The Crawford County Commissioners met on Thursday, March 19, 2015, for a regular meeting with the following present:

Francis F. Weiderspahn, Jr. Chairman

Jack P. Lynch Commissioner

C. Sherman Allen Commissioner

Cheri Porter Chief Clerk

Gina Chatfield Deputy Chief Clerk

Keith Button, Esq. Solicitor

Denise Mason Interim CFO

Mark Lessig County Administrator (\*by phone)

Christine Krzysiak County Treasurer

Heidi Shiderly Deputy Court Administrator

Arlene Rodriguez Acting Planning Director

Kevin Nicholson 911 Director

Diana Perry Auditor

Christopher Seeley Auditor

Katy Ferer-Mutlu Auditor

Tim Kelley IT Director

Nick Hoke Sheriff

Mark Phelan Maintenance Deputy Director

Trevor Oates Assistant Chief Probation/Parole

Ken Saulsbery Correctional Facility Deputy Warden

Mark Peaster Administrative Assistant

Melanie Mushrush Voters Services Director

Dave Kennedy Jury Commissioner

Mark Nickerson Planning Commission

Lou Gago Planning Commission

Scott Sjolander Planning Commission

Brenda Schmidt Solid Waste Authority Recycling Coordinator

Chris Soff Mayor of Meadville

Jeff Cory Armstrong

Heather Reichel WJET-TV 24

Keith Gushard Meadville Tribune

Karen Cross Citizen

Edward Longo Citizen

Joy Link Citizen

Denis Alexatos Citizen

Rosie Mercatoris Citizen

Mike Forbes Citizen

Thomas K. Barrett Citizen

Keith Bromley Citizen

Richard Zylak Citizen

John Amato Citizen

Sam Byrd Citizen

Merton Simons Citizen

Gary Richardson Citizen

Armendia Dixon Citizen

The meeting was opened with a moment of silence for the community of Titusville, due to the recent devastating fires, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on March 5, 2015. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Sessions from March 10 and March 17, 2015. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of $2,801,389.14 for the period ending March 18, 2015. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Weiderspahn announced that there were no Executive Sessions.

Public Comment:

Mr. Zylak discussed the proposed new construction/renovation for the Courthouse and requested more time before a decision is made.

Official Business:

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the recommendation and appointment of Arlene Rodriguez to the position of Planning Director. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve recommendation and appointment of Zachary Norwood to the position of the Assistant Planning Director. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the purchase of 6 new vehicles to replace some older fleet vehicles, 1 for Adult Probation; 3 for Human Services; 1 for Juvenile Probation and 1 for the Sheriff’s Office. All have been obtained through the CoStars Program at a total cost of $128,588.00. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the Correctional Facility’s Amendment to the Food Service Contract with Trinity Services, LLC, with a price increase between $0.06 to $0.08 per meal depending on the number of meals provided and extending the agreement until December 31, 2015. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Cleveland Brothers Equipment Company, Inc. Engine Monitor Service Agreement with the Correctional Facility, which provides for Annual Preventative Maintenance and a 2 hour load test for the generator, as per DOC requirements, at a cost of $1523.00. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the award of a carpeting installation bid as per the Capital Budget for 2015 to Peterson’s Flooring and Furniture at a cost of $18,693 for work in the Court Administrator’s Office, Court Reporter’s Area and Main Judges Chambers. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the renewal of Adult Probation’s Grant in Aid application for Drug and Alcohol Restrictive Intermediate Punishment Program (DA RIP) and Intermediate Punishment Program (IP). Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve Adult Probation’s new Exacutrack Service Agreement with BI as the old house arrest monitoring agreement expires on April 1, 2015. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the release for bid on the Hollis Road (Vernon Township) Bridge Project. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the release for bid on maintenance repairs on the South Perry Street (City of Titusville) Bridge Project. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the appointment of Brenda Schmidt as the Solid Waste Authority’s Recycling Coordinator. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Authority’s 903 Grant Application. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the reappointment of Mitra Reese to the Board of Directors on the Crawford County Solid Waste Authority for a 5 year term running from January 2015 to January 2020. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the award of the PEMA 3 year plan to MCM Consulting at a cost of $9500. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the IT Department’s 3rd installment to CDW-G for the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement in the amount of $117,544.87. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Contract with GSS for Computer Services for 5 modules (Assessment, Conversion, Tax Claim, Per Capita, Tax Collector and Administration) at a cost of $3500 per month for 2015 and then an increase to $3750 per month for 2016/2017, there having been no increase since 2008. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s GSS Contract for Tax Printing Billing at $0.16 per bill for the Real Estate and Per Capita for Titusville for 2015-2017, which reflects no increase. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s GSS Contract for the Tax Claim Printing Billing at $0.56 per Certified Mailer for 2015-2017. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the payment to the City of Meadville for the Storm Water Billing for 2015 in the amount of $9,305.00. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Human Service’s budgeted purchase of 5 MS Surface Pro Tablets, with bundle and VGA adapters at a cost of $9,300.30. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion for ratification of the Crown Benefits Bill for the week ending February 27, 2015 in the amount of $177,750.20. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion for ratification of the Crown Benefits Bill for the week ending March 6, 2015 in the amount of $93,973.54. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Allegheny Professional Services, LLC contract for the County Forest Survey in the amount of $16,035.00, with changes as recommended by the County Solicitor. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the payment of the following Weber Murphy Fox invoices:

