

**MINUTES
OF
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING
and
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE/BUDGET COMMITTEE
September 10, 2019 – 10:30 a.m.
Pine County Courthouse, Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Josh Mohr called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Present were Commissioners Steve Hallan, John Mikrot, Jr, and Matt Ludwig. Also present was County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder and County Administrator David Minke. Commissioner Steve Chaffee was absent (excused).

The pledge of allegiance was said.

Commission Mohr requested the following revisions to the Agenda:

1. Insurance Committee Update
2. Elected Officials 2020 salaries

Commissioner Ludwig stated the 2020 elected officials (sheriff and county attorney) salaries were discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting which took place today prior to this meeting. The consensus of the Personnel Committee is to recommend the 2020 salaries be set for the sheriff at \$113,950 (an 8% increase) and the county attorney at \$123,702 (a 6% increase). These recommendations will be presented to the County Board for consideration at the regular meeting December 17, 2019. These increases would still make the sheriff's salary about \$2,000 below the comparable average and the county attorney's salary close to the average of comparable salaries.

Commissioner Hallan provided an update from the Insurance Committee which met September 9, 2019. Both Health Partners and Resource Training and Solutions (RTS) were below the 8% threshold, RTS at 7.53% and Health Partners at 6.67%. RTS increased the out-of-pocket maximum on all plans by \$300 for single and \$600 for family; Health Partners increased the plan deductibles by \$300 for single and \$600 for family. The Health Partners proposal eliminated the two narrow network plans and combined them into an open access plan, and removed 4th quarter carryover. The Health Partners proposal requires a two-year commitment with an 8% second year cap. The Insurance Committee recommended renewing with RTS; a Memorandum of Understanding will be distributed to the unions for consideration.

County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder presented revenue and expense updates to the General Fund since the August 27th budget meeting. With the changes identified, the 2020 general fund budget is out of balance by \$17,055 with no contingency built in. Kelly presented the following budget options to reduce the budget such that the final levy is no more than a 3.0% increase:

1. Shift \$20,000 for jail cameras from the General Fund to the Technology Fund.
2. Transfer \$36,000 of equipment and furniture expense in the Solid Waste budget to the Building Fund.
3. Additional 3 months of DWI officer after grant ends (\$16,171)
4. Pay 10% of sheriff and chief deputy's salaries from gun permit revenue (\$32,826)
5. 50% agricultural educator (\$48,354)

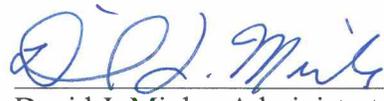
After discussion of the preliminary 2020 budget and property tax levy, it was **the consensus** of the board to shift \$20,000 for jail cameras to the Technology Fund, transfer \$36,000 of equipment and furniture expense to the Building Fund, and a directive that the Auditor-Treasurer work with the Sheriff to evaluate the use of the gun permit fund for eligible expenses.

The consensus of the commissioners is to consider a 3% levy increase for the preliminary levy which would equal a total levy of \$19,354,383, an increase of \$563,719 from the 2019 levy.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.



Joshua Mohr, Chair
Board of Commissioners



David J. Minke, Administrator
Clerk to County Board