

**MACON COUNTY BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MACON COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
COUNTY BOARD ROOM #514
121 S. MAIN STREET DECATUR, IL 62523
April 4, 2022 5:15 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kevin Greenfield, Chair
Ryan Kreke
Marcy Rood
Linda Little, Vice Chair
Debra Kraft
Greg Mattingley

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce Investments
Jessie Smalley, HR
John Jackson, Treasurer
Carol Reed, Auditor's Office
Sheriff Root
Josh Tanner, County Clerk
Jessie Smalley, HR

MEMBERS ABSENT

Helena Buckner

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Greenfield at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Ms. Little made a motion to approve minutes of the 2/28/2022 Finance Committee meeting, seconded by Mr. Mattingley & the motion carried 6-0

CLAIMS

Ms. Little made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS

Audit Sub Committee –

Ms. Reed had no report

Auditor –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Two Year Agreement with IPMG for Worker's Compensation Third Party Administration Services

Ms. Reed explained that this is an ongoing thing that renews every 2 years. They manage the worker's comp claims. We are self-insured and they are the third party administrator. It is the same price as prior.

Ms. Little made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Kreke and the motion carried 6-0

Board of Review, Supervisor of Assessments, GIS –

Ms. Fowler was unable to attend the meeting due to attendance at continuing education class schedule conflict. She had no reports.

Treasurer –

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

Motion to forward to the April County Board meeting consent calendar with recommendation to approve was made by Ms. Little, seconded by Ms. Rood and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Purchase of Office Furniture for the Treasurer's Department through the Rent Surplus Funds in the Decatur Public Building Commission Lease Fund Account

Mr. Jackson explained that they are just getting a gray with chairs and a side along with one file cabinet so they can clean up the place of the clutter and junk. Mr. Jackson said the only thing his office would be getting through the office renovations would be one of the desks.

Ms. Rood asked if the office renovations would make the office ADA accessible. Mr. Jackson said yes.

Ms. Little made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Authorizing the Disbursement of Macon County ARPA Funds to the Mt. Zion Fire Protection District for Lifesaving Equipment

Mr. Jackson explained that a member of the Mt. Zion Fire Department was present to speak on behalf of this request.

Ms. Little made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Kreke.

Discussion – Ms. Kraft reported that she had attended the UCCI membership meeting last week where they were advised / informed that it is highly likely that we will not be getting all of the 2nd disbursement of the ARPA funds. They recommended and advised that anything we can table, we table until after June. She said that it is her opinion that she would like to do that.

Mr. Jackson asked Ms. Reed if they had received any info on that. Ms. Reed said she had not heard it. Mr. Jackson said he had not either and he is on the list for updates.

Chairman Greenfield asked Ms. Kraft more about what she had heard. Ms. Kraft said they were told that the funds were not there and to be very cautious.

Chairman Greenfield asked where they are on the first \$10 million they had already received. Mr. Jackson said the remaining balance is at \$7,145,281.21 with nothing outstanding except the Reas Bridge. Chairman Greenfield said that is \$6.5 million there and it is going to have to be rebid so the \$6.5 million didn't catch it last time and may not be enough. Considering it all, we are already in negative numbers now. He asked Ms. Reed when it was received. She thought end of May.

Chairman Greenfield offered options saying they could vote one it, table it or vote on it with the stipulation that we get the money. He asked to hear from the Mt. Zion Fire representative on the details.

The representative explained that they are asking for money for cardiac monitors. Right now they have 3 units that are advanced life support level making it possible for them to do everything the ambulances can except transporting patients. The importance of that is, right now, ambulance response times are up. He said they have waited upwards of an hour. It is a busy time. Personnel is low. That makes the issue with this request a right now thing. What brought the department to this, since they currently have 3 life support units that each require a cardiac monitor to be able to function, and having 3 monitors that work fine, the FDA now says they are not good enough any longer. It was a snap decision that was found out about in 2020. He explained that they had gotten one year's notice that in 2021, they were going to be out and all new would have to be purchased. Due to COVID and surrounding circumstances, that was extended one year. So, as of February of this year, 2022, new ones would have to be purchased. The manufacturers have to pay the FDA annually to keep up their license and they refuse to pay on any model prior to 2016. Ours were bought in 2012. At the time of purchase in 2012, they were \$12,000 per unit. Now, for the units that are required with the extra capabilities that are required, they are pushing \$40,000 per unit. The department was able to finance one unit out of the department's budget. It is on lease. That gives one unit that is up to snuff. There are two that are skating along until notification comes in any day that they have to be pulled. When that happens, the department will be down to the one unit that they had been able to afford to lease on a 40 month lease through the regular departmental budget. He explained that they do not have the budget to get the other 2 units. They were budgeted for further in the future. The previous monitors lasted 20 years. These lasted about 9 years. Therefore, these were budgeted far into the future. The road of grants as well as the local businesses have been gone down and right now, money is tight everywhere.

