

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 4, 2019
5:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Jackson
Jim Gresham
Laura Zimmerman
Kevin Greenfield

MEMBERS ABSENT

Debra Kraft
Greg Mattingley
Tim Dudley

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Carol Reed, Auditor
Ed Yoder, Treasurer
Bruce Bird, County Engineer
Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce Investments
Kim Fowler, S of A office
Josh Tanner, County Clerk
Lt. Jon Butts, Sheriff's Dept

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jackson at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to approve minutes of the 1/2/19 meeting, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

CLAIMS

Motion to approve the report of the finance claims made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Ms Zimmerman, and the motion carried 4-0.

REPORTS

Audit Sub Committee –

Ms. Reed explained that the audit is underway by May, Cocagne & King. They've been on premises for 2 weeks and now are off site at Health Department and other locations. They will be in and out for a while.

Auditor –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving an Increase in the Mileage Reimbursement Rate

Ms. Reed explained that the IRS had raised their mileage rate on January 1st from 54.5 cents to 58 cents a mile. In general, we have always followed that.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman

Mr. Greenfield commented that gas is cheap and asked Ms. Reed why they would raise it. Ms. Reed said she did not know the reason. Chair Jackson explained that it follows past trends on a national level. Ms. Reed said it has been 3 or 4 years since it decreased, but it did one year. It normally goes up a penny or so every year.

The motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Omnibus Resolution Approving Budget Clean-Up for FY18

Ms. Reed explained that there are little things that are sometimes over budgeted while other things are under budgeted. This just cleans it up. It does not appropriate any new funds, but just moves things around so things meet budget. Chair Jackson asked Ms. Reed about what she normally sees out of balance – 2% max? Ms. Reed said less. Everybody stays pretty much within their budgets. Even these amounts are pretty small.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

Board of Review –

Ms. Fowler reported that they have taken in about 628 appeals. That is pretty average and the hope is to wrap that up in the next couple of weeks.

Supervisor of Assessments –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Ongoing Support and License Subscription from Fike & Fike, Inc. for Property Tax Software

Ms. Fowler explained that this is just for ongoing support for the company that is already in place.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and the motion carried 4-0.

GIS –

Ms. Fowler explained that she has one applicant for the vacant tax mapping specialist position and the hope is to get them in for an interview shortly.

Mr. Greenfield asked if everybody on the Board of Review is showing up regularly. Ms. Fowler said yes, they are here on time and ready to work.

Treasurer

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

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Macon County Board Consent Calendar agenda for the Thursday, February 14, 2019 board meeting, seconded by Mr. Gresham, the motion carried 4-0.

Citizen Remarks – None

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS –

County Clerk

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY18 County Clerk Elections Budget

Mr. Tanner explained that this is to cover the excess expense from the election. Every year, the budget allows for the absolute minimum amount that the venter charges and then the mail in ballots, overtime, and additional election expenses come back as an amendment to the budget. That is how it has been done in years past. In the upcoming budget cycle if the committee members would like for the office to change it to budget what the feeling of what the actual costs will be, that can be done. Chair Jackson asked for Mr. Tanner's thoughts on doing that. Mr. Tanner said it didn't really matter. They are already at max levy, so it's not like any additional funds would be gained by increasing the budget. All the expenses are expenses that have to be paid. The mail in ballots are what really cost a lot of overtime and a lot of additional expense. There were over 3,000 that went out with about 2,000 coming back, leaving 1,000 that were sent out at a pretty high expense that never came back. This is a strategy that the parties seemed to have liked and it is probably going to get worse. There is the expense of operating all of the precincts during the election, but the mail in is above and beyond. Mr. Greenfield asked if they had to be mailed out. Mr. Tanner said yes, if the request is made, it has to be mailed.

Mr. Gresham asked about a pending bill that would require sending a ballot out to every registered voter. Mr. Tanner said that legislators get to sponsor as many bills as they want. Some bills have opportunity to make it out of committee and some don't. Mr. Tanner said his association lobbyist is saying that that bill is not going anywhere, but there is possibly a compromise bill that is for creating a permanent by mail list. That would allow registered voters to fill out an application to always receive their ballot by mail. Those would then be automatically mailed. A, it will be more expensive to do that, however, B, there will not be the overtime because it will be known ahead of time how many have to be mailed out and they can be prepared and ready. You will still have the expense of three envelopes and a ballot. One envelope is used to mail it out, another is used to put the ballot in after the person has voted, and that envelope is put into another envelope for mailing back to the office. It is expensive. The envelopes are expensive. The mail is expensive. A lot of the 2,000 that came back were brought back and not mailed. Colorado is the state that a lot of the legislature is looking at to model us after. Over 80% of their ballots are mail ins. If the Legislature were to give some kind of a compromise on how many polling places have to be open on Election Day, money could be saved there. If we were at an 80% mail in ballot, the election would be cheaper. It's getting to the 80%. You're paying for the infrastructure to vote everyone in place even though everyone does not show up and you're paying for the mail in ballots and receiving them. Both systems are being done right now. If we can get to more of a mail in status, then there would be some cost saving, especially if the Legislature allows the elimination of precincts. Those are the biggest expense because you've got all of the Election Judges and equipment. There are 36 polling places and 72 precincts currently.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

