

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Jackson
Tim Dudley
Laura Zimmerman
Kevin Greenfield
Debra Kraft
Greg Mattingley
Jim Gresham

MEMBERS ABSENT

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Carol Reed Auditor
Brandi Binkley, Health Dept
Ed Yoder, Treasurer
Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce Investments
Bruce Bird, Highway Dept
Mike Day, Coroner
Bethany Stapel, Health Dept
Kim Fowler, S of A
Pat Berter, Probation
Tony Brown, Sheriff
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

Ms. Kraft made a motion to approve minutes of the 9/30/19 Finance Committee Meeting, seconded by Mr. Gresham, and the motion carried 7-0.

CLAIMS

Motion to approve the report of the finance claims made by Ms. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, and the motion carried 7-0.

REPORTS

Audit Sub Committee – *no report*

Auditor –

Macon County Board Resolution Accepting a One Year General Liability Insurance Proposal through Arthur J. Gallagher

Ms. Reed explained that the county has been invited to join CIRMA which is the Counties of Illinois Risk Management Agency which is a conglomerate of about 20 Illinois counties that pool their experiences. A quote was received from the current carrier, Britt, Lloyd's of London and it has gone up some making CIRMA the best option for the county right now. It has a better deductible of \$50,000 versus the self-insured retention of \$100,000. Option 2 with CIRMA is the choice and the total package for that is about \$841,000.

Ms. Reed was asked to read the resolution.

WHEREAS, the “general liability and property” insurance coverage is at the center of the county’s insurance coverage program; and

WHEREAS, the “general liability” program is actually 8 lines of coverage including Crime, Public Entity Liability, Employee Benefit Plans Liability, Public Entity Management Liability, Public Entity Employment-Related Practices Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, Auto Liability and Umbrella, and

WHEREAS, the “property” program includes property and inland marine scheduled equipment, and

WHEREAS, the “general liability” program had been provided by Lloyd’s Syndicate #2987 for three years with excellent service, and the “property” insurance coverage with United Fire and Casualty for five years, Macon County now has the opportunity to join other public entities throughout Illinois in an established member-owned program with The Counties of Illinois Risk Management Agency (CIRMA), and

WHEREAS, AJ Gallagher has gone to the market place to secure quotes for all lines of the general liability and property package, and has assisted in determining that the quote received from CIRMA is the best option for Macon County at this time, and

WHEREAS, the total price for this package for the period from 12/1/2019 to 12/1/2020 will be \$841,476, which includes all but excess liability of the \$5 million layer, and

WHEREAS, a quote for Cyber insurance has also been received for the same period in the amount of \$6,345 and it has been determined that this is an important addition to our insurance coverages, and

WHEREAS, the Operations & Personnel committee met on October 21, 2019 and the Finance Committee met on November 4, 2019 and both discussed the attached proposal and agreed with the recommendation that the CIRMA proposal be accepted for the 12/1/19 – 12/1/20 coverage; and

Mr. Gresham asked about how Gallagher fit in with the CIRMA deal. Ms. Reed introduced Mr. Ted Miller with Gallagher. Mr. Miller explained that they work through the association, stand beside the county and assist in any way, shape or form moving forward. He said the cyber insurance is a new piece of the coverage, but he couldn’t stress enough the importance. It is not really a matter of “if” you get hacked, but “when” you will be hacked. Having some back up for that in terms of insurance is very important for the county at this point.

Mr. Gresham made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, and the motion carried 7-0.

Board of Review –

Ms. Fowler reported that the assessments for 2019 had been published on 10/13/19. The deadline to file an appeal by the taxpayers is November 14. This year was the quadrennial reassessment year for Decatur Township. With those parcels, along with all the other changes, about 27,000 parcels were published in the Herald & Review. Notices were also mailed to those taxpayers. Right now, there are about 200 appeals on file which is pretty average for

about halfway through. Closer to the deadline, those numbers will increase pretty drastically. Most of the taxpayers just have questions, not necessarily appeals or complaints about the assessment. They just want a thorough understanding of what the details are concerning.

Supervisor of Assessments –

Ms. Fowler reported that she has been working with LRS, Levy, Ray & Shoup Inc. who hosts the website to secure the property tax website. Ms. Fowler explained that it was not secure and she knew how important that is especially after the recent events. Working with them, an SSL certificate was installed. That is a secure socket layer which basically provides a secure link between the website and those visitors. With that, the data is more protected from hackers. She said there is not really any private information on their website such as credit card numbers, etc, but they just don't want them in there at all. So, that is in place and seems to be working fine for now. Ms. Kraft asked about charges for the service. Ms. Fowler explained that it is \$50 for two years plus \$100 for installation. It is not the best protection, but it is warranted and there is a lot more protection than there was.

GIS –

Ms. Fowler explained that they are working toward publishing the parcel maps online which is through ESRI. That keeps that information off of our servers, so there is less traffic hitting our servers. She said they are trying to get the protection that the County needs because the sites can be very vulnerable. By not using the County network, it will help protect everyone much better than we were.

Treasurer-

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

Ms. Kraft made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full county board consent calendar, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 7-0.

