

January 11, 2019

1. The Ottawa County Excise Board met in Special Session at 1:15 PM on January 11, 2019 with the following members present: Chairman, Greg Leonard, and Larry Gatewood. District Attorney Kenny Wright was attending by phone conference.

Notice of the meeting was posted at 1:11 P.M., January 9, 2019.

2. Discussion and consideration of possible funding mechanisms for the Ottawa County Sheriff's office December/January payroll of restriction in funds and temporary or permanent lifting or modification by the Excise Board of the Excise Board's December 20, 2018 restriction of the Ottawa County Sheriff's access to the unencumbered Sheriff's general fund account/Sheriff sales tax fund. Masterson: The discussion is to temporarily lift the restriction that was put on the Sheriff so he can make payroll for this time. Then, just like we did last time, put it back on. We have to make payroll this time, the Sheriff is going to make adjustments in payroll for next month, then we will have to see where we are at from there. Gatewood: The amount of the restriction was \$90,945 for the month of December/January payroll and we are looking at approximately \$130,000.00 for payroll. Earls: Is \$21,000 of that for work comp? Natasha Mays: Yes. Earls: To pay work comp for people that have had their exit interviews already. Gatewood: Jeremy, do you have any update on future or any addition on the comp? Sheriff: As far as the comp, no, we won't have any additional comp in the future. Gatewood: That is going to leave us, if we decide to put one back on, a restriction for the next month payroll to be \$82,200. Is that a good figure? Mays: Yes. Very rough but yes. Masterson: Rough, meaning could be more, could be less? Mitchell: Could be either one. Gatewood: Until you receive an updated employee listing? Mays: It's really just based on the payroll. Once we get the payroll and get it going, that's the only way to get an actual number. Earls: Have you not received that yet? Mays: They don't turn in time sheets until the 19<sup>th</sup>. So, it will be another good week. Gatewood: Kenny, a motion that needs to be, lifting the restriction and in order to pay and not mention a specific amount and then a restriction goes back on January 20 to cover payroll through February 19. Leonard: The new number would be one fifth of the unencumbered funds? Gatewood: Yes. Wright: That is an accurate representation. Anyone that doesn't know, since our last meeting dealing with this issue, the Sheriff has made some relative significant strides as far as reducing his expenditures and getting in line. Although we would love to get to where we don't have to do this every pay period and I think the Sheriff's getting really close to that. I believe that this amount, and correct me if I am wrong, also covers \$21,000 of comp time. Even though the amounts aren't much different than last month, over all, taking that comp time into consideration is a really significant step in the right direction. If the restriction is not lifted, the result would be insufficient funds to pay all of the Sheriff's office staff and as we discussed before that could potentially wind up in litigation. Accounting would be responsible for paying those people probably somewhere down the road depending on whether the litigation was friendly in the legal sense or adversarial. But based on the step the Sheriff has taken so far in the plans that he has for future which includes the surplus item auction, my recommendation would be to lift the restriction and then reapply it for the remainder of the fiscal year again at the conclusion of this pay period. Weece: This is just for salaries? Wright: Yes, it would just be the purpose of meeting payroll and paying the comp time for those employees. Gatewood: I would make the motion to lift the restriction at this time and to take up the payment of payroll and comp time with the restriction going back on for the remainder of the year and one fifth of the balance would be the new restriction. Leonard: Second. By vote: Leonard; aye, Gatewood, aye; Weece, aye.

3. Motion by Weece, second by Gatewood, to adjourn. By vote: Leonard; aye, Gatewood, aye; Weece, aye.

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Chairman

Robyn Mitchell  
Ottawa County Clerk