Vietti, second Cohlman Campbell to approve the minutes as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.**

Extension Agreement: Special Public Defender Contract – The Committee reviewed a request for an Extension Agreement for William Bertram. The extension called for an increase of 1.5%. Discussion took place. Some Committee members felt that the contract should be bid out to ensure that the amount was competitive. Consensus of the Committee was to hold the line on the costs and continue on a month to month basis with no extension.

LJC Electricity Expense – Slagel reported that the electricity line item for the Law & Justice Center is over budget for the year. Slagel stated that she anticipated the need to transfer \$45,000 from contingency to cover the expense. *Motion by Vietti, second by Cohlman to approve a transfer up to \$45,000 from contingency to cover electricity expenses for the Law & Justice Center.* **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.**

Mack & Associates – Slagel stated that Mack & Associates has presented an option for a three year agreement with a 3% increase for 2015 and 2016. Discussion took place. *Motion by Cohlman, second by Mays to go with the three year agreement.* **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.**

GLCEDC Tax Incentive – Adam Dontz was present to discuss a tax incentive program with the Committee. Dontz stated that the region is highly competitive. Dontz presented information regarding what neighboring communities offer in the form of economic

development incentives. Dontz stated that the tax rates and thus the overall cost of doing business is higher in Livingston County. Dontz stated that the labor pool is also significantly smaller. Dontz reviewed a draft tax abatement proposal that takes into account the county's smaller labor force and higher tax rates. Discussion took place. Dontz stated that he was just looking for feedback at this time and would bring a resolution and agreement for formal approval in the near future.

Update on FY 2015 Budget - Slagel reviewed the capital requests with the Committee. Slagel stated that the \$3,000,000 request from the ETSB could possibly be taken from the Enterprise Zone fund if the Committee so desired. Slagel stated that in order to meet the Committees goal they would need to make cuts of approximately \$300,000.

Finance Report – Slagel stated that bookkeeping has not been paying costs associated with tips for meals. Discussion took place. Consensus of the Committee was to allow tips up to 15% if requested. Slagel stated that they have also been denying sales tax. Slagel stated that if you use the tax exempt certificate you wouldn't need to pay sales tax, but if individuals choose not to use the certificate, they will need to cover the tax. Consensus of the Committee was to continue with this policy.

Scanning Project Update– Sear stated that it took approximately six weeks to get a response from the selected company. Sear stated that their legal team was not comfortable with the price quoted. Sear stated that originally they came back with an increase of \$13,000, but have since revised and are now more in line. Sear stated that the States Attorneys office is reviewing the contract at this time. Sear stated that she had hoped to get the project done this year, but would like to use the election room, so she will need to carry over the amount to next year.

Approval of Bills – The Committee reviewed the bills submitted. *Motion by Vietti, second by Mays to approve the bills.* **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.**

Motion by Vietti, second by Cohlman to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.** Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Alina Hartley
Administrative Resource Specialist