Iosco County
Board of Commissioners

COURT HOUSE
Tawas City, Michigan 48763

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

September 7, 2022

BOARD-IN PERSON WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE THROUGH ZOOM

Commissioners Present in person: Huebel, Dutcher, Finley, Miner, and O'Farrell.
Absent: None.
Vacant: None.

Also Present: Nancy J. Huebel, County Clerk/Assistant County Administrator; Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Financial Director; Raymond Bruning II, EMS Operations Manager; Jason Ogden, Press; Mike Eller, Director of Emergency Services; Scott Frank, Iosco County Sheriff

Meeting called to order after a five-minute recess following the full Board meeting.

New Business:

Raymond Bruning, EMS Operations Manager – Purchase Two Ambulances

Three bids were received by Bruning. These ambulances would be purchased for the end of 2023. Bruning suggests that Mercy Sales is the better of the three bids. Iosco County EMS will be able to get the old ambulances back for resale and the new ambulances will keep our maintenance contract with Mercy Sales intact. Dutcher moves to take the purchase of two ambulances from Mercy Sales in the amount of $401,542.00 to be charged to Capital Outlay, Vehicles budget line item #210-651-981.00 and Finley seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Road Commission Appointment Discussion

One Road Commissioner's appointment expires at the end of this year. There are four individuals that are interested in the position. Carruthers-Soboleski asks the board if they would like to the county to seek applications for an interview process. The board asks Carruthers-Soboleski to find out the Road Commissions salary, per diems, mileage, and if they could increase the number of commissioners to five for each district. Carruthers-Soboleski will bring more information to the September 21, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Iosco County Vendor/Procurement Policy

Huebel asked for the Iosco County Vendor/Procurement Policy to have a price limit increase for goods and services that need to go before the board. Carruthers-Soboleski made several changes to the policy including: purchase less than $5,000.00 can be made without board approval, software license renewals will not need to go to the board for approval, the threshold for needed to go out for bids was increased to $250,000.00, and employees are not allowed to accept gifts from vendors, free samples under $25 is allowed. Most of these changes follow federal guidelines, but one threshold was set lower than required. Dutcher moves to take the updated Iosco County Vendor/Procurement Policy for the full board for approval and Finley seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hydroelectric Dam Discussion

Consumers Energy is considering decommissioning dams throughout Michigan. They are holding public meetings to get input from the residents that are near the dams. Carruthers-Soboleski will attend the Foote Dam meeting held September 27, 2022. Consumers Energy has sent Iosco County a survey to fill out and requests two commissioners to help her fill it out. Finley and Miner agree and will meet with Carruthers-Soboleski.

Building Department Rent Paid to General Fund

Renee Foust, Building and Safety Administrator, informed Carruthers-Soboleski that the budget resolution regarding how the Building Department pays rent is about to expire. MGT is contracted every year to prepare a cost allocation plan to allocate shared use departments to those using their services. Based on that allocation the rent should be $2,200.00 per month to go into the General Fund. This is due to the department using several offices within the County Building and generating a profit for services that they provide. Dutcher moves to take the increased rent payment for the Building Department to the full board for consideration and Finley seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Dues

A representative from the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) reached out to Carruthers-Soboleski to ask if Iosco County would like to rejoin their association. Iosco County is the only county in Michigan that is not a member. The dues per year to become a member is $9,000.00. The Treasury Department had reached out to MAC for help and MAC is no longer willing to help without those dues. While becoming a member is a good option, Carruthers-Soboleski recommends waiting until November to see if the Public Safety Millage passes. If it does pass, Iosco County can look into paying dues in the fiscal year 2023. The commissioners tabled this discussion until after the election results are made public.

Scott Frank, Iosco County Sheriff – Sell 2011 Dodge Charger

The passenger van, that the Sheriff's Department asked the full board its authorization to sell, was sold for $10,000.00. The 2011 Dodge Charger is the oldest car in the fleet and is no longer suitable to be used as a corrections car; it is too small. Frank would like the boards' permission to sell this car and use the proceeds from the passenger van and the 2011 Dodge Charger to purchase a more suitable car. Dutcher moves to take selling the 2011 Dodge Charger to the full board and Finley seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mike Eller, Director of Emergency Services – Central Dispatch Motorola Flex CAD Project

The Motorola Flex CAD Project has been completed and was launched on August 18, 2022. This is the first week that the project is running without Motorola's support. The project is a huge success. Motorola offered this project to Iosco County at a 2/3 price cut due to not having a presence in Michigan. The total cost of this project with the price cut is $109,250.00. Eller askes if the American Rescue Plan Funds would be able to cover these costs. Carruthers-Soboleski told the commissioners that paying from the American Rescue Plan Funds would take pressure off of the Central Dispatch's budget. Finley motions this be taken to the full board and Miner seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None.

County Controller's Report: Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director

Building: Russo is still working on the roof design project and the Annex design is ready. He will place the designs out for bid on December 1, 2022 for the work to start in the spring of 2023. Carruthers-Soboleski asked for the Annex stairs to be done before the winter as it is a hazard for the employees and residents coming to the building. Carruthers-Soboleski has not heard from Colvin's on the mechanical assessment but she as asked them for a face-to-face meeting to discuss the progress.

Recycling: Carruthers-Soboleski recently attended a meeting in Hillman. The Alpena recycling plant is estimated at $6 million. EGLE is anticipating that during the lame duck session that a Materials Management Program will be passed and will be a requirement for counties to implement. EGLE has grants available for the infrastructure for this plan. While discussing this with members of the public, Carruthers-Soboleski has had a lot of positive responses.

Ordinances: The attorney is finished with the Planning and Housing ordinances. Carruthers-Soboleski and the attorney are discussing the ordinance adoption process. Oscoda would like to make changes to the ORV ordinance. Carruthers-Soboleski asks the commissioners to ask their townships if they would like to make changes to their ORV ordinance as well.

Any Other Matters:

None.

Public Comments:

None.

Claims and Accounts: Bills reviewed and approved by Huebel, Dutcher, and Finley in the amount of $173,397.67.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully: Kathleen M. Murphy, Board Secretary

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR September 21, 2022