

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VIDEO CONFERENCE SPECIAL SESSION
AUGUST 12, 2020**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session at 8:30 A.M. on August 12, 2020 by Video Conference with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseith, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Dan Thompson all joining the meeting by Video Conference. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Hage and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer (via video conference), Sheriff Leshovsky (via video conference), Todd Christie (via video conference), and Daily News Reporter Frank Stanko (via video conference).

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Thompson to approve the Agenda. Vote was unanimous.

JAIL BUDGET

Christie reported on changes and points of interest in the budget which included:

Medical -

- costs are up this year with medical issues of inmates
- medical assistance is available through the Assn of Counties while incarcerated if inmates qualify
- working with tele-health through the Health Dept which could save costs
- inmates not bonding out because of the free medical

Telephone -

- went over budget this year due to unexpected costs for Office 365 software; will increase for the 2021 budget year

Meals -

- costs are down because of the reduced number of current inmates

Daily Count of Inmates -

- down due to COVID
- the number allowed is at 50%

Reliance Telephone Expense -

- will be changing to TurnKey rather than selling phone cards

Commissary -

- expenses will be less changing to Turn Key Kiosks

Inmate Services Account - Expenses for the air conditioning and lights this year

Sobriety Testing - this is the 24/7 Program, when Covid hit income and expenses decreased so not a true income/expense

Work Release Revenue - the ten year average is \$12,900; income levels are decreasing substantially

Finger Printing Fees - income is down due to Covid

Jail Medical Reimbursement and Sobriety Test Refund - both of these accounts can be discontinued.

Covid Procedures - New inmates aren't Covid tested, they are quarantined for 14 days, their Temperature and Oxygen levels are checked; may pursue the idea of a 7 day quarantine rather than 14.

Estimated year-end budget for this year is \$884,000; requesting \$908,000 in the 2021 budget.

Following the Jail budget presentation, the Board discussed the costs for operating the jail and the reimbursements received through various contracts as well as the stipulations of crossing borders to or from other states.

Hage reported that the County may be receiving close to \$680,000 through the Cares Act for seven months of salary/benefits for Licensed Peace Officers. The full Emergency Commission will be meeting this week to make a final determination.

RSR BUDGET

Kristen Hasbargen joined the meeting by Speaker Phone. She requested authorization to purchase a van to replace one that was totaled in an accident; the van is used for transporting Foster Care clients. A quote was received from Dakota Chrysler Center for \$29,850. An insurance payment was received in the amount of \$6800 for the totaled vehicle. A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Thompson to approve the purchase. Voting NO were Ehlert and Berg. The remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

Commissioners Ehlert and Berg voiced their frustrations with the state and the "indirect costs". Hasbargen reported an "indirect cost" proposal is being worked on for the next Legislative Session.

MISC BUDGET

Hage reported she will be emailing projected year-end balances to the Board soon - currently she is estimating \$15,900,000 at the end of 2020 and \$14.1 million by the end of 2021. Health Insurance costs are expected to increase 20%, several options for Health insurance costs have been emailed to the Board for consideration.

CH/LEC ADDITION


Hage had a Video call with Comstock Construction and Stroh Architect to go over the CH/LEC addition. The addition is estimated to cost \$1.5 million higher than originally planned. We could extend the mill one or two more years or several options were discussed to reduce the costs -

- reducing the size of the Commission Room
 - shifting the mechanical and treatment rooms to the north
- both of these would reduce the amount of roof, thus lowering the cost

- another option would be to not put a roof over the open area to the north of the new addition, but this could be a problem with snow in the winter

Following discussion, a motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Berseth to stay with the current footprint plans. Voting NO was Campbell, the remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:10 A.M.

ATTEST: 
Leslie Hage
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
Sid Berg
Board of Richland County Commissioners