He said that is where they are and what they are looking for. If not approved, they will still have one capable unit. Having three has come in handy on several occasions. It is not all uncommon and is almost becoming a daily occurrence to have two or more calls at the same time. It used to be unheard of, but is not unheard of anymore. On top of that, they are on units that treat our firefighters if they are injured on a fire. They have served our community, our mutual aid which is anywhere in Macon County and the State as a whole. They regularly run calls with Long Creek, Dalton City, Bethany, South Macon, South Wheatland Fire Protection districts. They serve a fairly wide area. Without them, we lose the ability to monitor cardiac rhythms, the medications used once the rhythms are diagnosed and some of the more advanced defibrillation techniques. They just recently had a save. If someone goes into cardiac arrest, the average survival rate is about 7% to 8% nationally. About 92% will not survive. One of the

ALS units was driving down the road, passing Mt. Zion Krekels where someone was standing in line and went into cardiac arrest. They were able to get there, put the monitor on him and shock him within 2 minutes of going down. That patient stopped by the firehouse a week ago to let us know he was fine and had a full recovery with no mental deficits or anything. The units have paid dividends on many occasions.

Ms. Little asked why the unit was being leased. It was explained that they did not have the money in the budget to purchase. If money is received from this board, the other two units would not be leased.

Ms. Kraft asked about assisting other departments and what their response time was, especially compared to Decatur Ambulance. He said that they are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and supplement that with volunteers and part time. So, as long as they are not out on something else, the response time is immediate or drive time. That means to Macon it is 8 to 10 minutes, to Long Creek it is 1 to 2 minutes depending on where it is.

Ms. Little asked if everyone in the department is qualified to use the units. It was explained that these are AEDs as well as an ALS Cardiac Monitor in one unit. So, everyone can use it, but the advanced capabilities are only able to be used by paramedics. There are 30 members of the department and 10 are medics.

Chairman Greenfield commented that they are obviously a very useful tool and asked what the committee members thought. Mr. Kreke said they could send it on to the board and it could be tabled there. Ms. Little said there would be no more information next Thursday than they have right now. Mr. Greenfield asked Ms. Reed if she could check on the status of the funds. Mr. Mattingley suggested they could amend the motion to be more clear that the purchase would be made from the 2nd installment of the funds.

Ms. Little made a motion to amend the resolution to add the stipulation that the purchase would be made from the 2nd installment of the ARPA funds no matter what the amount of that installment is, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the amended motion carried 6-0.

The vote on the original motion carried 6-0.

CITIZEN'S REMARKS - None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – EMA

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Permission to Dispose of Surplus Equipment

Sheriff Root explained that this equipment has been in the office for quite a while. The majority of it is obsolete or broken.

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 6-0

Transportation

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Additional Construction Expenses for the 2021 CH 32 Resurfacing Project

Mr. Kreke explained that the amount is \$21,522.96

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Little and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Construction Expenses for the 2022 CH 32 Resurfacing Project

Mr. Kreke explained that that is to do the 2nd half of Andrews Street Road

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Rood and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Construction Expenses for the 2022 County Cape Seal Project

Ms. Rood made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Construction Expenses for the 2022 Camp Warren Road Resurfacing Project

Ms. Rood made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Little and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Construction Expenses for the 2022 CH 21 Reconstruction Project

Mr. Mattingley made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Additional Design Expenses for the Reas Bridge Road Reconstruction Project

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Rood and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds to Purchase Right Of Way Parcels 001 & 001 TE for the CH 24 Reas Bridge Road Reconstruction Project

Mr. Kreke explained that this is for the last 2 that are needed.

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 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the 2022 Culvert Bid

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Rood and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the 2022 Signs Bid

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Rood and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the 2022 Sign Blanks Bid

Mr. Kreke presented and made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 6-0

County Board

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Amendment to the Decatur Macon County Enterprise Zone Intergovernmental Agreement

Mr. Tanner explained that this was passed in October, 2021 and then the EDC contacted us and said there was a box they hadn't checked, so it has to be done again. Apparently, the state did not approve it because there was something not quite right. It is essentially the same thing you did in October. It expands what can receive the property tax abatement. They are opening it to retail outlets and certain multi family residential development projects. They are also moving to exclude single family residential homes explicitly.

