

Iron County Finance Chairman Carl Lind called to order that committee on Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse located at Crystal Falls, MI. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited. County Clerk Joan Luhtanen called the Roll of Members. Present were: Fran Wills, Beverly Camp and Lind. The bills had been reviewed and Wills made a motion, seconded by Camp, to approve payment of the bills as presented in the amount of \$ 309,762.75.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Camp, Wills, Lind

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

Sheriff Valesano had been notified that the marine grant his office had received in the past, will be cut by 25% in the next fiscal year, or \$1,250. This will result in a reduction in hours, gas, etc. in that area. This information is necessary when budgeting for the upcoming year.

County Administrator Jan Huizing presented information about the Merit Mail(email) proposal. Camp made a motion, seconded by Lind, to give Administrator Huizing permission to sign the related contracts. This is a three year contract. There is a \$2,000 non-recurring cost, and a yearly cost of \$2,000.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Camp, Wills, Lind

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

A renewed discussion about a possible additional appropriation for the Iron County Fair Board was held. (See Minute book Page S-471, June 2, 2011) The Fair Board's Revenues are down. The Rodeo is supposed to pay \$1,800 a year for the use of the grandstand complex, but no funds have been received for the past two years. When the last payment was received, it was payment for the year prior. Also unknown was the amount the Fair Board charges those entities who hold other various events, and whether that charge is sufficient to cover costs.

Contributing to the shortfall is the unexpected jump in the electricity charge from Wisconsin Electric. We are being charged the "high peak" rate because of the increased usage. Whether efforts were made for utility conservation is unknown, or whether this rate can be lowered. Wills made a motion to authorize the budget to be amended to take \$5,000 from General Fund Contingency to the Fair Board Fund. However, this motion died for lack of support. Administrator Huizing pointed out the Contingency Fund is not that large.

The 990s form that was submitted by the Fair Board was discussed. This is the first year the County received such information. It appears that the Fair Board does have a significant amount of funds in savings that could be used to pay their obligations. Finance Chairman Lind said he would be glad to attend a Fair Board meeting. It may also be beneficial to hold a joint meeting to take steps to resolve the financial shortfall.

A similar financial shortfall situation occurred with the bills from Integrated Imaging, Inc. for converting ScanFile files to FileDirector files had been charged to the County Clerk's office and County Treasurer's office (\$1,500 each). This was an unanticipated amount which had not been budgeted in either department. Treasurer Cornelia could re-assign some expenditures in her department, but was still short the full amount. The Treasurer and Clerk will indicate to the County Administrator in what line items the payment could possibly be taken out of in order to pay the bill.

Lind stated that there were problems with the County's Internet which resulted in a significant slowdown in the system. It appears that someone misused one of the computers. A letter will be sent to all department heads and employees that inappropriate use of the county's computers will result in termination.

Lind made a motion, seconded by Camp, to adjourn. On Voice Vote, the motion carried. The time was 1:50 p.m.

