The meeting was held in the Rusk County Government Center third floor (LEC) meeting room.


Chair Tatur called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Knops/Boss made a motion to approve the December 19, 2012 minutes. Motion carried.

Others present for the discussion on the Ambulance issues and WRA/Environmental Challenge were: Phil Schneider, Dave Willingham, Tom Hall, Ken Pedersen, Mike Zimmer, CeCe Tesky, and Jerry Carow. Schneider informed the Committee that money was donated from Gunderson Lutheran in 2007 for defibrulators. The donation was deposited in an Ambulance donation account, but the defibrulators did not get purchased. Schneider inquired why the Ambulance budget is billed for indirect costs and most other departments are not. Schneider inquired about the comment by the external audit firm in the 2011 audit requiring the squads to furnish an accounting of the Ambulance squad funds. Schneider asked if there is a way to update the payroll sheets to make less paperwork for the EMTs. That matter was referred to the Personnel Committee. The Committee discussed the nurse on board billings.

Carow was present to answer questions relating to WRA and Environmental Challenge. Carow asked that the County not incur any obligations that would be WRA’s responsibility. Tatur informed Carow that the County is interested in participating with WRA for the Environmental Challenge program.

The Committee discussed that some committees do not want to approve paying the bills that their committee oversees. The Finance Committee discussed that the individual committees are approving the validity of the bills and that the Finance Committee is approving the release of the money. It was the consensus of the Finance Committee for the individual committees to continue to review the monthly bills.

Invoices paid January 1, 2013, to January 15, 2013, were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Invoices to be paid after Finance approval were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Boss/Knops made a motion to approve paying the bills. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Committee not to have a tax deed sale until the regular tax deed sale in the fall.

The Committee discussed the Coroner’s budget and vehicle. The Coroner’s budget is approximately $14,500 over budget with additional expenditures and revenue shortfalls. The insurance company declared the Coroner’s van a total loss from hitting a deer on December 31, and the Property Committee is meeting later to approve a replacement vehicle.

The Committee discussed the year end library bills. Schmit will meet with Terry Verdegan to review these bills and the status of the library budget.

Ted East, Sandy Stiner, Chris Atwood-Thorson, and Cassandra Camren were present to discuss Health and Human Services billing. East explained the circumstances related to Home Care Medicare billings. Recertification paperwork was submitted in early 2012, but reimbursement by Medicare was suspended effective June 30. Recertification paperwork was
completed again and resubmitted in December of 2012 and January of 2013. Medicare claims are being resubmitted, and there are 46 claims pending.

The Committee will review Chapters 19 to 21 of the Financial Procedures Manual at next month’s meeting.

Fisher updated the Committee on Personnel activities.

Knops/Boss made a motion to proceed with the supplemental codification of records needed. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Committee that $750,000 is the appropriate amount for the proposed capital projects borrowing.

Knops/Fisher made a motion to approve Denise Wetzel, Verna Nielsen, and Carol Johnson attending the WCCO Conference on March 3 to 6 in Madison. Motion carried.

Nielsen and Tricia Siverling were present to discuss the tax deed process. It was the consensus of the Committee to continue to have the Treasurer’s office take tax deed. After the County takes tax deed title, the Clerk’s office will be responsible for the sale.

Nielsen presented the Treasurer’s report which included an update of bank balances and tax deeds.

The Committee reviewed Chapter 9 of the Financial Procedures Manual. The Committee changed Item G2 to read “$5,000 to $25,000” instead of “$1,000 to $25,000.” The Committee added H1 to read as follows: “Municipal competitive bidding statutes do not apply to projects undertaken by intergovernmental agreement or when the municipalities that will perform the work have made a determination under sub. (29) to do the work themselves with their own employees.” and to also include the attorney general’s opinion. Boss/Fisher made a motion to approve Chapter 9 of the Financial Procedures Manual as amended. Motion carried.

Schmit presented the Finance Director’s report which included the sales tax report, collection of back taxes, insurance report, and county car report.

Wetzel presented the Clerk’s report which included an update of marriage licenses, DNR licenses, elections, and dog licenses.

The next regular Finance meeting is Wednesday, February 20, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Rosemary Schmit, Recording Secretary