

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, December 5, 2000 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 700 of the McLean County Law and Justice Center, 104 W. Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Vice Chairman Sweeney, Members, Sweeney, Renner, Sorensen,

Members Absent: None

Other Members

Present: Ms. Susie Johnson

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator; Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Lucretia Wood, Administrative Assistant, County Administrator's Office

Elected Officials/

Department Heads: Ms. Janet Smith, Assistant Treasurer; Ms. Jennifer Ho, Risk Manager; Mr. Bob Kahman, Supervisor of Assessments; Mr. Robert Keller, Director, Health Department; Mr. Charles Reynard, State's Attorney

Others Present: Ms. Mary Davis, Director, SHOW BUS; Mr. Jerry Kerber, Co-Chair, McLean County Co-Operative Extension Advisory Committee

Vice Chairman Sweeney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Renner/Sorensen to approve and place on file the minutes of the November 7, 2000 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Ms. Mary Davis, Director, SHOW BUS, presented a request for an amendment to the Consolidated Lease Agreement for SHOW BUS Vehicles between McLean County and Meadows Mennonite Retirement Community. Ms. Davis explained that the vehicle lease was revised in August 2000 to include all Section 5311 vehicles used by SHOW BUS. The request for the amendment is needed to include one additional vehicle in addition to adding a vehicle identification number for the vehicle.

Motion by Renner/ Sorensen to recommend approval of a request to amend the Consolidates Lease Agreement for SHOW BUS Vehicles between McLean County and Meadows Mennonite Retirement Community. Motion carried.

Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, presented a request for a Resolution amending the Funded Full-Time Equivalent Positions Resolution for FY 2000. The COPS in

Schools grant was awarded to the Sheriff's Department. The COPS Grant provided for the addition of one full-time deputy to be assigned to the Tri-Valley School District. The Full-Time Equivalent Position Resolution was not brought to the Finance Committee when the grant was awarded. The grant was received late in the year. There is a nominal increase to the Full-Time Equivalent Position Resolution.

Motion by Renner/Sorensen to recommend a Resolution amending the Funded Full-Time Equivalent Positions Resolution for FY 2000. Motion carried.

Ms. Janet Smith, Assistant Treasurer, presented the County Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2000; the County Treasurer's Investment Report as of November 30, 2000, and the County Treasurer's Employee Benefit Fund Report as of November 30, 2000.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to accept and place on file the County Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2000, the County Treasurer's Investment Report as of November 30, 2000, and the County Treasurer's Employee Benefit Fund Report as of November 30, 2000. Motion carried.

Ms. Smith stated that besides the tax sale results needed from the County Clerk's Office, the taxes have been reconciled within one cent for the year 1999. Taxes extended in July totaled \$157,317,350.34. The PTAB adjustments equaled \$366,000.00, which were ordered returned to the taxpayers by the Department of Revenue. Interest on the PTAB amount is also returned to the taxpayers. This interest is subtracted from the total interest earned through the year. This deduction will effect the interest earned by the districts. However, since the money was invested aggressively throughout the year, the local taxing districts will see a greater return than in previous years.

Ms. Smith stated that there is a remaining balance of \$80,762.20 in unpaid tax bills. Detailed property tax information will be available to the Outside Auditor.

Ms. Smith stated that the money distributed to West Yates, which is the school land rebate money, would be adjust by \$28,093.00.

Ms. Smith stated that the tax sale amount is \$1,401,000.00. The Mount Hope Water District was over distributed because the district did not extend taxes this year. The information was requested from the County Clerk's Office, but was not received. As a result, Mount Hope was given half of the amount given to them during last year's first installment of the tax cycle. Any other differences are due to rounding the numbers.

The Committee congratulated the Treasurer's Office on their good work.

Ms. Jennifer Ho, Risk Manager, presented a request for approval of the Fiscal Year 2001 Risk Management Program. The total projected costs are \$226,124.00. This represents an 18.2% increase over FY'2000 due to the increase in exposure values and adverse adjustments in the excess insurance markets. The incumbent carrier for the Nursing Home is no longer available. As a result, the County's property-casualty insurance agent was asked to search out renewal options. The best option available to the County is the States Self-Insured RRG. States is a risk retention group formed under the Risk Retention Act of 1986.

Ms. Ho stated that the increase in the Worker's Compensation reinsurance premiums has caused an increase in the total Risk Management program. The increase in Worker's Compensation is due to the increases in salaries as a result of the PAS Study. Worker's Compensation premiums are based on the total payroll of the County.

The County will continue its contract with Cannon Cochran Management Services, INC. (CCMSI), its third party administrator. The contract will be ready for the December 19, 2000 County board meeting.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to recommend approval of the Fiscal Year 2001 Risk Management Program. Motion carried.

Mr. Bob Keller, Director, Health Department, presented a request for a Resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2001 McLean County Full-Time Equivalent Positions Resolution associated with an Ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2001 McLean County Combined Appropriations and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0103. This is a WIC grant in the amount of \$5,000 for breast feeding enhancement. The grant would fund a program to increase breast-feeding participants among WIC participants. The Resolution includes a .19 FTE temporary position addition for January 1, 2001 to June 30, 2001. Total salary and benefits compensation for the addition of the .19 FTE is included in the grant.

