

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Finance, Tax & Budgets
CHAIRPERSON: Steve Rutz, Chairman
DATE/TIME: September 24, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: John O'Boyle Rick Dittmar Randy Jobgen
 Steve Rutz (7:25 pm) RJ Winkelhake Ron Smith
 Merri Berlage

Other Board members:

Others: Melisa Hammer and Dan Reimer.

1. **Call to Order** – RJ Winkelhake called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – A quorum was established.
3. **Review and approve minutes** – **Merri Berlage made a motion to approve the September 1, 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) FY2015/FY2016 Strategic Goals & Plans – The committee reviewed their strategic goals and plans for FY2015/FY2016.
 - b) Township Assessor Program Intergovernmental Agreement – Ron Smith reported that the intergovernmental agreement went to States Attorney Hay. Smith will take responsibility to follow the progress on this agreement.
 - c) Update on options to maintain the Public Safety Radio Communications System – RJ Winkelhake reported that he has spoken to Sheriff Turner. There will be a meeting next week regarding the consolidation report.
 - d) Discussion and possible action on County policy for prioritizing options for reducing expenses and/or increasing revenue – Steve Rutz discussed that the policy for prioritizing options for reducing expenses and/or increasing revenue being presented is the same as what is in effect now; however, it needs to be reauthorized before December 1, 2015 for FY2016. Rutz asked the committee if they would like to make any changes. Merri Berlage would like to see the item - reduced overtime moved from Category 2 to Category 1 and make a change in Category 2 to delay budgeted projects (2015) to (2016). Melisa Hammer suggested removing two-tiered wage and benefit system whereby new employees would receive lesser benefits than current employees under Category 4 because this has been implemented. The committee discussed that moving reduced overtime to Category 1 means it will be implemented with the FY2016 budget and discussed how this could be implemented by departments with overtime. The committee discussed that one option to increase revenue would be to investigate entering into intergovernmental agreements with communities in the County who need public safety services that are currently being provided at no cost by the Sheriff. The committee further reviewed the policy and made minor changes to the draft document in the regards to fiscal year dates. **Merri Berlage made a motion to approve County policy for FY2016 for prioritizing options for**

reducing expenses and/or increasing revenue. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.

6. New Business

- a) Discussion and possible action on an engagement letter with Clifton Larson Allen for audit services for the year ending November 30, 2015 – Dan Reimer explained that the reason engagement letter agreement with Clifton Larsen Allen (CLA) is coming to the committee early this year is because the County is now responsible for the additional auditing requirements that must be completed for the Transit 5311 Reports for FY2014 and FY2015. This work will be done by CLA in November. The engagement letter has been reviewed by the States Attorney. **RJ Winkelhake made a motion to approve an engagement letter with Clifton Larson Allen for audit services for the year ending November 30, 2015 not to exceed \$68,800. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.**
- b) Review Round 3 General Fund revenue estimates - Dan Reimer reviewed Round 3 General Fund Revenue estimates which total \$7,556,808. This amount is an increase of \$159,996 or 2.2% more than the FY2015 budget amount of \$7,396,812.
- c) Review 2016 unfunded requests – Dan Reimer review the FY2016 unfunded request list. Currently there are five requests on the list totaling \$661,500.
- d) FY2016 Jo Daviess County Budget Update – Dan Reimer reviewed several updated FY2016 budget documents including the General Fund target budget spreadsheet and the summary report of special funds. The first of three County Board Budget Workshops is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th.
- e) Discussion and possible action regarding the 2016 renewal of Property Casualty and Workers Compensation insurance with Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT)
- Dan Reimer reported that this item was not ready for the meeting tonight so it will be placed on September 29th agenda.

5. Staff Reports

- a) **Chief County Assessment Office** – None.
- b) **Treasurer’s Office** – Melisa Hammer reported that the Treasurer’s office sent out 1,280 friendly reminders to property owners last week that their property taxes are past due and as of today there are 780 parcels that are delinquent.
- c) **County Administrator** – Dan Reimer commented that he did not anything more to report than what was discussed in the earlier agenda items.

6. Citizens’ comments - None

7. Board Member Concerns – None

The next Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 29, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

Merri Berlage made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 pm. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.