

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**December 2, 2013**  
**5:15 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Keith Ashby, Chairman  
Jay Dunn  
Kevin Greenfield (arrived @ 5:17 p.m.)\  
Linda Little  
Patty Cox  
Susanna Zimmerman

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tim Dudley

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Amy Stockwell, Auditor  
Carol Reed, Auditor's Office  
Ed Yoder, Treasurer's Office  
Lori Long, Probation  
Sheriff Schneider  
Josh Tanner, Bd of Review, SofA, GIS  
Dan Sanner, ETSSB  
Bruce Bird, Highway Dept  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Chair Keith Ashby at the Macon County Office Building.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting was made by Linda Little, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman, and motion carried 5-0.

**CLAIMS**

Motion to approve the claims as presented made by Patty Cox, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman, and motion carried 5-0.

**REPORTS**

***Audit Sub-Committee***

Keith Ashby reported that the sub-committee would be meeting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> for a pre-audit conference.

*(Kevin Greenfield arrived @ 5:17 p.m.)*

***Auditor***

Amy Stockwell reported that the fiscal year has ended and encouraged everyone to get their claims in as quickly as possible. The auditors are here briefly this week and will start field work the beginning of January. Everyone needs to have their things ready for them at that point.

***Macon County Board Resolution Accepting a One Year Proposal from Safety National for Workers Compensation Excess Liability Insurance Coverage***

Carol Reed reported that the county is self-insured for Workers Comp up to the \$100,000 limit and then the insurance kicks in. This policy is for the excess coverage. The current premium

for this year was \$50,399 and the proposal for next year is \$56,000. It was taken out to the market for quotes. The other quotes were quite a bit higher. Recommendation is to stay with Safety National, which is the same company we currently have. The premium went up about 13%, but it is not due to the county's excess use. It is just the market price. Keith Ashby asked if the increase in the premium is about \$5,600. Carol confirmed. The closest quote was \$59,000.

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Jay Dunn, seconded by Patty Cox, and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution Approving Appropriations for Capital Vehicles Revolving Fund*

Carol Reed explained that this fund was created by the Board last month. This is the resolution to fund it. The money comes from the general fund. To get started, the request is for an initial amount of \$200,000. There is a department that is ready to use this fund. It is a separate fund, Fund 18. Interest will be charged. The full amount, probably not even half, will be expended in the first year. Keith Ashby asked what interest rate would be charged. Carol said it would be the Staley Credit Union lowest rate which has been about 3.15% to 3.75% or an average of 3.5%.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation for approval made by Jay Dunn, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman. Linda Little commented that it seemed kind of funny that general fund offices will be using the money so the general fund will be paying interest to the general fund. Motion carried 6-0.

***Board of Review***

Josh Tanner reported that there is resolution with Tate & Lyle. The paperwork is going through the school district, who is an intervener. The Board of Review will then sign off on that. It was based on the appraisal and everybody seems reasonably satisfied.

***Supervisor of Assessments***

Josh Tanner reported that today was the last day to file for appeals on assessments and they were busy. That should put the total to about the mid 500's. Many of those have already been resolved. Mostly the last week or two filings are all that are left. The Board of Review will be in a work session on the 4<sup>th</sup> and anything they feel they need more information on will be scheduled for a hearing in late December for residential and in January for commercial. There is not that much work left.

***GIS***

No Report

***Treasurer***

*Macon County Board Resolution to Execute Deeds to Convey Property on which Taxes were Delinquent*

Motion to approve forwarding to the Consent Calendar for consideration by the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Jay Dunn, seconded by Linda Little, and motion carried 6-0.

Ed Yoder commented on the recent tax sale held last Monday. In 2012, there were 3,817 delinquent notices sent and this year 3,348 were sent. The result is due to a mailing of 5,143 postcards to notify people that their taxes had not been paid. There was a good response to the post card mailing. Many people thanked them. Senior staff members in the Treasurer's Office and the County Clerk reported that this was never done before to their knowledge. When the delinquent notices were sent out prior, normally extra people are hired to help handle the phone volume and that was way down this year. With the economy the way it is, this turned out to be a good thing. Also, for tax year 2012, the tax sale had 1618 properties. This year, we had 1,396 properties. This is pretty amazing with the tax base and sales tax being down.

### **CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Emergency Telephone System**

*Macon County, Illinois Emergency Telephone System Ordinance*

Dan Sanner, Director of 911 for Macon County, explained that he was there to talk about a revision on the 911 Ordinance which was first adopted in 1996 when the enhanced 911 system got under way. At that time, the surcharge for the wire line phones was set at 90 cents, even though the referendum that was passed by the county allowed for up to \$1.25. The 911 Board would like to raise that surcharge to the maximum approved level of \$1.25. The proposed ordinance was reviewed by the SRO sub-committee in November and it was approved unanimously and the 911 Board is asking the Finance Committee to approve it as well.

