

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE:	PERSONNEL/FINANCE
DATE:	SEPTEMBER 25, 2024
TIME:	8:00 A.M.
PLACE:	FOREST COUNTY BOARDROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Lukas called the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m. and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chaney, Decorah, Gretzinger, Lukas, Marvin, Skallerud, Weber

Absent: Landru

Others Present: Nora Matuszewski, Danielle McLaughlin, Mark Chrisman, Travis Wollenberg, Jeff Marvin, Alex Walrath, Amanda Herman

APPROVE AGENDA

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

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 PERSONNEL/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion by Weber to approve the September 17, 2024 Personnel/Finance minutes, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE 2025 BUDGET

There was a discussion with the Highway Commissioner on vacancies that the department has had recently. He will be down three employees and will not replace them and work with part-time employees when needed (possibly, retired workers). He is going to be working on all of the vacation that is taken at the end of the year and find out a way to spread it out more during the year. There was discussion about on-call pay for Highway employees, it was discussed possibly calling them in later when there is a snow event, but, not in the case of an ice event.

There was discussion about the Dispatch Center and the budget. The committee discussed the PSAP grant and moving forward.

Motion by Decorah to have the Dispatch Center moved under the Emergency Management Director; move to full County Board in resolution form, second by Weber. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

Sheriff Marvin came in to talk to the committee about his budget and had some suggestions and comments. He told the committee his overtime would be going down because there are almost full staff. He said there is the possibility of moving one of his officers to another recreation position, which is covered by almost 70% from state funding and they would probably be open to another recreation officer, as they can have up to two. The committee explained with the referendum failing, the County is facing a huge budget shortfall and some cuts will need to be

made in all departments to make sure the County can balance the budget. They discussed if there was a need for four (4) drug deputies and Walrath explained that there are two additional from the Potawatomi funding. Since they have had the additional deputies it has really cut down on the crime in Forest County. Al Marvin asked if they could possibly get by with less officers. Decorah asked about weekend coverage. Jeff Marvin felt with less officers there would be more overtime. They asked them to come back with ideas on how they could cut their budget. They also talked to them about the Emergency Management Director working with them on Administration of the Dispatch and the state grants. Walrath told the committee the school is willing to pay for all of the overtime that accrues for Belland as the Liaison officer; he will get that to the Clerk. There was discussion about talking to Florence County on housing their inmates, which by combining the two it could reduce costs and bring in some additional revenue.

There is also talk about consolidating Administrative Assistants throughout the County, where the departments may be able to have an employee work in another department for 20 hours a week.

Wollenberg was in and he has taken the additional Caretaker out of the budget, which is \$6,000 plus benefits. He told the committee he and Oemig will just have to spend time at the park twice a week to help out. The County Park donations will be reduced from \$5,000 to \$400. The County Park revenues are averaging from \$126,000 to \$134,000 the past two years, so, the revenues will be raised from \$120,000 to \$125,000. The new truck for the Forestry will be between \$40,000 to \$50,000. There is \$15,000 in the Variable Acreage reserve and there is \$7,625 budgeted for 2025, so, they will only need about \$27,375 which of that amount \$16,000, has already been approved from any excess funds in the park from 2024. That will leave about \$11,375 still needed, there was discussion if it could be pulled from LATCF.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 2025 Budget
- Next meetings October 7th (9:00 a.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Marvin to adjourn, second by Decorah. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.