The meeting was held in the Rusk County Government Center third floor conference room.


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

Motion by Hraban, second by Hauser to approve the December 16, 2015 minutes. Motion carried.

Dave Willingham and Ted East were present to discuss the Time Out Budget request. East was directed to budget $4,000 in 2017 for Time Out. Motion by Fisher, second by Hauser to transfer $4,000 from the 2016 contingency fund for Time Out. Motion carried.

Karen Welke was present to discuss the need for petty cash at the Animal Shelter. Motion by Hraban, second by Fisher to establish a petty cash fund of $50 for the Animal Shelter. Motion carried.

Invoices paid January 1, 2016, to January 19, 2016, were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Invoices to be paid after Finance approval were reviewed, discussed, and signed. Motion by Fisher, second by Hauser to approve paying the bills. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed maintenance of county vehicles. The Highway department would be available to do maintenance on county vehicles. The Property Committee will discuss this issue and decide if the county car fleet should be maintained by Highway.

Verna Nielsen and Greg Krusec were present to discuss his property which is scheduled to be taken for tax deed this year. Motion by Fisher, second by Hraban to delay the in REM process on Greg Krusec’s property for one year which would be January of 2017 to allow Krusec to pay his back taxes. Motion carried.

Nielsen presented the Treasurer’s report which included an update of bank balances. Motion by Hauser, second by Hraban to approve Verna Nielsen and Carol Johnson attending the WCCO Conference on March 6 to 9 in Madison. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the Administrative Coordinator wages. Motion by Hraban, second by Hauser to recommend setting the yearly wage for the Administrative Coordinator at $7,500 effective 2017. Motion carried.

Fisher gave an update on Personnel issues.
Andy Albarado presented the Economic Development report which included an update of buildings and projects. The Committee discussed the Discover Wisconsin Project. Proposed cost is $11,000 over the next three years with the cost to be split equally between the City of Ladysmith, the Chamber of Commerce, and Rusk County. **Motion by Fisher, second by Hauser to commit to the Discover Wisconsin Project for the next three years with funds in the amount of $1,222 for Rusk County’s share for 2016 coming out of the 2016 contingency fund. Motion carried.**

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

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

Jim Bugbee was present to request carry forward funds for IT. It was the consensus of the Committee to return the excess IT funds from 2015 to the general fund and use money from 2016 contingency if IT has projects that need to be completed that are not included in the 2016 budget.

The Committee reviewed a request from the District Attorney’s office for carry forward funds. It was the consensus of the Committee to return the money to the general fund and for the DA to request 2016 contingency if needed.

The next regular Finance meeting is Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned 1:24 p.m.

Rosemary Schmit, Recording Secretary

If you are deaf and/or hard of hearing, call us through Wisconsin Relay at 711.