

Minutes of
Jackson County Commissioners
December 3, 2019
6:00 PM

Present: Commissioner Matt Reedy, Commissioner Drew Markel & Commissioner Bob Gillaspy
Absent: All Present

Commissioner Matt Reedy called the meeting to order.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a silent prayer observed.

Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2019 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve the Payroll of November 22, 2019 in the amount of \$423,474.20 along with Claims, including electronic checks, for the amount of \$2,554,215.23. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Reports from other Committees: None

The agenda listed the Red Cross-Blood Drive. No one was present to discuss this topic.

Lieutenant Watson with the Seymour Police Department and Dr. Bunce with the Jackson County Health Department came before Commissioners to discuss the bags being passed out by the Cares Clinic. These bags provide clean items such as gauze pads, cut straws, cotton balls etc, which allow for clean use of drugs. Dr. Bunce stated that as the Health Officer it is his duty to do what is best for the health of the community. This strategy has proven to help lower the amount of HIV and Hep-C cases in other counties. All the items purchased for these bags are done so through a State Grant. Lieutenant Watson then expressed his concerns from that law enforcement aspect. These bags, if found with drug, become a second separate charge for the individual. Watson also handed out a section of the 2019 code book describing paraphernalia. Commissioner Markel stated that he would like to see a meeting take place where all the agencies/departments can get together and have a full discussion on this topic. Commissioner Markel then made a motion to create a Study Committee Regarding Harm Reduction and for Commissioner Reedy to represent the Commissioners on the committee. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Highway Superintendent, Jerry Ault, then presented the 2020 Highway Bid and quote results that were opened at the November 19, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to accept the low bid for Hot Mix from O'Mara. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to accept all quotes presented. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Ault then stated that he had 2(two) online applications for signature for 2025 Call for Project Financial Commitment Letter. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve Commissioner Reedy signing the applications. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Ault then discussed with Commissioners how he would like to approach Council to change the Salary Ordinance to alleviate the position of Head Mechanic and Assistant Mechanic, making just one appropriation line for Mechanic. Commissioner agreed that he could address this with Council.

Ault then stated that the County has an outstanding bill from INDOT regarding the Shieldstown Bridge in the amount of \$3,344. If this amount is paid, then the county can receive the 80% reimbursement for the bridge. Commissioner Markel made a motion to pay this outstanding bill, not to exceed \$4000. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

The 2020 contract from KCCS, for Judicial Center Cleaning was presented and tabled until next meeting, allowing for other quotes to come in.

Attorney Susan Bevers presented the 2020 County Attorney Contract. Attorney Bevers stated there were no changes to the contract. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Warren Martin then discussed with Commissioners, fire monitoring. Currently this is with Johnson Controls. Martin is currently waiting on a email stating that all the County needs to do to cancel with Johnson Control, is Notify in writing. Martin has met with Grunau to get a cost of switching to them for this service. The upfront fee would be \$1000- \$1100, with monthly savings of approximately \$400. Paul Bordon has agreed to put in the 3 drops that need to be placed in order to connect all 3 systems together for a fee of \$450.00. After discussion, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to allow Martin to make the final decision once all the information is obtained. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Meyer then presented to Commissioners the 2 (two) titles for the Ford Explorers that were sold to Scott County for signature. The transfer was approved in a previous meeting and Scott County has paid for the vehicles.

Sheriff Meyer also stated that the department has added two special deputies, a Chaplain and a School Resource Officer.

Commissioner Markel stated that he has copies of the 2019 Jail Overcrowding Task Force Report for anyone who would like one. Commissioner Markel stated that the report finds the biggest problem the State of Indiana is getting a 'real time' jail count. Markel stated that he feels Jackson County is doing everything possible to at least push off a Jail Expansion. The jails will continue to increase as a burden at the county level. Sheriff Meyer stated that is imperative that our focus remain on Jackson County. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to form a Judicial Review Committee and for Commissioner Markel to set on this committee. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes. This committee should consist of the Sheriff, Prosecutor, Public Defender, Judges, Comm Corr and Probation at minimum and meet regularly to stay current on Jackson County issues.

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard stated that due to the increase of Workmans Comp claims in the last two years the counties initial mod rate increased from .9 to 1.2. The number of claims actually decreased, but the amount of the claims increased. The IPEP rep is coming down for a meeting on Dec 19th to discuss this further. Commissioner Gillaspay agreed to attend this meeting for the Commissioners.

Commissioner Markel made a motion to appoint Dave Willey to the Cemetery Board. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. The commissioners are waiting till January to appoint to the Hamilton Twp Fire Board.

Commissioners recessed until the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 9:00 AM.

Signed this 17rd day of December, 2019.

Matt Reedy

Drew Markel

Bob Gillaspay

Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest