

Approved 1/25/22

FINANCE AUDIT AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

January 4, 2022

@ 2:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	James Fennell – Chairperson; Rachel Reliford – Vice Chairperson; Jennifer Groves Allison, Eden Blair, Brandy Bryant, James Dillon, Betty Duncan, Kate Pastucha (<i>via teleconference</i>), Andrew Rand, Rob Reneau, Steve Rieker, Paul Rosenbohm, Phillip Salzer, Sharon Williams
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Linda Daley
STAFF PRESENT:	Scott Sorrel - County Administrator; Shauna Musselman – Asst. County Administrator; Jennie Cordis Boswell - State's Attorney's Office; Brian Elsasser; William Watkins, Jr. – County Board Members; Julie Kusterin – Finance; Angela Loftus, Jack Walton – County Administration; Rachael Parker – County Clerk; Nicole Bjerke – Treasurer; Tom Bride – Election Commission; Brian Asbell – Sheriff's Office; Beth Crider – Regional Office of Education
VISITORS	

Call to Order

Chairperson Fennell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

A motion to allow the participation of Ms. Pastucha via teleconference was made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Ms. Duncan. The motion carried unanimously (12-0). (Mr. Rieker absent for vote; Ms. Daley absent)

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of November 30, 2021 was made by Dr. Blair and seconded by Mr. Reneau. The motion carried unanimously (12-0). (Mr. Rieker and Ms. Pastucha absent for vote; Ms. Daley absent)

Informational

➤ Monthly Financial Report

Ms. Kusterin provided an overview of financial activity through October 31, 2021, representing 83.3% of the fiscal year. Highlights include:

- General Fund Revenues continue to track above budget projections

➤ Heddington Oaks Financial Report

➤ Heddington Oaks 2021 Financial Plan

Ms. Musselman advised that RSM is in the course of filing a reopening of the Medicare Cost Report, which will assist in reimbursement at 65% in Medicare cost. She stated that the 2021 Cost Report is due May 31, 2022.

Ms. Musselman advised that Finance staff is working in conjunction with the State's Attorney's Office on a large Accounts Receivable case. She stated that a court hearing on the case is scheduled January 21, 2022 and anticipates a resolution shortly thereafter.

➤ November 2021 Accounts Payable Review

No verbal report. No questions or comments from committee.

➤ Legislative Update

Mr. Sorrel advised that the General Assembly is partially back in session this week, with some sessions cancelled due to COVID-19. He stated that after speaking with the legislative delegation, it was agreed to cancel the Legislative Breakfast due to the compressed legislative schedule.

Mr. Sorrel advised that he will be speaking with the County's lead lobbyist regarding legislation related to the Treasurer's Office and the Coroner's Office, as well as a more general discussion on where the County may best focus its legislative efforts.

Joint Resolution

➤ Election Commission Budget Amendment (*joint with Ways and Means Committee*)

A motion to approve was made by Dr. Blair and seconded by Ms. Williams. Mr. Sorrel advised that the action item appropriates \$1,244,838.00 from the fund balance of the Capital Fund into the FY2022 Capital Budget. He stated the funds will be utilized for a new voting system and an upgrade to ePollbooks. He explained that the funds were not budgeted in the FY2022 budget as an exact cost was not determined at the time the FY2022 spending plan was adopted.

Mr. Bride stated that the current voting system is at end of life and operating systems are no longer supported. He advised that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued and two responses were received. He stated that after review and evaluation of the responses by a bipartisan review committee and vendor presentations, the evaluation committee unanimously selected Hart InterCivic as the recommended vendor. He advised that the Board of Election Commissioners approved the selection in November.

Mr. Bride further clarified that the \$1,244,838.00 budget amendment to the Peoria County Election Commission FY2022 budget incorporates \$918,104.00 for the purchase of the new voting system, and \$326,734.00 for the upgrade to existing VR Systems electronic pollbooks to allow for ballot printing on demand.

The motion to approve carried unanimously (14-0); Ms. Pastucha voted aye via teleconference; Ms. Daley absent.

Resolutions

➤ Contract Extension with Koch Consultants, Ltd.

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Duncan and seconded by Ms. Williams. Ms. Kusterin advised that the contract with Koch Consultants expired December 31, 2021, and staff requests a two-year extension of the contract due to staff constraints related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the current transition to a new ERP system.

The motion to approve carried unanimously (14-0); Ms. Pastucha voted aye via teleconference; Ms. Daley absent.

➤ FY22 Budget Appropriation Transfer for County Staff reassigned from County Auditor's Office

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Reliford and seconded by Mr. Reneau. Mr. Sorrel advised that a floor amendment made at the October 14, 2021 County Board Meeting increased the County Administration FY2022 budget in the amount \$87,000.00 for the purpose of ensuring spending authority in the FY2022 budget for two of the three represented team members in the County Auditor's Office. He added that the recommended budget includes funding for the third position. He noted that two of the three team members have accepted positions with Peoria County, while the third team member has chosen to pursue employment elsewhere.

Mr. Sorrel advised that the resolution transfers the \$87,000.00 from County Administration into the budgets of the County Coroner and the Juvenile Detention Center budget, and appropriates \$24,400.00 from the reserves of the General Fund into the Coroner's budget to increase the team member's status to a full-time employee.

The motion to approve carried unanimously (13-0); Ms. Pastucha absent for vote; Ms. Daley absent.

Committee Action

➤ Review of Executive Session Minutes

A motion to accept the recommendation of the State's Attorney's Office was made by Ms. Groves Allison and seconded by Ms. Duncan.

Ms. Cordis Boswell advised that it is the recommendation of the State's Attorney's Office that all previously held executive session minutes continue to be held closed as the need for confidentiality still exists, and to destroy executive session audio recordings more than two years old, except those that relate to pending litigation. The motion carried unanimously (14-0).

Miscellaneous

Mr. Elsasser brought up the topic of police reform and the implications of qualified immunity. He stated that both the pros and cons of the issue continue to be discussed, and advocated for the County Board sending a letter to the state legislature and Governor Pritzker stating that the County Board fully supports retaining qualified immunity and request that any further studies be discontinued.

Mr. Dillon suggested reaching out to area legislators to initiate a discussion prior to any statement from this Board, both to address the concerns of the County Board as well as gaining a better understanding of the potential outcome of final legislation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Fennell at 2:55 p.m.

Recorded & Transcribed by: Jan Kleffman