Motion by Renner/Sorensen to recommend approval of a Resolution to amend the Fiscal Year 2001 McLean County Full-Time Equivalent Positions Resolution associated with an Ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2001 McLean County Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0103-the WIC Fund. Motion Carried.

Mr. Bob Kahman, Supervisor of Assessments, presented a status report for the current assessment cycle. The first assessments will be sent to property owners on December 7, 2000. The City of Bloomington's Assessments were just received. The Assessment Notices for the City of Bloomington will take about a month and a half to prepare.

Mr. Zeunik presented a request for a resolution authorizing a referendum relating to a tax levy to benefit McLean County programs of the University of Illinois Extension. Mr. Zeunik introduced Mr. Jerry Kerber, Co-Chairman of the McLean County Cooperative Extension Advisory Committee. The McLean County Cooperative Extension has discussed the possibility of placing a tax levy referendum on the ballot to fund the Cooperative Extension Education Program. The Cooperative Education Service was established as a three pronged entity in the 19th century. Funding comes from the University of Illinois, the State of Illinois and the County of McLean. It has become more and more difficult for these sources to provide necessary funding. In Fiscal Year 2001, the McLean County Board has approved an appropriation of \$25,500 to support the programs offered by the Cooperative Extension. Mr. Zeunik stated that the Cooperative Extension Advisory Committee is asking the Board to place the question on the ballot of the general election on April 3, 2001.

Mr. Kerber stated that the law provides that the maximum that can be sought is \$.05 per \$100.00 equalized assessed evaluation. The Advisory Committee feels that this is the appropriate action to take in order to avoid having the item placed on the ballot again. The programs are growing fast. There is not enough private funding available.

Mr. Renner asked why a new taxing authority needs to be created to gain more funding versus going to the current funding sources and asking for an increase in the budget appropriation. Mr. Sweeney replied that if the levy were allowed, the County Board would still have to approve the increase.

Mr. Zeunik replied that the financing that the programs have relied on has been reduced or frozen. The largest funding sources have not been allowed to grow. The programs are looking for a stable, constant source of funding.

Mr. Zeunik stated that the \$.05 levy would produce more than \$1,000,000.00. The education programs and services are do not currently reach \$1,000,000.00. Mr. Renner asked if the levy is allowed, how will the taxpayers know the source of the levy. Mr. Sorensen replied that there is a requirement for a public hearing and the budget would have to come before the County Board.

Mr. Sorensen stated that this levy would take the funding out of the General Fund to a levy-based fund. Mr. Zeunik stated that the levy would be a separate fund like the Veteran's Assistance Commission Fund, the Historical Museum, and Children Advocacy Center. These funds were created by referendum. All three budgets come before the Board. The Board and the Finance Committee control the levy through the budget process. The County takes all the tax levies and the assessed values into consideration. The levies can be reduced or increased each year if needed.

Mr. Sorensen asked if law fixed the language of the referendum. Mr. Zeunik replied that Mr. Ruud worked with the Extension Office to draft the Resolution. Mr. Sorensen asked if, in the first line of the Resolution, the words "adult and 4-H Youths" could be left out. This wording minimizes the extent of the education programs. Mr. Kerber stated that there is no legal precedence. The wording for the question was taken from other referendums in other Illinois Counties. Mr. Zeunik stated that the Administrator's Office would check to see if the language could be removed.

Mr. Kerber stated that 80 out of 102 counties have passed the Cooperative Extension tax levy referendum.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to recommended approval of a resolution authorizing a Referendum relating to a tax levy to benefit McLean County Programs of the University of Illinois Extension, striking the words adult and 4-H Youth out of the first whereas and out of the referendum question. Motion carried.

Mr. Zeunik presented a request for a Resolution Adopting the General Position Classifications and Pay Ranges for Fiscal Year 2001. The Resolution reflects the classifications and pay ranges for non-union employees as approved by the County Board in the Fiscal Year 2001 Adopted Budget.

Motion by Renner/Sorensen to recommend approval of a Resolution adopting the General Position Classifications and Pay Ranges for Fiscal Year 2001. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Performance Matters. The following individuals are asked to remain in the Executive Session: Ms. Susie Johnson, Mr. Charles Reynard, State's Attorney, Mr. John Zeunik, Mr. Terry Lindberg, and Ms. Lucretia Wood. Motion carried.

The Committee went into Executive Session at 6:02 p.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 6:10 p.m.

Motion by Renner/Sorensen to recommend approval of a request authorizing the State's Attorney to hirer an employee at step 66 of the pay scale. Motion carried 3-0.

Vice Chairman Sweeney presented the bills, which have been reviewed and recommended for transmittal to the Finance Committee by the County Auditor.

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Motion by Sorensen/Renner to recommend payment of the bills as presented by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

There being nothing further to come before the Committee at this time, Vice Chairman Sweeney adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia A. Wood
Recording Secretary