

**OPERATIONS & PERSONNEL  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
December 14, 2020  
5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Linda Little, Chair  
John Jackson  
Kevin Greenfield

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Bill Oliver (joined at 5:32 p.m.)  
Grant Noland

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Carol Reed, Auditor  
Mary Eaton, Recorder  
Josh Tanner, County Clerk  
Jessie Smalley, HR  
Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce  
  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Little at the Macon County Office Building.

**MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting (11/16/2020) made by Chairman Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Jackson, roll call vote showed the motion carried 4-0.

**APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND CLAIMS**

Motion to approve payroll as presented made by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Chairman Greenfield and roll call vote showed the motion carried 5-0. (Mr. Oliver is now present telephonically)

Motion to approve claims as presented made by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Chairman Greenfield and roll call vote showed the motion carried 5-0.

**REPORTS**

*Auditor's Office –*

**Macon County Board Resolution Accepting One Year Proposal From Midwest Employers Casualty for Workers Compensation Excess Liability Insurance Coverage**

Ms. Reed explained that the County is self-insured for workers comp, but do have insurance for above a \$500,000 or \$600,000 threshold. The fee for this year is \$85,504. Last year's was \$80,446. It went up about \$5,000. It has been rising over the last several years. In 2015, it was \$66,000. It's one of those things where the outlook is the same for the future. There were two quotes. This was the best offer.

Chairman Greenfield asked about program 2. Ms. Reed explained that it was \$195,000, but the deductible was only \$250,000. It was felt the risk was adequate to take the higher one.

Mr. Greenfield asked about the threshold amounts. Ms. Reed explained that it is \$600,000 for law enforcement. Currently, it is \$500,000 across the board.

Mr. Greenfield asked where the claim payments come from. Ms. Reed said it comes out of the County's pockets first. Then it is turned in for reimbursement over the \$500,000. That money does not come from the general fund. Probably it would come from the insurance fund. Workers Comp cases are paid from the insurance fund unless there is some sort of judgment thing involved.

Motion was made by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Chairman Greenfield, to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval. Roll call vote showed the motion carried 5-0.

***County Board –***

**Macon County Board Ordinance to Approve Lease Agreement Renewal with Macon County CASA**

The resolution was presented by Chair Little who explained that this is a renewal & motion was made by Chair Little, seconded by Chairman Greenfield, to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval. Roll call vote showed the motion carried 5-0.

***County Clerk –***

Mr. Tanner reported that today was the first day for the School Board to file for the April 6 election. There were about a dozen today early on with a total of 19 by the end of the day. Those filings were for all the various school boards.

There are about 40 laptops that are about 6 years old which would normally be recycled because they are too old and can't really be sold. The question is, if the issue is run past legal, would the board members be interested in approving a resolution that would allow them to be sold for a nominal fee to either the general public or county employees. Otherwise, they would be recycled. Sending them to the auction is just a waste of time as they are not really worth anything. But, if there are county employees that are interested in buying them for whatever nominal fee, he would be happy to write the resolution. Chair Little said she was OK with it, but would like legal approval first because at one time they were told that county employees could not buy county equipment at the auction. It is a good idea if legal gives the approval. Mr. Tanner said they would be sold for about \$20. They are really not worth anything. If they went to the auction, someone would probably pay \$100 for all 40 of them. Electronics are just consumables at this point of time and after so many years, they just have no value. The county has to responsibly dispose of them which means recycling through the Environmental Management department's event. Otherwise, in most other counties, if they don't have Environmental Management, they have to pay to get someone to take them. They can't just be thrown away.

Chairman Greenfield asked about just giving them to the employees. Mr. Tanner agreed that that could be an option, he said he was just not sure whether the board wanted to give them away or

find some kind of a nominal fee just so you're not giving county employees surplus equipment. You would be selling it. Mr. Tanner said he would have legal check it out and would bring it back to a future meeting. Chair Little commented that she would appreciate knowing what legal has to say about it. She said she is fine with the idea of either giving them away or selling them for a small amount as long as legal approves.

Mr. Tanner went on to report that at the last County Board meeting, a grant from CTCL (Citizens for Tec & Civic Life). He said that he has received word that since the County did not expend all of it because the State grant covered most expenses that CTCL may allow the county to extend that grant 6 months and expend for the April election out of it. Mr. Tanner said that is his intention, to request that extension and then continue to use those funds for the April election because COVID is not going to be done by April.

Chair Little asked if all the extra efforts such as early voting and all the other things that were done with the general election were going to be implemented and necessary for the April election. Mr. Tanner explained that the Governor and the IDPA have not issued any kind of directive on the April election yet. It is probably too far out for them to do anything at this point. In the event that they do, we do have enough PPE from this election because so many people voted by mail or early, but there will always be additional expenses with the COVID. Everything is just slower and more expensive. There is no primary for the City. The number of applicants required for City Council would have been 13 and they only had 12. They were one short, thankfully. That is a lot of money for one race.

***Recorder –***

Ms. Eaton was present. She had nothing to report but distributed monthly reports and offered to answer questions. There were no questions. She commented that the month of October was one of the biggest months that she has seen for collecting money.

***Workforce Investments –***

Ms. Wilkerson explained that last Tuesday, Workforce was asked to present to the Illinois Workforce Board. Due to the Opioid Grant, they wanted an update on how it is going. With the doors being closed to the public for almost 9 months now, the other grant recipients are struggling with getting employers to take people for work experience and on the job training. The end of December will be the end of the first year. The goal was to have 84 work experiences by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and we have 38. So, they wanted a presentation to see what we are doing to involve employers and get some of these patients employed with a work experience. So, the key there is the partnership we have with Crossing because the patients are actually put on work experiences at that facility. They are gardening, answering phones and other activities, and then when it is felt that they are ready to go out into the community with an employer, they are taken along with case management. That is the key, the partnership with Crossing that has built the foundation for that.

Workforce is working very closely with Austin Industrial. They are currently looking to hire 30 to 50 skilled workers. She said they are working with Economic Development and Richland Community College trying to get some welding classes up and running. There are a couple of employees they'd like to put into incumbent training. Workforce can help fund that. If they will come to Workforce first, their books, tuition and fees can be paid for. She said they are trying really hard to get that out into the community so that they know to come to Workforce first so they can be helped with training needs.

Several virtual job fairs have also been held. This is something new where the employer comes to Workforce and are put on the screen. Ms. Wilkerson said they have worked with Fuyao, Macon County Health Department, Crossing, and Assured Insulation. So, they are getting people jobs through the virtual job fair.

**Citizen's Remarks** - *none*

**Old Business** - *none*

**New Business** - *none*

**CLOSED SESSION** *None needed*

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, January 25, 2021

**ADJOURNMENT** Mr. Jackson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chairman Greenfield and the meeting was adjourned by Chair Little at 5:43 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office*