

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: FINANCE  
DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019  
TIME: 5:30 PM  
PLACE: COUNTY BOARD ROOM

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the agenda.

### ROLL CALL

Present: Burl, Chaney, Gretzinger, & Lukas

Absent: Houle

Others Present: Nora Matuszewski, Josh Bradley, Lynne Black, Bonnie Evans, & Mark Ferris

### APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA

Motion by Chaney to approve the agenda as presented, second by Burl. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

### APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion by Lukas to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2019 meeting, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

J. Bradley commented that the Sheriff received a phone call from Tallier about the bidding process, and he informed him Bunda has a bid. The Sheriff instructed Bradley to have nothing more to do with any bids, and all future correspondence on the matter be sent to Bunda. There was comment about the bid that Bunda has and that it be discussed at the next Joint Finance and Public Property/Building committee meeting on October 1, 2019.

### PRESENTATION FROM THE HUMAN SERVICES ON THEIR 2020 BUDGET

The Human Services was not present.

### PRESENTATION FROM NORTHWOODS CONNECT ON BROADBAND COVERAGE IN FOREST COUNTY AND 50/50 MATCHING GRANT

Northwoods Connect presentation was postponed until a future meeting.

### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE BROADBAND COMMISSION INQUIRY ON THE COUNTY CONTRIBUTING FUNDS FOR A 50/50 MATCHING GRANT FOR COUNTYWIDE INTERNET COVERAGE

Mark Ferris brought a map of where towers could be placed in Forest County for Broadband and a written recap of the discussion from the last Broadband Committee

meeting. He explained the costs of the towers and the four (4) needs the County has for the broadband. In order to apply for the grant there will be a need for matching funds which could be up to \$1,000,000, and in order to get the grant there has to be some form of promise that funds are going to be met to match the grant. Ferris explained the County could borrow money from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands and then have the other entities involved commit to an amount of budgetary promise to pay the County back in 10 years. The sub committee will be going out and speaking with all of the other entities to get support for the initial cost, and meet with Northwoods Connect on other items of interest that the County may use for incoming revenue to help pay for the cost. There was also discussion on affordability and the need for possibly more than the proposed 18 towers for the grant.

Motion by Chaney to send a resolution to the full County Board to borrow up to \$1,000,000 from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to go towards Broadband grant opportunities in Forest County, second by Burl. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE REFERENDUM FLYER FOR DISTRIBUTION, AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IT

Motion by Burl to approve the flyers, run the flyer in both papers as an ad, and put the flyers in the Pioneer Express as an insert for two circulations, one at the beginning of October and the other at the end right before the election, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON HEALTH INSURANCE QUOTES FOR 2020

The increase to the Health Insurance came in at 32.7%, which can be lowered to the 20% range with huge changes to the plan, which would raise the deductible for a single plan to \$6,000, and a family plan to \$12,000, with 80% payable after the deductible is met.

Motion by Chaney to write a letter of non-renewal and go out to market, second by Lukas. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

#### DISCUSSION ON THE 2020 BUDGET

No Action

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Lukas to adjourn, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.