

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Finance, Tax & Budgets  
**CHAIRPERSON:** Steve Rutz, Chairman  
**DATE/TIME:** September 1, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**  John O'Boyle       Rick Dittmar       Randy Jobgen  
                  Steve Rutz             RJ Winkelhake       Ron Smith  
                  Merri Berlage

Other Board members:

Others: Melisa Hammer, Donna Berlage, Mike Moser, Dan Reimer, Steve Hamilton, and Terry Kane.

1. **Call to Order** – Steve Rutz called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – A quorum was established.
3. **Review and approve minutes** – Merri Berlage made a motion to approve the July 30, 2015 Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by John O'Boyle and motion passed.
4. **Citizens Comments** – None
5. **Unfinished Business**
  - a) Jo Daviess County Strategic Goals – Holding over to discuss at next month's meeting.
  - b) Township Assessor Program Intergovernmental Agreement – Nothing new to report at this time.
  - c) Update on options to maintain the Public Safety Radio Communications System – Revised to state Update on options to maintain the Public Safety Radio Communications System.
6. **New Business**
  - a) Discussion and possible action regarding FY2016 Health Insurance Renewal with Medical Associates - Steve Hamilton from TRICOR Insurance reviewed the health insurance renewal proposal Medical Associates. The premium rate increase for FY2016 is 7.78%. Hamilton reviewed a medical benefits and cost comparison report for Jo Daviess County including health insurance quotes from BCBSIL. The recommendation from the Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee is to offer a dual option health insurance plan for FY2016 that would include renewal of the current HMO health insurance plan from Medical Associates and to offer a voluntary high deductible HSA qualified plan from Medical Associates. **RJ Winkelhake made a motion to approve the FY2016 renewal of Group Health Insurance with Medical Associates, HMO Health Insurance Plan \$25/\$500 co-pay, \$15/\$30 RX card, \$3,000/\$6,000 OPM, effective 12/01/15 with a 7.78% premium increase: premium rates-single \$692.82/month, and family \$1,697.44/month. Seconded by Rick Dittmar and motion passed.**
  - b) Discussion and possible action on a recommendation from the Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee to offer an optional high deductible 2000/4000 embedded deductible health insurance plan from Medical Associates with a Health Savings Account (HSA) and to set the FY2016 HSA contributions at \$1,300 for single and \$2,000 for family - Steve

Hamilton discussed the Health Saving Account (HSA) plan option that was recommended by the Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee. The plan is a Medical Associates HSA qualified plan with a \$2000 single/\$4000 family imbedded deductible. The Committee discussed employer contribution amounts. The Ad-Hoc Committee recommended first year employer contributions of \$1,300 for single and \$2,000 for family. The Committee discussed setting the contribution amounts at a lower level for the first year as it is unknown what participation will be, the plan is voluntary, and it is still uncertain how the State budget crisis will impact the County budget. **Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve an optional high deductible HSA qualified plan, \$2,000/\$4,000 embedded deductible health insurance plan from Medical Associates and to set the FY2016 employer HSA contribution amount at \$700 for single and \$1400 for family. Seconded by Merri Berlage and motion passed.**

- c) Discussion and possible action regarding FY2016 Optional Health Insurance Incentive Program – Dan Reimer discussed the Jo Daviess County Optional Health Insurance Incentive program. Currently 14 employees are enrolled in the program. **Merri Berlage made a motion to approve the FY2016 Jo Daviess County Optional Insurance Incentive Program at a rate of \$1,500 annually to eligible employees. Seconded by Ron Smith and motion passed.**
- d) Discussion and possible action to change voluntary accidental insurance providers – Terry Kane from TRICOR Insurance discussed that HM Life Insurance Company is the current provider of voluntary accident insurance for County employees. HM Life is opting out of this type of insurance. Kane discussed that TRICOR looked at options for the County comparing companies, benefits and rates. Kane reviewed accident insurance and also the critical illness insurance plans offered by AFLAC. **Rick Dittmar made a motion to discontinue a voluntary Group Accident Insurance Plan with HM Life Insurance Company and to approve the offering of voluntary Group Accident Advantage Plus Insurance from Aflac. Seconded by John O’Boyle and motion passed. Merri Berlage made a motion to approve the offering of Voluntary Group Critical Illness Advantage Insurance from Aflac. Seconded by Rick Dittmar and motion passed.**
- e) Discussion and possible action regarding renewal of a property tax, CAMA, property characteristics software license maintenance and support agreement with DEVNET. Donna Berlage discussed that Devnet is the County’s provider of property tax software, CAMA license, property characteristics, maintenance and support. Four County Departments use Devnet software (Assessment Office, County Clerk, Treasurer and Building and Zoning). The current agreement with the Assessment Office, County Clerk, and Treasurer expires in March of 2016. The Building & Zoning Office which also uses Devnet property characteristics software is included in the new agreement. Devnet submitted a five year renewal proposal which includes third party software from Apex and Marshall and Swift Commercial. This software is used by the Assessment Office and the CAMA program. In year one the overall cost will increase \$3,506.06 or 8.8% from \$39,731.59 to \$43,237.65. This increase includes 4 Apex licenses at a cost of \$1,280.00. In year two the annual Apex maintenance renewal license fee goes down from \$205.00 per license to \$180.00 for the remainder of the agreement. The annual fee for Marshall and Swift Commercial actually goes down the first year (2016) from \$365.12 to \$323.34 and then goes up \$19.02 annually. The base Devnet contract amount will increase \$1,812.84 or 5% in year one (from \$36,256.47 to \$38,069.31) and then no increase for years 2 thru 5. **Merri Berlage made a motion to approve the renewal of a property tax, CAMA, property characteristics software license maintenance and support agreement with**

