

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: **FINANCE**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 9, 2011**

Committee Members Present:

Supervisors Thomas
Taylor
Belden
Kenny
Merlino
Conover

Others Present:

Paul Dusek, County Administrator
Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board
Kevin Geraghty, Budget Officer
Supervisor Bentley
Supervisor Champagne
Supervisor Loeb
Supervisor McDevitt
Supervisor Strainer
Rob Lynch, Deputy Treasurer
Julie Pacyna, Purchasing Agent
Jeff Tennyson, Superintendent, Public Works
Suzanne Wheeler, Deputy Commissioner,
Department of Social Services
Don Lehman, *The Post Star*
Nicole Livingston, Deputy Clerk

Committee Members Absent:

Supervisors Goodspeed
Monroe
VanNess

Mr. Thomas called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 10:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Kenny and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2011 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the Finance Agenda were provided to the Committee members, and a copy of same is on file with the minutes.

Commencing the Action Agenda review, Mr. Thomas stated Item 1 were the requests for Transfer of Funds which were attached for Committee approval. He noted that Supervisory Committee approval had been obtained as necessary.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve Item 1 as outlined above. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas advised Items 2A and B were referrals from the County Treasurer. Item 2A, he said, was a request for a new contract with Systems East for the software maintenance agreement for the Tax Collection System, commencing January 1, 2012 and terminating December 31, 2012, for a lump sum amount of \$14,808.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover and seconded by Mr. Merlino to approve the request as presented.

In response to an inquiry, Rob Lynch, Deputy Treasurer, asserted that the cost for the contract was the same amount as the 2011 agreement and had been included in the 2012 budget.

Mr. Thomas called the question and the motion was carried unanimously to approve Item 2A as outlined above. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas added Item 2B was a request for a Contingent Fund transfer in the amount of \$25,000 to Code A.2490 439 Community College-Tuition Miscellaneous Fees & Expenses, to account for an increase in Community College tuition expense.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Belden to approve the request as presented.

Mr. Champagne explained that this was due to Warren County students that attended a College in another county. He clarified that the County was responsible to pay the chargebacks for students that attended schools out-of-County and sufficient funds had not appropriated to cover such.

Mr. Thomas called the question and the motion was carried unanimously to approve Item 2B as outlined above. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas asserted Item 3 was a referral from the Human Services Committee, Veterans' Services, requesting a Contingent Fund transfer in the amount of \$400 to Code A.6510 140 Veterans Services Salaries-Sick Leave Incentive, to provide the funding for the sick leave incentive.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Item 3 as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas stated Item 4 was a referral from the Public Safety Committee, Sheriff & Communications, requesting to amend the 2011 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$7,138 to reflect receipt of insurance payment for lightning damage.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Item 4 as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas noted Item 5 was a referral from the Public Works Committee, Parks, Recreation & Railroad, requesting to amend the 2011 County budget to increase

estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$1,149 to reflect receipt of a donation from the D&J Crossroads, Inc. Country Store in support of the Warren County Fish Hatchery operations.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Item 5 as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas apprised Items 6A through C were items to be discussed by Paul Dusek, County Administrator. Item 6A, he said, was a request to amend Resolution No. 598 of 2011 to include awarding the bid for recycling services to Waste Management of New York, LLC.

Mr. Dusek entered the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Mr. Dusek explained that this was just a clerical error and the award to Waste Management for recycling services had inadvertently been left out of the resolution. Mr. Conover added that the towns could elect out of an individual recycling category if they so chose to and Mr. Dusek confirmed that was correct.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve Item 6A as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas remarked that Item 6B was a request to amend Resolution No. 601 of 2011 regarding Health Insurance Plans to provide that the Medicare Advantage Plan will run from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012, as opposed to December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Kenny and carried unanimously to approve Item 6B as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas advised Item 6C pertained to the Burn Plant Purchase Price Allocation Agreement.

Mr. Dusek apprised that this was a draft agreement for Warren and Washington Counties and the IDA (Industrial Development Agency) to clearly state how the monies would be distributed from the sale of the Trash Plant. He reviewed the agreement in detail with the Committee members. He referenced the original purchase price of \$2.5 million, which included an escalator clause for inflation and the price had now risen to \$3,130,764.28. He asserted that he was comfortable that the purchase price outlined in the agreement was stated correctly. Mr. Dusek noted that \$580,000 was the money

that was left over in the Trust Fund as a result of payments that were made to the Trustee for the Burn Plant, and said monies would also come back to the Counties. Finally, he said, there was a distribution allocation for Warren and Washington Counties in the attached Exhibits included in the Agenda, showing Warren County's share of the proceeds at 66.41% and Washington County at 33.59%, which was based on the tonnage of trash that was delivered over the past ten years. In conclusion, he recommended that the Committee, and subsequently the Board, approve this agreement.

In response to an inquiry, Mr. Dusek informed that the closing date for the sale of the Plant was November 14, 2011. Mr. Thomas recalled a sales tax intercept with the plan that was completed in 2003 and 2004 and he questioned if there were any funds set aside because of that and Mr. Dusek replied that some of the \$580,000 may be part of that intercept; however, he stated he was unsure. Mr. Dusek further noted that he had seen a letter to the State Comptroller's which said that the intercept was now over and he believed the County had an accounting of the funds that were intercepted. Mr. Champagne added that those dollars would be going into the Fund Balance so that the impact of the influx of money this year, would not modify or change the overall budget as it stands. Mr. Dusek agreed and pointed out that the only exception was that the revenues received from the trash plant haulings would be used by the County to offset some budgetary costs, which would be addressed by the Budget Officer during the presentation of the Tentative Budget. He reported that the proceeds received from the sale of the plant were directed to the County's surplus. Mr. Lynch clarified that at the end of 2011, the proceeds from the sale would be transferred into the General Fund to increase the fund balance.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously to approve Item 6C as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Thomas referred to Item IV. Topics to be reported on/discussions/updates and noted Item 1, was the response to the Budget Analysis Report from the County Treasurer as prepared by JoAnn McKinstry, Assistant to the County Administrator, which was attached for review.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Belden and seconded by Mr. Kenny, Mr. Thomas adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Livingston, Deputy Clerk