Citizen Remarks – None

OLD BUSINESS-

NEW BUSINESS –

Highway

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Purchase of Parcel 002TE2 from Kathleen Friant on the Lake Fork Road Bridge Project

Mr. Bird explained that all five of the resolutions involve the purchase of parcels for a bridge project in conjunction with Friends Creek Township on the north county line north of Argenta.

Mr. Gresham made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Dr. Zimmerman and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Purchase of Parcel 003 from David Bols and Kelly Olsen on the Lake Fork Road Bridge Project

Mr. Dudley made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Purchase of Parcel 003TE2 from Bernard Bols, Deborah Bols, and Kimberly Schaefer on the Lake Fork Road Bridge Project

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Dr. Zimmerman and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Purchase of Parcel 001TE from Bennett Land LLC on the Lake Fork Road Bridge Project

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Purchase of Parcel 001TE2 from Bennett Land LLC on the Lake Fork Road Bridge Project

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 7-0.

Coroner

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

Mr. Day explained that this is the clean up resolution for the Coroner's budget autopsy line. He said they have been in a deficit situation for a period of time, but decided to try to clean it all up at one time. This resolution will show increased revenue for the Coroner's fees of \$15,000 and increased expense of \$40,000 which will go into the Autopsy Medical Line. That will leave a balance of approximately \$13,000 to contend with the remainder of November and whatever October bills are still pending. The days of the old \$1,000 autopsy have long departed. It is a very painstaking business that requires forensic pathologists. They are in a shortage in this country and we are very fortunate to be working with a group that provides this service to us in the McLean County Coroner's Office setting. It is as economical as it can be made, but just like everything else, expenses increase year after year. He said they have been dealing with everything from unfortunate child passings to state mandated in custody death situations. A lot of these are mandated by State Statute and some are just smart intelligence protocol to pursue them. Mr. Gresham asked if there is a big backlog of unpaid bills. Mr. Day said there is some backlog, but there will be about \$13,000 of this that will be left for November and whatever bills may be out there yet from October. Hopefully, that \$13,000 will cover everything. He said they'd do their best to make sure of it. In years past, sometimes two to three times a year, they have had to present them selves to the respective committees and the board and ask for multiple cleanup avenues. This time, it was decided that perhaps if they could address it once,

it might be better for everyone. Chairman Greenfield asked about the average cost of an autopsy. Mr. Day explained that they can run anywhere from \$2,000 to \$5,000. It depends a lot on what is going on. At this point, about 33 autopsies have been done this year. There are 5 that have not yet been received. That makes about 38 so far this year. Normally, there are about 30, 31, or 32. Unfortunately, there have been some very complicated cases this year. These child situations can be very expensive because there is very little medical history to deal with. You have to do a lot of additional testing and lab work and some other things. Most of the Opioid crisis autopsies have been covered by the Buffett Foundation's gracious grant last year which some money has been appropriated for this coming year. The bulk of those are out of play, but some of those 38 autopsies do include some that have been covered by the Buffett Foundation, but only a handful, maybe 4 or 5. The bulk of these have had to come out of the general fund budget. A question was asked about homicide cases. Mr. Day explained that state law does not mandate that autopsies be done on homicide victims, but the Sheriff, the States Attorney and the Chief of Police will probably agree that the information, data and very vivid record that is made are beneficial for both investigation and prosecution of these cases. If we were not to do them, which some counties in far southern Illinois found themselves in situations where they were at a distinct disadvantage a few years ago because the first thing people would say was, well, I walked into the house and my poor grandmother was laying on the floor deceased and when I dropped my loaded shotgun, it went off and hit her. Then, you have to refute all that. That's a vivid example, but not far from the truth of what happened in the cases in some of those counties. Some of those counties were acting on free gratis from the pathologists that were servicing those areas because they had no money to pursue them. When a homicide case is lost, it is a difficult thing to lose when you know very well that a homicide occurred. Fortunately, it hasn't happened very often and is not happening now because everybody is feeling the same pinch.

Mr. Gresham made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Greenfield and the motion carried 7-0.

Health Department

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Contract for Copier Lease and Monthly Images for Macon County Health Department

Ms. Binkley explained that they contract for copier, printing technology and services. The current contract expires January 9, 2020. Bids were received from 4 copier service vendors in April, 2019. Watts was the lowest responsible bidder. A 5 year contract was negotiated. The proposed contract has been reviewed by the State's Attorney's Office, the Board of Health and the EEHW Committee. This is for 6 machines at the Health Department. It will be a savings of \$20,000 annually.

Ms. Kraft made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 7-0.

Sheriff's Department

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to Extend the Current Grant for the Drug Interdiction/Criminal Interdiction Deputy Position

Sheriff Brown explained that this is for a 4 year extension and is something that is currently in place. This is to continue it for an additional 4 years.

Ms. Kraft asked about additional resolutions. Sheriff Brown stated that he had pulled the other two. Chair Jackson asked for an explanation asking if we could have gotten additional. Ms. Kraft said she thought that was a snafu.

Mr. Mattingley made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Dudley, and the motion carried 7-0.

