

Minutes of
Jackson County Commissioners
October 20, 2020
6:00 PM

Present: Commissioner Matt Reedy, Commissioner Drew Markel & Commissioner Bob Gillaspay.

Absent: All Present

Commissioner Matt Reedy called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and silent Prayer observed.

Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the Payroll of October 9, 2020 in the amount of \$421,358.55 along with Monthly Claims, in the amount of \$284,181.48. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Reports from other Committees:

Commissioner Reedy stated that he has spoken with Dr. Bunce this morning and that the county will most likely be staying at level Orange for Covid, for the foreseeable future.

End of Reports from other Committees.

Commissioner Reedy stated that a resignation letter has been received from Richard Brackemyer for the Redding Township Fire Board. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to accept the resignation. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Custodian Jana Wessel appeared before Commissioners. Wessel stated that the Judicial Center roof has encountered a leak, that it is under warranty, and the repair company should be here today to assess the problem. Wessel then asked Commissioners for direction on the fallen leaves and the snow removal for winter. Commissioners directed Wessel to 'mow' the fallen leaves and to get 3 quotes for snow removal for this winter. Commissioners then advised Wessel that the Custodians are allowed to provide daily services as needed in the Judicial Center.

Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to appoint Nate Bryant as the new EMS Director. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Bryant was present for the meeting and Commissioners asked for bi-annual reports for that department.

Jacob-Dietz Fire Protection was listed on the agenda, however no one was present for this.

Tom Goecker then came before Commissioners to discuss the expansion of the Greendale Subdivision. This subdivision is within the 2 mile fringe of Seymour, however, the roads would be accepted by the County once finished. Goecker is asking for a 24 ft paving section with 50 ft right of way for this subdivision. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve this criteria. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Goecker was asked to follow up with Commissioners, once the roads have been assigned names.

Plan Commissioner Conner Barnette stated that he would like to start using Bridge Pay to collect Credit Card payments in his office. The service is free of charge to the county, but will charge 3½% to the customer. Barnette asked Commissioners for approval to open a checking account for these payments to go into. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Barnette also stated that he would like to purchase a Static Rover GPS out of the Electronic Map Fund. This unit could be used to locate Septic Lines, etc which can then be placed on the GIS. The cost for the GPS would be \$12,252.00. Currently the fund has over \$14,000 and this purchase falls within the guidelines of the fund. Commissioners agreed that this would be an added asset to the county.

County Coroner Mike Bobb then addressed Commissioners for an office/storage space for the Coroner's Office. Currently he works from his home and meets families at a public setting as needed. After discussion, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to allow the Coroner's Office to be in the 'old small courtroom' in the annex. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Markel made a motion accept the 2021 Holiday Schedule as presented. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Michael Crouch, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Lake Leslie and Country Club Lot Owners Association of Seymour, INC, came before Commissioners to present a signed letter by all 7 board members requesting that Jackson County take jurisdiction of the streets at Lake Leslie. Commissioner Gillaspay then made a motion to accept the roads at Lake Leslie. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Meyer informed Commissioners that he has been in contact with the IN State Humane Society in reference to the Jackson County Dog Shelter. He was assured that they could come up with a 'mentor shelter' which could help Jackson County decide what is actually needed to finish the shelter and with adoption operations etc. Commissioner Gillaspay stated that he would help work with the Sheriff on this.

Sheriff Meyer presented Commissioners with the September 2020 Jail Report, Sheriff Department Statistics, Cash Book and Dog Detention Reports.

Highway Superintendent, Jerry Ault then presented agreements for Commissioners signature for Bridge Projects: #26 & #202. These are the two bridges to be built in 2025. Commissioners signed the agreements for these projects, as the projects were already approved.

Ault stated that the department is preparing trucks and sand beds for winter, performing some crack seal as weather permits and finishing what little paving is left for the year. Ault stated the department has had 2 employees quit, 1 retire and 1 more to retire next week. The department will not be filling 2 of these positions in order to help with the 2021 budget shortfall.

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard, presented Commissioners with the proposed 2021 Health Insurance premiums for employees. The new rate is a 3.9% increase over 2020. Hubbard also stated that the reinsurance carrier will change from Companion to American. Open enrollment starts at the end of November.

Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve the 2021 rates. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Hubbard stated that the county is currently waiting on CARES reimbursement for the EMS request of new computers on the ambulances. Hubbard stated that there is currently \$300,000 remaining for possible reimbursement.

Arann Banks, on behalf of Brownstown Main Street, asked Commissioners for permission to use the Courthouse lawn for the 2020 Christmas at the Courthouse. This will be held COVID style on Dec 1, 2020. Commissioners agreed to let Banks work with Jana to set up specifics.

Banks also stated that the Visitor Center has received back the \$100,000 grant from Seymour City.

Mitchell Banks introduced himself to Commissioners as the new representative of the Tribune.

Commissioners then recessed until November 4, 2020.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

Signed this 4th day of November, 2020.

Matt Reedy

Drew Markel

Bob Gillaspay

Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest