

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING COMMITTEE  
and  
EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE  
and  
March 15, 2018**

Present:                   Becky Edwards, Chairwoman                   Donna Hibbetts, Chairwoman  
                          Aaron Allen   Vicki McMahon                   Venise McWard   Molly Alaria  
  Paul Schmitz   Ben Curtin

Absent:                   Marilyn Vogetzer and Matt Wells

Others present: Tim Carlson, Mike Gianasi, Mike Havera, Bruce Kettelkamp, Julie Mayer, Betty Asmussen, Chad Coady, Amy Winans, Mellissa Schilling, Bryan Hahlbeck, Bob DeClerck, Mary Rhodes, Tom Latonis and Jan Bland.

The Finance Committee and Executive/Personnel/Liquor committee met on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the County Board Meeting Room, second floor Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Attendance was taken, and Finance Chairwoman Becky Edwards noted a quorum. There were no public comments.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AND ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION GRANT AGREEMENTS**

Mellissa Schilling representing the Central Illinois Public Transit Program presented the Ordinance and Intergovernmental Agreement between Christian County and Shelby County (as the designated and primary participant) for the public transportation program renewal. This grant money is a for one-year term – July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 authorizing Shelby County to execute and file on behalf of Christian County all documents and agreements in order for Christian County to offer public transportation in Christian County. A motion was made by Paul Schmitz and seconded by Donna Hibbetts to adopt Ordinance O2018 CB 006. The motion carried. A motion was made by Paul Schmitz and seconded by Aaron Allen to approve the intergovernmental agreement with Shelby County/CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation to direct and implement the program. The motion carried.

**WEBSITE UPDATE**

Chairwoman Edwards reported other bids have been received and called upon Bryan Hahlbeck from CivicPlus to make a short presentation. Several questions were asked about this four-year plan. Venise McWard will contact several board members/elected office holders to evaluate the various quotes and return to the committee next month with a recommendation.

**2017 AUDIT**

The 2017 Audit will be presented next month at the finance meeting.

**OFFICE 365**

County Clerk Michael Gianasi reported more exact numbers of users have been collected and he will report back next month with costs of the Office 365.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Aaron Allen and seconded by Paul Schmitz to approve the claims for March and to cut the checks prior to the full board meeting. The March meeting will be delayed due to the primary election.

ADOPT POLICY PROHIBITING SEXUAL HARRASSMENT ORDINANCE

As reviewed last month with updates to the current policy, the new policy/ordinance was presented for adoption. A motion was made by Donna Hibbetts and seconded by Paul Schmitz. The motion carried.

ADOPT VESSA POLICY/ORDINANCE

The VESSA Policy was revised and presented for adoption. A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Molly Alaria. The motion carried.

COURTHOUSE A/C CAP FOR INSTALLATION

As discussed in the Highway/Building Committee, the referral to increase the third floor air conditioning project at the courthouse was presented for approval. The amount of not to exceed \$30,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund in order to contract the installation of the project was motioned by Venise McWard and seconded by Donna Hibbetts. The motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICE HOLDERS SALARY DISCUSSION/PROPOSAL

The positions of County Clerk, Supervisor of Assessments, Treasurer and Sheriff will be decided in November during the general election. Those current office holders as well as the Circuit Clerk presented proposals for the Board's consideration to increase their salaries. The decision must be made 180 days prior to the first Monday in December. For this board, the decision date is May 15, 2018.

- Julie Mayer-Circuit Clerk discussed her salary as being frozen at \$62,797 since 2014. When she last ran for office in 2016, she did not request any increase. And according to Julie, in 2014, these offices' salaries were in the top 4<sup>th</sup> of the counties. Now they are not. She further stated that she has not had a cost of living wage in five years and stated, "This is how we make our living."
- Board members questioned the \$6,500 stipend that each office receives. For several years the State has been trying to eliminate this stipend to the officer holder. The stipend is for the reporting work each county office sends to the State. It was said that stipends are not considered part of their salary and it is not a guarantee.
- Chad Coady-Supervisor of Assessments commented on his stipend that it is only \$3,000 and he would only receive it depending on the numbers. If there are no increases for this term it would be eight years, the pay freeze would be in effect. His salary is reimbursed by about half from the State.
- Michael Gianasi commented that these positions are offices with a high level of responsibility and the Board has no control as to who runs for the offices. No matter who is in the position, the responsibilities will never be less.
- Betty Asmussen-Treasurer reviewed past five years increases to base salaries of the sheriff's deputies and officers-(effective 12/1/2013 to 12/1/2017 respectively) 2- 2.5- 2.5- 2- 2%. There are deputies who make the same or more than the elected office holders. Probation Officers recently got an 18% increase after a four-year freeze. [Chairwoman noted these salaries are reimbursed by the State at about 85%.] AFSCME received about a 2% raise. "Some non-bargaining department heads like the Chief Probation Officer and Joe Stepping have higher salaries than the elected office holders!" She distributed several documents with surveys and past salary increases of county employees.
- Amy Winans-Coroner-spoke of crazy formulas that were given in the past to elected office holders. Her opinion was there was some picking and choosing as to the increases. Although, this election Winans is not up for reelection, she commented, she did not start this job for the paycheck; it is the dedication and being passionate about the job.

- Mike Havera-States Attorney, whose salary is determined by the State, noted we (county offices) provide services that are required. We have been asked to cut our budgets, but yet, we still have to provide those services.

Several members commented:

- How do we fund increases with a deficit budget?
- These are decisions we have to make when our hands are tied with PTEL and decreasing revenues.

Tensions were high with stressful comments being made by many. The committee/committees will evaluate their handouts and resume discussion next month.

A motion was made to adjourn by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Donna Hibbetts. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Edwards  
Finance Committee Chairwoman

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