

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday, February 1, 2022
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: River Block Auditorium

PRESENT: Ed Wagner, Lance Pliml, Mike Feirer, Adam Fischer, Donna Rozar (via Webex)

OTHERS PRESENT (for part or all of the meeting, in person or via Webex): Bill Clendenning, Dennis Polach, Ken Curry, Ed Newton, Kyle Theiler, Heather Gehrt, Kim McGrath, Kelli Francis, Nick Flugaur, Adam Fandre, Sue Smith, Jason Grueneberg, Shane Wucherpfennig, Jodi Pingel, Trent Miner, Amy Kaup, Jason DeMarco, Marissa Kornack, Reuben Van Tassel, Brandon Vruwink, Mary Schlagenhaft, Mary Solheim, Lisa Keller, Tim Deaton (The Horton Group)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wagner at 9:00 a.m.

There were no public comments.

Motion (Feirer/Fischer) to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Rozar introduced a discussion regarding the recruitment and retention of Registered Nurses (RNs) at Edgewater, Norwood, and the Health Department. Norwood Administrator Kornack, Edgewater Administrator Theiler, and Health Director Smith all provided the Committee with information on their recruitment and retention struggles with RNs. Rozar explained that the HHS Committee will be considering a number of options to address the recruitment and retention issues, and that many of them will have fiscal impacts, so they will be brought back to this committee. Rozar requested that this topic be added to the agenda for the next regular committee meeting.

Pliml gave a brief update on ARPA funds. A brief discussion regarding opioid funding ensued.

Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg provided information to the committee on the Request for Information (RFI) process that was held with four different Internet Service Providers (ISPs) on January 17, 2022. Grueneberg additionally provided information and an update on the County's commitment to bond \$1 million to Bug Tussel Wireless for broadband infrastructure improvements. Discussion ensued.

Wellness Coordinator Fandre gave brief update on Wellness Program activities.

Treasurer Gehrt stated that sales tax came in at \$7.1 million for 2021 which was \$1.1 million above what was budgeted.

Gehrt presented a resolution to amend the 2021 budget for Treasurer due to higher than anticipated expenditures. Gehrt noted that the resolution included in the packet had an amount of \$36,710, but the actual amount should be \$37,065.

Motion (Pliml/Feirer) to approve the resolution to amend the 2021 budget for Treasurer due to higher than anticipated expenditures. Motion (Pliml/Feirer) to amend the fiscal note in the resolution to \$37,065. Motion to amend carried unanimously. Amended motion carried unanimously.

Gehrt presented a resolution to sell tax deed property.

Motion (Pliml/Fischer) to approve the resolution to sell tax deed property. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Director Newton introduced resolutions for Workers Compensation, Property & Liability, Coroner, Emergency Management – Administration, Emergency Management – Building Numbering, Information Technology – Capital Projects, Information Technology – Repair & Maintenance, Maintenance CIP, and CEED – Professional Service – Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. The Committee decided to act on all resolutions in one motion.

Motion (Feirer/Pliml) to approve all of the presented resolutions. Motion carried unanimously.

Newton asked the Committee for a decision on where to take the funds from to replace the nurse call light system at Norwood as approved by resolution at the December County Board meeting. Newton explained that the resolution was amended by County Board to read "...from the contingency account, or the use of ARPA funding, whichever is more advantageous to the County...". Discussion ensued.

Motion (Fischer/Rozar) to approve the nurse call light system to be purchased with ARPA funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Human Resources Director McGrath introduced Tim Deaton of The Horton Group. Mr. Deaton presented a review of 2021 claims experience in addition to options to shop stop loss carriers and pharmacy benefit managers in 2022.

Agenda items for next meeting: RN Recruitment & Retention
Broadband Update

There were no comments from the Chair.

The next regular meeting is March 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Wagner declared the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Kelli Francis. Minutes in draft form until approved at the next meeting.