Robertson County Finance Committee
Minutes of September 14, 2021 Meeting

The Finance Committee met at 4:00 P.M. with the following members present: Kevin Gray, Delvin Hester, Bob Hogan and Bill Moore were present. Mayor Billy Vogle and Jody Stewart were also present. Chris Causey and Michael (Bubba) Dorris were absent.

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order and the following main discussions and actions took place during the meeting:

The minutes of July 20, 2021 were approved.

Item one (1) on the agenda was bid #1474 for the Jail Plumbing Project. Jody Stewart informed the Committee that the only bidder was rejected because it was over budget. Traye Fann, County Engineer, explained this project will be rebid as follows: October 2021 this project will be advertised, November 2021 this bid will be opened and in December 2021 this bid is scheduled to be approved.

Jody reminded the Committee that the Animal Control Facility Project has been bid three times and that the lowest bid was greater than the Project budget amount of $800,000. There was some discussion about the Project being delayed, then rebid twice and the low bid of $1,093,508.75 exceeding the Project budget. There was also discussion about the legal issue Clyde Richert, County Attorney, explained regarding concerns the second lowest bidder, Stubblefield Construction, raised about a bid bond being required as per bid specifications. The low bidder presented a Company check and Clyde stated that the County has allowed this practice in the past. The low bidders check was deposited by the County and has been verified that cash is in the County coffers. Jody stated that this bid was approved by the Building and Grounds Committee and she said the Budget Committee has recommended a budget amendment to the County Commission for their approval at their September 20, 2021 meeting in order to have the funding in place for this Project. Bob Hogan and Bill Moore verified with Traye that all specifications as per the Architect have been provided in the low bid. Traye confirmed this was a bare necessity and thorough bid for the Animal Control Facility Project and everything in the bid is needed in order to meet State requirements.

It was moved by Bob Hogan and seconded by Kevin Gray to accept bid number 1475 for the Robertson County Animal Control Facility Project from MDI Construction in the amount of $1,093,508.75. This bid is pending approval of the Animal Control Committee prior to the County Commission meeting on September 20, 2021. The County Commission will vote for approval of a budget amendment at this September meeting. This budget amendment places additional funds required for this Project in order to accept the low bid into the Project account. All voted yea.

On Thursday, September 16, 2021, MDI Construction sent the following email statement: "We do apologize, but we are going to need to withdraw our bid. It was an oversight on our part, but we thought when we turned in our financials for renewal in 2019 that they (State) would bump us up to the $1.5 M limit (on the contractor's license) because we were qualified for that." Clyde Richert's recommendation is for all bids to be rejected, because available funding is not in place. Clyde sent a detailed email to all Finance Committee members and recommended the rejection of all Animal Control Facility Project bids.

Jody informed the Committee that the State Auditors will be conducting Audit exit interviews for FY2021 with mostly all County Department Heads tomorrow, September 15, 2021. She stated that this is the third year in a row with no audit findings.

Clyde informed the County Commissioners present at this meeting that he will be emailing information concerning the law suit from the City of Orlinda to all County Commissioner tomorrow, September 15, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

William H. Moore, Chairman

Jody Stewart, Finance Director