Budget Advisory Committee Meeting, May 31, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 by Mark Canfield. In attendance by staff were Judy Kinney and John Scruton (via Zoom). Committee members present were Mark Canfield (via Zoom), Ned McElroy, Rob Diefenbach, Dave Spinney, and Denise Bujalski. There were no guests.

Mark Canfield asked for a minute taker and Denise Bujalski volunteered to do so. The meeting was called to review financial results through April. Opening remarks by management were requested and John Scruton responded.

Expenses for WEVD are at $591,605 for 4 months actuals year-to-date. We are underspending below appropriations by $260,000. Summer is expected to be very productive with paving starting (budgeted for $100,000) and water leaks are a common occurrence. Water expenditures are about even and as expected. Expenses for rec are at $131,000 which is also under the projected spending rate in the budget.

Money has been paid out on the truck and has come in over budget by $7,000 due to expenses going up from when the money was appropriated. Money may be moved over from paving budget to cover. Discussion was held on changing budget numbers that were sent to the state due to the renegotiations on the RMA. Rec fund can be changed but not operating budget without special paperwork signed by the commissioners. August is the time for any adjustments needed to the appropriations.

Water fees for first quarter were billed out at $223,000 and we have received all but $14,000. Second quarter billed at $365,000 and we have collected roughly half so far. Better percentage of payment than was anticipated.

The larger expense items were reviewed and discussed. Legal and consulting are over by 49%. This comprises costs for MRI services, annual meeting legal costs, a lawsuit against the district, and the search for GM candidate. Overage hoped to be covered by the savings of not paying the GM salary at this time. Building wages are up 11% and includes time expended by maintenance personnel and part time personnel to handle the opening of facilities and general maintenance. Storms were an issue causing additional work needed.

Water is over on system repair and material and includes well work from last year and storm issues from this spring as well as a couple major breaks earlier in year. This line item may need to be more closely looked at for the budget next year. Meters are all spoken for and there is a waiting list. To order more meters, we would need a special meeting to appropriate ordering more which can be done. Water department electricity is up 21%. Bills will be closely watched and compared to last year's bills.

Regarding capital expenditures, discussion was held on why we are not further along in making the budgeted repairs. Finding suppliers and qualified workmen is still problematic. Again, most of the work to be done is scheduled for the summer season so a better picture should develop by August.

Cost of providing rec services vs recreational fees paid to date is another issue to be tracked. This is a work in progress as the new RMA agreement and billing for services is a learning curve for all. A clearer picture is also expected by late summer/early fall.

Next meeting will be set for late August at the chairman's discretion.

Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m. on May 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by
Denise Bujalski