

**Tax & Finance Committee of the Whole of the Effingham County Board**  
**3rd Floor Board Room, Effingham County Building**  
**Thursday, June 16, 2022 3:30 p.m.**

TAX & FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: Rob Arnold, Chairman, Joe Thoele, Vice Chair, Norbert Soltwedel, Jim Niemann, Heather Mumma, Dave Campbell, John Perry, Elizabeth Huston, Doug McCain

Committee Members Present: Chair R Arnold, J Thoele, N Soltwedel, D Campbell, D McCain

This meeting called to order by Chair R Arnold

1) Member N Soltwedel motioned to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2022 meeting of this committee. Member D Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

2) Unfinished Business – NONE

3) New Business

- Conflict Attorneys Discussion

Judge Martin Siemer attended this meeting to alert this committee of the possible need for additional conflicts attorneys and/or a raise in fees for those attorneys who are appointed by the Courts to handle cases that the Public Defender cannot. Currently the Public Defender and the State's Attorney are not getting applicants for assistants. Judge Siemer believes there is going to be a time soon when not enough attorneys are available. Judge Siemer suggested 3 possible options – 1) raise the Assistant Public Defender salary, 2) raise the amount that private attorneys are paid when appointed, and 3) could also appoint a 2<sup>nd</sup> (and maybe 3<sup>rd</sup>) Ass. Conflicts Public Defender.

- Lake Sara Fourth of July Fireworks Donation

Friends of Lake Sara John Richards attended this meeting to request a donation to the Lake Sara Fireworks to be held on July 3, 2022. Member D McCain motioned to send to the Full Board at its meeting of June 20, 2022 a recommendation to contribute \$2000 to the Lake Sara Fireworks from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Member D Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

- Effingham Fourth of July Fireworks Donation

Amanda McKay, representing the Rotary Club of Effingham (Noon) attended this meeting to request a donation to the Effingham Fireworks display to be held July 4, 2022 at Effingham High School. Member D McCain motioned to send to the Full Board a recommendation to donate \$1000 from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund for this cause. Member J Thoele seconded. Motion carried.

- Effingham County Fair Donation

Member N Soltwedel motioned to send to the Full Board the recommendation to support the Effingham County Fair with a donation of \$4000 for security from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Member J Thoele seconded. Motion carried.

- Effingham County Soil & Water conservation District Annual Report

Denise Willenborg presented the Effingham County SWCD annual report for the committee's review. Ms. Willenborg also introduced Beth Koester as the new SWCD Administrator.

- Amend Ordinance 22-54 FY2021-22 Salary Schedule

Member D Campbell motioned to send to the Full Board the recommendation to amend Ordinance #2254, the FY2021-22 Salary Schedule for Non-Union employees to reflect a change in the Victim Witness Coordinator salary. Member J Thoele seconded. Motion carried.

- TREC Maintenance

Member R McCain motioned to table discussion on the earmarking of funds to the maintenance of the TREC trail. Member N Soltwedel seconded. Motion carried.

- Personal Property Replacement Tax Resolution

Member J Thoele motioned to send to the Full Board a recommendation of approval of the Personal Property Tax Replacement Resolution. Member N Soltwedel seconded. Motion carried.

- Six Month Extension of Circuit Clerk Audit

Auditors have requested a six-month extension to complete the audit of the Circuit Clerk's annual audit. Circuit Clerk brought this request to this committee. Chair R Arnold stated this item will go on the Full Board agenda without committee recommendation as no motion to move it forward was made.

- Amend County Budget Ordinance

A new line item is requested by the Sheriff's Office in order to allocate funds from ARPA for previously approved jail purchases. Chair R Arnold stated this item will be placed on the Full Board agenda without committee as the actual ordinance is not prepared for this committee meeting.

- FY22 Mileage Rate Reimbursement

Member J Thoele motioned to send to the Full Board a recommendation to approve an increase in mileage rates to 62.5 cents per mile as of July 1, 2022. This rate reflects IRS mileage rates increases for the remainder of 2022. Member D McCain seconded. Motion carried.

#### 4) Appointments

- Member D McCain motioned to send to the Full Board a recommendation for the appointment of David Budde to the 911 Board. Member J Thoele seconded. Motion carried.

#### 5) General Information/Public Comment

- Supervisor of Assessments Pam Braun announced that Lyle Westfall has been confirmed as a member of the Farmland Committee.
- Carl Baker of the U of I Extension Center submitted his monthly report.
- County Clerk Kerry Hirtzel notified this committee that an Ordinance for the Public Defender's Salary and a resolution for the sale of property will both be presented at the Full Board meeting as they came to his office too late to be placed on this committee agenda. Clerk Hirtzel also announced the Public Test of Voting Equipment for the June 28, 2022 General Primary Election to be held on June 17, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.
- Sheriff Paul Kuhns stated he will have 911 agreements and tuck pointing for the County Building information for the June 20, 2022 Board Meeting.

#### 6) Closed Session - NONE

#### 7) Adjourn

- Member D Campbell motioned to adjourn this meeting. Member D McCain seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry J Hirtzel  
Effingham County Clerk