Sheriff's Department

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to the FY19 Overtime Fund

Lt. Butts explained that this is a \$75,000 donation to be put into an overtime line that would strictly be used for paying officers for warrants to apprehend (usually) felons in the community. He said he thought it would be done one to two times a month depending on the manpower. This was done last year and it worked out pretty well. The only drawback, if you want to call it that, would be putting people in jail, but usually people that are targeted are definitely people that need to be located and detained.

This was presented to Justice Committee, but due to no quorum, it was not voted on.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Gresham.

Chair Jackson asked if this had been accrued for in the budget. Lt. Butts said no, it was approved last year for FY18 halfway through. They went through it and Sheriff Buffett had been trying to decide if they wanted to do it again this year and after he left office, he wanted to be sure there was enough interest and people to do it. There will only be one sergeant assigned to doing this because of the higher wage along with 4, 5 or 6 officers (because they partner up) on a shift. This is something that he decided to go ahead with after the FY19 budget was approved. It helps out and takes away from the approved overtime budget. This will be strictly for the warrants.

The motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the Sheriff's FY19 Budget

Lt. Butts explained that this is a community outreach grant that Sheriff Buffett had put into place in 2013. It was several hundred thousand dollars and he has put some money in since then. His requirements are that the donations have to go to a 501c3. It usually funds events that support kids, safe environments, activities that promote substance free and alcohol free events. There is a committee in place that involves several members of the office that review requests and decide how much money goes out. It was in the general fund to begin with, but last year was taken out and given its own grant line. Lt. Butts said he had failed to appropriate the money for the FY19 budget. It is in the general fund and can be taken out of the 001-000-3006 line and moved to the grant revenue line and expenses could be appropriated out of that. The balance is \$161,759.57. The sheriff had donated about \$50,000 last year, but Lt. Butts said he did not think there is any intention of donating more money in the future when the money runs out.

Chair Jackson asked Ms. Reed if this will negatively affect the general fund as far as what has been accounted for. Ms. Reed said yes, that is where it is sitting, so when it is taken out, it will reduce the general fund. Lt. Butts said he wasn't sure why it was put there, but it is grant

money that was put in and is to be used by 501c3 organizations for Boys & Girls Club, or a special event for high school that promotes safety and substance and alcohol free events.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield seconded by Ms. Zimmerman, and the motion carried 4-0.

Coroner

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY18 Coroner's Budget

Ms. Reed explained that every year, it is unknown how many autopsies will be needed so when the end of the year comes around, more money is needed. This is \$6,000.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman.

Chairman Greenfield asked if this comes out of the general fund. Ms. Reed confirmed. Chair Jackson commented that the overage keeps increasing.

The motion carried 4-0.

Transportation

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Ameren for Utility Adjustments on the Brush College Road Connector Project

Mr. Greenfield questioned if the 42' of pipe was really \$121,000. Mr. Bird confirmed saying that it is a 4" high pressure gas line that had to be taken out of service and there's a lot to it.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for the County's Share of the Decatur Supply Chain Study

Chair Jackson asked if that was tied to DUATS. Mr. Bird confirmed.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Greenfield and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds to County Contractors for a Bridge Repair on CH 55 Four Bridges Road South of Niantic

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Mr. Greenfield and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating State Township Bridge Funds for the Kruse Road Bridge Replacement Project

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Greenfield.

Chair Jackson asked when the letting on that would be. Mr. Bird said it is done. Mr. Jackson said he was thinking of the one out by Long Creek on 57. Mr. Bird said that is on target for an April letting.

The motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for the Payment of the County Engineer's Salary

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for the Beckett Group for an INFRA Grant application

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Requesting the States Attorney File a Complaint for Eminent Domain for Right of Way on 3 Parcels of Land (Parcels 012, 013 and 014) on the 85th Street Bridge Replacement Project

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds to Purchase Right Of Way Parcel 017 from Curtis Snoke, Holly Snoke and Rosalyn Snoke for the CH 57 85th Street Bridge Replacement Project

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds to Purchase Right Of Way Parcel 018 from Michael Storey and J. Kaye Storey for the CH 57 85th Street Bridge Replacement Project

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds to Purchase Right Of Way Parcel 15 from David E. Haycraft and Pamela S. Haycraft for the CH 57 85th Street Bridge Replacement Project

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and the motion carried 4-0.

CLOSED SESSION None needed

NEXT MEETINGS – Monday, March 4, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Greenfield, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman, motion carried 4-0, and the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office