

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Finance, Tax & Budgets
CHAIRPERSON: Steve Rutz
DATE/TIME: December 18, 2014 @ 5:00 p.m.

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

Other Board members:
Others: Dan Reimer and Donna Berlage.

1. Review and approve minutes – Randy Jobgen made a motion to approve the November 18, 2014 Special Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting minutes and the November 20, 2014 Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting minutes. Seconded by John O'Boyle and motion passed.

2. Citizens Comments

3. Unfinished Business

- a) Jo Daviess County strategic goals – Nothing to report at this time.
- b) Township Assessor Pilot Program – Nothing to report at this time.
- c) Township Assessor Program Intergovernmental Agreement – Nothing to report at this time.
- d) Update on options to fund the Public Safety Radio Communications System – Nothing to report at this time.

4. New Business

- a) Discussion and possible action on establishing 2015 monthly meeting dates for the Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee - **Randy Jobgen made a motion to approve 2015 monthly meeting dates for the Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee as listed: Thursday, December 18, January 29, February 26, March 26, April 30, May 28, June 25, July 30, August 27, September 24, October 29 and November 19 with all meetings to start at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by RJ Winkelhake and motion passed.**
- b) Discussion and possible action to approve a resolution to amend the FY2014 LTCB Grant Fund Budget – The committee discussed the FY2014 LTCB Grant Fund budget and determined that there was no need for a resolution, therefore, there was no action taken.
- c) Discussion and possible action regarding engagement letter with Clifton Larson Allen for audit services for the year ending November 30, 2014 – Randy Jobgen asked if there were any changes since last year. Dan Reimer discussed that the audit services were the same and this is the fourth year of a five year agreement. In 2014 the County Board exercised a two year option for years four and five. **RJ Winkelhake made a motion to approve an engagement letter with Clifton Larson Allen for audit services for the year ending November 30, 2014. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.**

5. Staff Reports

- a) **Chief County Assessment Office** – Donna Berlage reported that 2014 property assessments were published in the newspapers on December 17 and properties with changes in

assessed values were mailed a letter. The deadline for filing complaints is January 16, 2015. There was one P-Tab case that Berlage prepared evidence for and mailed. The annual township assessor's meeting was held on December 3 in the County Board Room. All of the township assessor's were in attendance. They received their workbooks, 2015 guidelines were discussed along with some issues that came up in 2014.

b) Treasurer's Office -

c) County Administrator – Dan Reimer reviewed the Revenue Comparison Report for the seven operational funds. The Revenues/Expenditures Compared to Budget Report was also reviewed. An updated 3rd quarter sales tax report was handed out as well as the Hotel/Motel Tax Receipts and Transfer Declarations reports. The auditors from CliftonLarsenAllen will be in Jo Daviess County the week of December 29 to do the Circuit Clerk's audit. An audit planning meeting for the rest of the audit is planned for early January

d) Report from Ad-Hoc Health Insurance committee meeting – Steve Rutz reported that Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee met on December 16th. The Committee includes a mix of representatives from several County Departments. Steve Hamilton from TRICOR Insurance is working with the committee. The County currently has an HMO health insurance plan, one of the options being discussed is a high deductible plan with a Health Savings Account. The next meeting will be in January.

6. Citizens' comments - None

7. Board Member Concerns – Steve Rutz commented that he was at the DMAT meeting in Dubuque today and Stew Anderson from the Iowa Department of Transportation was there. Also attending were four or five state legislators and a number of county engineers. There was discussion that the State of Iowa is going to increase motor fuel tax to help solve some of the states highway and bridge problems. DMAT does provide some funding to help out with roads in East Dubuque.

Next committee meeting is on Thursday, January 29, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

John O'Boyle made a motion to adjourn at 6:10 pm. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.