Ms. Little made a motion to forward the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 6-0

Macon County Board Resolution Setting the Salary for the Office of Treasurer Elected 2022-2026

Macon County Board Resolution Setting the Salary for the Office of County Clerk Elected 2022-2026

Macon County Board Resolution Setting the Salary for the Office of Sheriff of Macon County 2022 - 2026

Chairman Greenfield said he'd like to concentrate first on the County Clerk and Treasurer and asked if anyone had suggestions on salary for these two offices for the next four years. He

asked if these two salaries are currently the same and was told that they are. He asked what that salary currently is. Ms. Reed said \$87,955.68 annually with a \$6,500 stipend from the State. Discussion regarding the State taking it away. Ms. Reed explained that this is just a stipend provided by the State for services provided.

Ms. Rood asked whether comparable County salaries were obtained. Chairman Greenfield referred members to the UCCI salary survey books.

Various percentage raises were discussed. Mr. Kreke commented that at 2%, the salaries would be \$89,714 for 2022 – 2023, \$91,509 for 2023-2024, \$ 93,339 for 2024-2025 , and \$95,206.06 for 2025-2026 and at 3%, they would be at \$98,000 (approximately).

Ms. Little commented that the 2023 – 2024 is the important year for comparison if they are trying to keep both groups of officeholders the same.

Chairman Greenfield said that the reason he held the Sheriff off until last is because his salary seems to be underfunded. He said he did not think the County pays the Sheriff enough, no matter who that is. The Highway Superintendent makes more than the Sheriff. Granted, the Highway Superintendent salary is funded through the state, but . . . Ms. Little asked what stipends the Sheriff gets. Ms. Reed reported that he gets \$4,000 for being the Public Safety Director and he gets the \$6,500 stipend from the state as well. The current Sheriff's salary is \$115,000.

Mr. Mattingley asked what percentages have been used for the latest collective bargaining. Chairman Greenfield explained that some of them, because we were so under paid on them, got a 12% to 14% raise just for the first year just to bring them up. Some got between 3% and 4%. That's all great and good as long as we've got COVID money, but, that is not going to last forever and he said he did not want to put the County in the spot where in 2 years from now, everything has to be cut because we are out of money. Unfortunately, the revenue stays here and the expenses go up.

Ms. Little said she is not in favor of freezing these salaries the way they did 2 years ago, but would not support 3% a year either. She asked when the salaries have to be set. Sheriff Root said they have to be set by July. Ms. Little said she is not interested in voting on these resolutions tonight. Chairman Greenfield agreed, but said he'd like to at least discuss them. He asked if the consensus of the committee would be to keep the Treasurer, County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Auditor, Coroner, Recorder of Deeds – all of them – the same. He asked Ms. Reed if they all make the same. Ms. Reed said that the County Clerk and Treasurer that are up this year are the same. The other group, the Auditor, Recorder, Circuit Clerk are on the same schedule. They are not the same currently. Ms. Reed said that at the end of her term, her salary would be right at what the County Clerk / Treasurer is at now which is \$87,000 something. Her group of office holder salaries will be reassessed in 2 years. At some point they were the same. Chairman Greenfield said that at one point, the Sheriff was in that group as well, but he did not think that is right. Mr. Jackson said he had the salaries of all the County Treasurers and with the exception of Cook County. He said it looks like Macon is right in line with comparable counties. Chairman Greenfield referred to the UCCI Salary Survey book and concluded that

yes, Macon is right in line with comparable counties. He wondered if they wanted to give a percentage, 2%, 2.5%, 3% or if they wanted to go with a certain dollar amount. He repeated that for the next two years, provided all the payments are received, the County should be ok, but the third year could be a little troublesome. He said he is not a big fan of using percentages when dealing with union contracts because that gives the highest paid a bigger increase and more of a separation from the lower paid, but with the office holders he did not think it would matter since it only affects one officeholder.

Ms. Kraft said she would like to think on it and revisit it next month.

Mr. Mattingley agreed.

Ms. Rood said she'd be in favor of 3%, 3%, 2%, & 2%.

Ms. Little is in favor of putting it off.

Chairman Greenfield said it would be fine with him. He asked if they'd like to table it for now along with the Sheriff's. Everyone agreed to put them back on the agenda for the May 2 Finance Committee meeting.

CLOSED SESSION – None needed

NEXT MEETING - 5/2/2022

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Little, seconded by, Mr. Mattingley, motion carried 6-0 and Chairman Greenfield adjourned the meeting at 6 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office