

ADAMS COUNTY BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, April 12th, 2021

The Adams County Board Finance Committee held their regular scheduled meeting in the ROE Conference room at 507 Vermont Street, Quincy, Illinois. A Zoom link was provided, but no one joined us via that platform.

The following members were present:

Bret Austin, Chairman
David Hoskins
Matt Obert
Taylor Rakers
Dr. Robert Reich

Others present:

Bryden Cory
Todd Eyer
Gary Farha
Anthony Foster

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Bret Austin.

Bills

The committee reviewed bills and stamped as "Checked."

Approval of Prior Minutes

Mr. Rakers made a motion to approve the March 8th, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Hoskins seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Resolutions

- (a) Tax Sale Resolution for #23-0236 located in Quincy Township
 - Mr. Obert made a motion to approve the tax sale resolution. Dr. Reich seconded the motion. The motion carries.

Finance

Fund Appropriation

- None

Transfer of Budget Appropriation

- None

Mr. Cory shared with the committee that we should be receiving half of the "Cares" money provided by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 by next month. The County's current cash position is a little tight, but we are still able to meet our current obligations. The claim check reimbursing the county for damages caused by the lightning strike to the new jail has been received and applied. Discussion was had with regard to how to track that in the budget since it is a budget neutral "reimbursed expense." It was decided that putting it in a Revenue Line would be appropriate.

Mr. Cory also shared with the committee that there was an issue with Dental Insurance premiums not being paid timely which caused some coverage issues, but the glitch had been fixed and the issue resolved with the carrier.

Budget/Levy

- None

Old Business

Mr. Austin mentioned and further elaborated on the funds made available by American Rescue Plan Act – roughly \$12 million payable in two installments. The first coming within a month and the second coming in about one year.

- Mr. Austin is the “ambassador” in charge of soliciting ideas for the use of these funds
 - o Dr. Reich asked if any could be used for the Ambulance Dept as there are a couple of stations in need of re-vitalization – an answer to the question is being pursued
- Ideas for the funds use are to be submitted in writing
- Some priorities as directed by the Act would be the following:
 - o Reimbursement for testing and vaccines
 - o Public Health and Safety
 - Mr. Austin will be suggesting some of the funds be used to “make whole” non-profit organizations that help those in our community
 - Mr. Farha mentioned the lack of “sober houses” for recovering offenders and wondered about the possibility of using funds to help in that vein
 - o Funds can NOT be used for employee wages (excepting overtime related to COVID) nor can they be used for existing debt repayment

New Business

Mr. Austin mentioned several items of note:

- Riverfront Master Plan
 - o Final version available
 - o Hope to have the board vote to adopt on Wednesday
 - Senses some animosity towards plan
 - Money has already been spent to develop
 - Approval of the plan does NOT commit the county to any future financial obligations
- Executive Committee discussed Union Contracts
 - o The first will need to be renegotiated August of 2021; Circuit Clerk?
 - o Contracts have been staggered so negotiations can be handled in-house to avoid paying outside counsel
 - o Finance committee involvement encouraged and needed
- Open floor space in the old Jail so decisions will need to be made as to the use of that space
- Landbank agreement between County, City, and Two Rivers still on the radar
 - o Greatest impact will be to the Treasurer and Records office
 - o Further discussion and possible action slated for the May meeting
 - Questions have been raised as to equal representation despite the likely majority of properties being located in Quincy proper
- Trustee Programs
 - o Struggle between Quincy and Trustee Program
 - City feels they will be getting calls for “county” problem properties
 - We need to find solutions and work together to resolve
 - Develop uniform agreements for properties inside city/village limits in an effort to be fair

Mr. Rakers made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Obert seconded the motion. The motion carries.

Dr. Reich made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Mr. Rakers seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Obert made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hoskins seconded the motion. Mr. Austin adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Hester, Director of Administrative Services, Adams County Board