Talon Demo - $1,813.02

New Building - $9,366.50

Add/Renov - $2,831.43

OES Pine St - $7,986.60

Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the appointment of BNY Mellon Capital Markets, and Boenning and Scattergood as underwriting syndicate, for the County’s issuance of up to $28 million in bonds for the purpose of paying costs of construction for a proposed Judicial Center and renovations to the County Courthouse. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the appointment of Campbell & Levine as bond counsel for the proposed project. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the creation of the finance team to prepare the disclosure and other documents necessary to issue and market the bonds.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the attached New Hires/Transfers packet. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

Public Comment:

Mr. Alexatos stated his concerns regarding the 911 center, and stated that it should be moved to the old Walker building on Arch Street.

Mr. Byrd complained again that he felt left out because he was not included in the Courts discussion of the proposed new building and renovation. He threatened the Commissioners that they would not hold their positions in the Courthouse much longer, should they agree to move forward with the project.

Mr. Byrd spoke against the proposed Public Comment Policy, accusing the Commissioners of violating his 1st Amendment rights. Commissioner Weiderspahn advised Mr. Byrd that he continues to misunderstand the proposed policy and that it is not removing his right to speak, it is simply requesting that he speak about agenda items and that he limit his time to allow for others to speak. Mr. Byrd again threatened the future of the Current Board of Commissioners stating that they will not be re-elected if they do not listen to the citizen’s concerns, and that the next Board of Commissioners will remove this policy if it is put into place. Mr. Byrd was reminded that it has been stated countless times that the door is open to speak with a Commissioner in person or by phone at any time. However, the purpose of this proposed policy is to keep the business meetings to agenda items, in order to respect the time of the other attendees that may have a schedule to keep.

Mr. Byrd complained that the PrimeCare information with line item breakdown, only made more questions for him and that he doesn’t understand it. He accused the current Board of Commissioners of intentionally hiding information and again threatened several times that they will not be re-elected because of this.

Mr. Kennedy applauded the Maintenance Support Staff on their grounds keeping, especially during the winter months, and praised the efforts of the night Custodial staff.

Ms. Cross stated that she felt the $28 million should be spent on other needs of the community.

Mr. Richardson stated his concerns with Dr. Moran, accused the Commissioners of hiding money and would like an investigation into Dr. Moran’s actions. Mr. Weiderspahn explained again that this is a Prison Board matter and not appropriate discussion for a Commissioner Meeting as they have no authority in this matter.

With no further matters to discuss, Mr. Allen made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion carried.

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Francis F. Weiderspahn, Jr., Chairman

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Jack P. Lynch, Commissioner

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C. Sherman Allen, Commissioner