Keith Ashby asked what the current fund balance was. Dan said the annual income for the coming year is projected to be about \$1 million. There is a reserve fund of approximately \$3 million. The expenses for the coming year, due to having to update the system, are going to be about \$1.6 million. We are exceeding the income by a significant amount and dipping into the reserve funds by about \$600,000. Keith said that will leave about \$2.4 million in reserves. Dan said that was correct and added that each year over the last 4 to 5 years, they have exceeded the income with the normal operating expenditures. Operational costs are increasing. The County population is declining. The number of wire line phones are declining. All of that affects the income. There is a situation in Illinois where the 911 funds are swept annually by the state. The FCC has ruled that in any state that that occurs in, is not eligible for 911 grants. Therefore, Macon County has not been able to procure any of the federal funds that have been available through Homeland Security and other sources for 911 projects. Everything has to come from the local surcharge. Keith wanted to know if they are dipping into the reserves by \$600,000, there are 5 years of reserves right now and wanted to know if this could be delayed

for another year. Dan said they are anticipating it to last about 4 years at the current rate and there will be no more reserves. Keith asked if it could be put off for another year. Dan said it is possible, but not something they would prefer. They would like to position themselves so as to at least delay that situation until, hopefully, the state legislature will make some changes to the wireless surcharge. That level is encouraging that the wireless surcharge be redefined as to where that money goes so more of it will be sent to the 911 systems. Currently, a large portion of the 911 surcharge is set aside for the wireless cell phone companies. They have not been using the money and so it is then swept by the State of Illinois. Had that money not been swept, it would have been distributed to the local 911 systems. With some changes in state legislation, we can assure that that money is coming to the local systems. That is probably 3 to 4 years away before that becomes a reality and a benefit. He said they would like to control the fiscal bleeding with whatever sources they can in the meantime. There is no control over the wireless 911 funds, but there is some control over the landlines through the county ordinance.

Jay Dunn requested that Dan explain about the potential costs to the enhanced 911 system. Dan explained that 911 is about to change dramatically. The 911 Board and the surcharge was set up to fund an enhanced 911 system. It has been working well, but what is happening now is that it is moving into the digital age. The \$800,000 commitment to new equipment and maintenance agreements are hitting the budget. The digital world of 911 will allow for a lot of new functionality such as text 911, sending imagery, access from locations that are not available now. The software and maintenance cost more and require more maintenance than the past systems. This is called Next Generation 911. The system to be put in during the coming year will be the first step in that direction. There will be more enhancements in the next 2 to 3 years and the Board is attempting to position themselves to be able to handle this without having to go to bonds or borrowing money.

Kevin Greenfield stated that he agrees with the chairman about the \$3 million in reserve and said he didn't see how they could pass this on right now. He said he would like to see the expenditures for the year before approving an increase in the fee. Dan handed out a graph he thought might be helpful. Kevin said he'd like to see the audit for the year.

Jay Dunn asked if this is approved, how much money it would bring in. Dan said approximately \$15,000 per year. Not a lot of money, but helpful. Kevin asked if it mattered if it was passed this month or in a month or so. Dan said no. Kevin said he would like to see more information and asked where the expenses are. Dan said most of the expenses are in equipment and ½ million dollars a year goes to 6 people in the dispatch center, one supervisor and five call takers.

Motion to table the ordinance until committee members have an opportunity to look at the ETSB audit made by Kevin Greenfield, seconded by Linda Little and motion carried 5-1 with Jay Dunn voting nay. Chair Ashby requested that Dan supply more information to the committee members.

## **Probation / Court Services**

*Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase and Decrease in Appropriations in the Probation Grant Fund for Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Grant, Drug Court Implementation Grant and Illinois Department of Transportation DUI Grant*

Lori Long reported that this is a clean-up resolution due to the County, State & Federal fiscal years not matching up.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation for approval made by Linda Little, seconded by Patty Cox and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY2014 Probation Grant Fund for Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Grant*

Lori Long explained that Cook County was originally slated to become a part of the Juvenile Redeploy project, but they backed out last minute. As a result, the State invited other sites to apply for a modest amount of funding. Always having a Plan B, the proposal was approved and an additional \$6,400 is being awarded for FY2014. This is money in & money out.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation for approval made by Patty Cox, seconded by Linda Little and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution approving Extended Intergovernmental Agreement for Sale of Secured Bed Space in the Peoria County Juvenile Center*

Lori Long explained this is a continuation of the contract with the only change being a 3% CPIU increase. She said they are very satisfied with the services and asked for approval for an additional 2 years.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation for approval made by Patty Cox seconded by Linda Little and motion carried 6-0.