**DEVNET including the offices of the County Clerk, County Treasurer, Chief County Assessment Officer and Building & Zoning at a first year cost of \$43,237.64. Seconded by RJ Winkelhake and motion passed.**

- f) Review Round 2 General Fund Revenue Estimates – Dan Reimer reviewed Round 2 revenue estimates. General Fund FY2015 Round 2 estimated actual revenue of \$7,512,747 is \$115,935 more than the FY2015 budget amount of \$7,396,812. Round 2 General Fund revenue for FY2016 is estimated to be \$ 7,536,469, this amount is \$162,854 or 2.2% more than the FY2015 budget amount.
- g) Review 2016 unfunded requests – The committee reviewed the list of unfunded requests which were moved forward during the budget review meetings in August. The list included 5 requests totaling \$661,500.
- h) FY2016 Jo Daviess County Budget Update – Reimer reviewed the general fund target spreadsheet and after the August budget review meetings and Round 2 revenue estimates the General Fund indicates a deficit of \$103,533. Reimer reviewed the FY2016 budget process to date; the next steps include the preparation of draft budget documents which will be completed by the County Administrators office. The first of three budget workshops begins on September 29<sup>th</sup>.
- i) Discussion and possible action on County policy for prioritizing options for reducing expenses and/or increasing revenue. Steve Rutz suggested that this item be held over and discussed at the September 24, 2015 Committee Meeting.

## **5. Staff Reports**

- a) **Chief County Assessment Office** – Donna Berlage reported that her office continues to review the work turned in by the Townships Assessors. Berlage discussed Public Act 99-0375 which was recently signed by the Governor and passed into law amending the Standard Homestead Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities. Under the legislation, veterans with a service connected disability of 30% or more but less than 50%, as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, may qualify for an annual exemption of \$2,500. If the Veteran has a service connected disability of 50% or more but less than 70%, as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, then the annual exemption is \$5,000. If the Veteran has a service connected disability of 70% or more, as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, then the property is exempt. These new changes take effect for the 2015 assessment year payable in 2016.
- b) **Treasurer's Office** – Melisa Hammer reported that Sept 1<sup>st</sup> was the deadline to pay the second installment property taxes. As of today her office has collected \$46,660,239.86 in property taxes with \$4,000,000 yet to collect.
- c) **County Administrator** – Dan Reimer reported that today he received an audit engagement agreement from Clifton Larson Allen for the FY2015 audit. It was received too late to place on the agenda so it will be placed on the September Finance Committee meeting agenda. The agreement does include the new additional audit requirements for the Jo Daviess County Transit

## **6. Citizens' comments - None**

- 7. **Board Member Concerns** – Ron Smith reported on the construction progress of the new Casey's General Store in Galena. Smith reported that Casey's applied for and received it's

County liquor license. Opening date is scheduled for October 1, 2015. RJ Winklehake discussed the Health Department levy. Rick Dittmar discussed attending a recent extension council meeting. Merri Berlage discussed an economic development situation regarding the purchase of property.

The next Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting will be on Thursday, September 24, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

Merri Berlage made a motion to adjourn at 9:35 pm. Seconded by John O'Boyle and motion passed.