

**Minutes of the February 9th meeting of the Sawyer County
Finance Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- Chair: **Ron Kinsley**
- Vice Chair, John Righeimer
- Stacey Hessel
- Tom Duffy
- Dale Schleeter

Others Present:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Andy Albarado - virtual | Dan Ploeger |
| Lynn Fitch | Ron Buckholtz |
| Mike Markgren | Linda Zillmer - virtual |
| Tweed Shuman | Ron Buckholtz @ 8:35 |
| Janeen Abric | |

Call to Order –Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call taken and quorum was met.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments –

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: January 12, 2023

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Righeimer Second by: Ms. Hessel

Motion carried without negative vote.

Treasurer Department Report -

Spring delinquent tax notices went out to the public and the appropriate late fees have been added and will be published in the newspaper the next two weeks. We now begin the February settlement period. 2022 delinquent notices will be mailed the end of February/beginning of March.

Current Direct Sale Land List – The published list was included in the packet, and these parcels are available for over-the-counter sales. This is the list of remaining properties available.

Consider demolition of 3693N Clark St., Village of Radisson – This is an estimate to demo the structure on the property. At Land, Water, Forest Resources committee meeting a motion was made to reduce the bid amount to \$1. A controlled burn is not an option. Tim Hagberg will be asked to attempt to get another demo bid.

Native American Property Taxation Treaty of 1854 Update – Impact of Appellate Court Decision --

A decision impact statement was provided. Mr. Markgren provided supporting documents for information on tax implications. He advised that we do not currently know all properties that would be affected by taxes coming off the tax roll. Mr. Albarado will keep Sawyer County in the discussion at the state level to try to recover losses in tax revenue.

Finance Department Report -

Sales Tax Distribution – A graph of the sales tax was included. Mr. Markgren has done a projection for the 2023 year and anticipates the sales tax revenue may end lower than the previous year.

Budget Updates – A written report was attached. Mr. Markgren reviewed the report including impacts on the general fund balance, HHS, Highway Department budgets. We appear to be in good shape.

Capital Improvement Plan Update – Purchases – Mr. Markgren has advised purchasing has been slow especially on major equipment.

Attorney Fees Expenditure Update – Mr. Markgren compiled a list of attorney fees by department showing a 2022 total legal fee expense of \$193,069.45. Some of the fees we get 50% grant funds back.

Investments Review and Update -

A written report of our balances was provided by Mr. Markgren. Three investment options were provided for review: 1) leaving funds where there are, 2) adding American Depository Company to further diversify our portfolio, and 3) a long-term strategy that is the same as option 2, but adds the purchase of 12-month CDs. Mr. Righeimer made a motion to choose option #3; second by Ms. Hessel for our current investment strategy. A voice vote was taken and passed without negative vote.

Financial and Fund Updates -

ARPA Funds - A chart of the committed ARPA funds was provided. There remains about \$50,000 of uncommitted funds at this time.

Opioid Funds – Mr. Albarado reported that we have \$121,000 of the funds on our books and a new settlement with retailers has been drafted. Initial figures are not yet ready as to the amount expected.

LATCF – Approximately \$377,000 has been received.

Future Agenda Items - EMS

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings -

Adjournment – 9:36 am

Next Meeting: March 9, 2023 **Time:** 8:30 am **Location:** Assembly Room

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

k