## **Sheriff**

*Macon County Board Resolution Approving "Me Too Clause" For Command Officers Increase in Appropriations in the Sheriff's Fy 2013 Budget*

Sheriff Schneider reported that the total amount for the resolution is \$19,961. This is a contractual obligation at this time.

Kevin Greenfield asked how many lieutenants there were. Sheriff Schneider replied there were 7. Sergeants? 6 Kevin said that in the resolution, it states retroactive to Dec 1, 2012. He asked if it hasn't been paid up to this point. Sheriff Schneider said no – not in reference to the increase. Kevin asked why it had not been paid if it was contractual. The Sheriff said it is contractual upon the signing of the agreement with the Deputy's union. Once the Deputy's union got an increase, the Command Officers, who had settled for something less than that, said "me too" and they get it too at the signing of the deputy's. Kevin asked when the contract

is up. Ed Flynn said the Command Association Contract expires this upcoming fiscal year – so November 30, 2014. He said he expects to be in negotiations on that contract this coming year. Linda Little asked if this clause was going to be on the table. Mr. Flynn said that in a negotiation, everything is on the table. The Command Officer Association typically settles for a lesser amount like 1 ½% knowing that the deputies raise will be greater and then they piggy back on that raise once it is established through the bargaining negotiation. Mr. Flynn said his involvement over the years in the Command Officer negotiations has been an hour or two working out administrative issues, but it is not a real negotiation. He said he expects the tenor of this next contract to be significantly different. Linda Little asked if there is money in the budget. Sheriff Schneider said he thought so.

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Patty Cox, seconded by Jay Dunn and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution Approving and Increase in Appropriations in the General Fund FY13 Budget for reclassification of LEST expenses*

Sheriff Schneider deferred to the Auditor for an explanation. Amy Stockwell explained that during the budget process, she explained that the LEST has turned down reserves build up in the past and are expected to be depleted this year. After calculating and estimating, we need to shift \$279,000. This does not increase total appropriations. It reduces \$279,000 in LEST and adds it to general. The Jail Dietary account, which is the biggest, is being used. The entry will not be made until there is one more month of LEST so we have an actual rather than an estimate. This should be the maximum amount. This will bring the LEST reserve on 11/30/13 to zero.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation for approval made by Linda Little, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman and motion carried 6-0.

**Highway**

*Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Construction Expenses for CH41 Wyckles Road North Reconstruction Project, Section 10-00236-00-PV*

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Linda Little, seconded by Patty Cox and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Section 14-00000-00-GM the 2014 MFT General Maintenance Project*

Bruce Bird explained that one of these resolutions is passed every year to cover the MFT expenditures throughout the year.

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Patty Cox, seconded by Linda Little and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Road use Agreement with Enbridge Pipelines (Illinois) L.L.C. on the Flanagan Pipeline South Project*

Bruce Bird reported that this is the pipeline that will be coming through the west side of the county from Flanagan up by Pontiac down to Potoka. The construction is probably going to start in August of next year. This resolution covers the road use agreement. In lieu of them having to seek individual permits for trucks to use the roads, this agreement covers any road use they would have. They are going to pay \$10,000 up front and they have to identify which roads they will use as haul routes. Those roads will be evaluated by an engineer firm prior to the work and again afterwards. Damage will be measured and compensation will be made for any damage that is above and beyond what is typical. Types of damages are detailed in the agreement. Bruce said they have been working with Enbridge and all of the impacted counties along the alignment so the agreements are basically the same from one end of the project to the other. Kevin Greenfield asked is they would be required to post a bond for the damage to the roads and how much it would be for. Bruce said yes for \$1.5 million.

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Patty Cox, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution Approving Agreement for County Engineer's Salary*

Bruce Bird explained that this resolution has to be passed every year as part of his contract. This allows the state to pay his salary.

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Linda Little, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman and motion carried 6-0.

*Macon County Board Resolution Increasing Appropriations in the State Township Bridge Fund Fy13 Budget for a Bridge on Ocean Trail Road.*

Bruce Bird explained that they had \$180,000 in the budget for this project and it is being increased. The state township bridge funds pay for 80% of the cost of the project. When the project is let, IDOT is billed for the 80%. They upfront the money and send it to us. This is not impacting the budget. It is just matching up the budget to the revenue that was received and the actual costs that came out.

Motion to approve forwarding to the Full Board with recommendation for approval made by Patty Cox, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman and motion carried 6-0.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None

**NEXT MEETING** – Monday, December 30 @ 5:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Patty Cox seconded by Jay Dunn, motion carried 6-0, and meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office