Probation

Macon County Board Resolution Entering into an Agreement with Peoria County for the Sale of Juvenile Detention Bed Space

Mr. Berter explained that this is an annual resolution. It is done annually because there is a 3% annual increase. For FY20, the amount is \$252,908.68. Chair Jackson asked if this is forecasting the same number. Mr. Berter confirmed saying yes, it is for 5 guaranteed bed spaces. Currently, there are 7 individuals in Peoria County and they are all in there for guns.

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Gresham, and the motion carried 7-0.

State's Attorney's Office –

Macon County Board Resolution Designating the Illinois State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor as its Agent to Administer the Operation of Appellate Offices and Process Appellate Cases for Macon County during FY2020

Mr. Greenfield explained that Mr. Baggett could not be present at the meeting, so he would be presenting this annual resolution.

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Gresham, and the motion carried 7-0.

County Board

Finance Committee Discussion Items

- ***The movement of the current balance of the Wind Farm fund to the general fund***

Chair Jackson explained that he wanted to bring this to this meeting for discussion because he did not want to come with a resolution without bringing it up first.

Mr. Gresham commented that in looking at last year's audit and ending the year with \$69,000 available in the general fund. The wind fund is shown separately in the monthly reports, but yet in the audit, it is part of the general fund, but it is basically not available because it is committed as is the \$1 million for self-insurance for employee health. We borrow to finance

the ongoing operation of the County from this wind energy fund which is committee funds. He said he did not think that is a very good practice. He said his feeling is that these funds should be uncommitted and unrestricted so that a general fund balance is available for the day to day operation of the departments that are funded by the general fund. Obviously, the idea is not to spend it, but we know some of it will be gone because the budget will use up some of it. We have to be judicious in how we handle these funds. This board is very responsible financially and there should not be any harm in doing this. It is just cleaner. Chair Jackson agreed.

Mr. Dudley asked if there would be no restriction on it whatsoever. Mr. Gresham said the restriction is the ability of the board and finance committee to control the funds. He said if there is some doubt about the ability of this board to do this, most board members would take umbrage at that. It's about being responsible but having a cleaner system where the auditor is not moving money back and forth. Chairman Greenfield commented that the outside auditors would probably appreciate that. Chair Jackson agreed. Ms. Reed said that if there is some project or something that they want the windfarm monies to be used for, that could be excluded, but as of right now, there are no projects that the fund is being flagged for.

Chair Jackson asked if that had historically been a fund that the Chairman had oversight on and had to sign off on saying to borrow from it. Ms. Reed explained that the Chairman, the Treasurer and she (the Auditor) could sign off on borrowing from it, but the County Board has . . . Mr. Dudley said that it had basically been collateral for loans. Ms. Reed explained that when the general fund needed cash, they would borrow from it. Mr. Dudley said that we are paying interest on loans. Ms. Reed said we generally do not pay interest on it. She said they actually borrow the cash and use it. Mr. Dudley clarified that it is not being used to secure a bank loan then. Mr. Gresham explained that the money is there, it is just committed and makes no sense because the Finance Committee has been directed to review all capital equipment purchases. There are enough controls that that fund can be eliminated. Chairman Greenfield said that they pay it all back. Ms. Reed said they try to when the tax levy money comes in, but right now there is \$1,160,000 borrowed from it. Mr. Dudley asked if they were planning on covering the deficit this year with that. Mr. Gresham said that the general fund deficit comes from the general fund. Mr. Dudley asked how much that was. Ms. Reed said they're thinking that this year, it would come to about \$600,000. Mr. Dudley said that would leave about \$1.7 million and there would be about \$900,000 left over. Mr. Gresham said it has to come from somewhere. Mr. Jackson said there would be a level set with a lower fund balance. Mr. Dudley asked about the rainy day fund. Ms. Reed said there is not really a rainy day fund anymore.

Remove the General Fund commitment for self-insurance

Chair Jackson said that the same thing applies to this second discussion item. We are not going to self-insure. He asked if the committee is good with bringing a resolution next month.

Mr. Dudley asked if the county self-insures now. He was told no. Mr. Dudley asked if doing this would cause any headaches with the higher premiums. Chair Jackson said no, everything showed that the self-insurance was just a deferred payment. It was a shell game, in a sense. Chairman Greenfield asked about the general liability and covering the first \$100,000. Ms.

Reed confirmed saying that this was set aside for health insurance. Chairman Greenfield said yes, but on the general liability and the claims we've had, isn't it \$50,000 now. Ms. Reed said yes, it will be, but right now it is \$100,000.

Mr. Mattingley asked where they were with the state's reimbursement with the Adult Redeploy. Mr. Berter said they had received \$29,000 of the \$125,000 last Thursday. Chair Jackson asked about commitment time. Mr. Berter explained that he was told that the vouchers had been sent to the comptroller's office where it is sitting. It is the same with the Probation money from the AOIC. No payment has been received since March. Yet, we are supposed to be fully funded this year. It just hasn't worked out well. Chair Jackson asked if this was normal. Mr. Berter said they've experienced it over the past four years.

CLOSED SESSION None needed

NEXT MEETING – December 2, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Ms. Kraft, the motion carried 7-0, and the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office