

Minutes of  
Jackson County Commissioners  
February 19, 2019  
9:00 AM

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 February 5, 2019 Regular Meeting.  
Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve the Payroll of February 15, 2019 in the amount of \$424,450.45, along with Claims for the amount of \$343,225.33. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

**Reports from other Committees:**

Commissioner Gillaspy stated that he did visit the George Hall round barn this past weekend, and the project of moving the barn will soon be underway.

**Jackson County Commissioner Distinguished Service Awards:**

On February 10, 2019 a dangerous water rescue took place in Jackson County. A canoe had capsized in the river, leaving the occupant of the canoe, in the frigid, swollen river waters. Resident Tony Davis called and alerted authorities at 7:42pm, that he could hear someone calling for help from the river. Jackson County Sheriff Officers, Brad Barker, Mitch Ray and JL McElfresh, along with Conservation Officer Nate Berry responded to the call. Without hesitation, these officers placed their own lives in danger to perform the rescue. Without their fast response and quick thinking, this incident would have held a tragic end. However, the officers were able to successfully pull the man from the river. Due to their efforts on this day, Jackson County Commissioners presented Brad Barker, Mitch Ray, JL McElfresh and Nate Berry with the Jackson County Commissioners Distinguished Service Award.

Following this presentation, Sheriff Meyer spoke of the officers quick response and teamwork to perform a successful rescue. Sheriff Meyer then presented the officers with the following awards:

Officer Mitch Ray – Distinguished Service Award

Officer Brad Barker – Award in Recognition of Heroic Action

Officer JL McElfresh – Award in Recognition of Heroic Action

Conservation Officer Nate Berry – Award in Recognition of Heroic Action

Commissioners thanked the officers for their actions on that day which resulted in a wonderful outcome.

Commissioner Gillaspy then stated that an updated Punch list for the Shieldstown Covered Bridge was emailed to the other Commissioners, Highway Supervisor Jerry Ault and Attorney Susan Bevers for review. He asked that all review the list and email back with responses.

Terry Davidson, Chris Mahl, Jennifer Philmore, Megan White and Dee Gamroth with CenterStone appeared before Commissioners to provide the Annual Report. Discussion included the total of people served, services provided, programs offered and Grants received.

Kimberli Myers and Brandi Foist with the Jackson County Health Department then presented to Commissioners the Cares Clinic Coordinator Contract. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve

the contract, with Brandi Foist as the Clinic Coordinator. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Christean Price then addressed Commissioners with concerns about the road condition of East County Avenue. This road lies within the 2 mile fringe of Seymour. Price has spoken with the City of Seymour and County Plan Commissioner Conner Barnette on this issue. Commissioners concluded that this road has never been taken over by the county and cannot be taken over until it meets certain requirements. According to deed records, the responsibility of bringing the road up to meet requirements falls on the property owners along this road (easement).

Tom Callahan then presented to Commissioners, a handout, with information regarding Ordinance 2012 -#2, Commissioner Bill #3-Flood Ordinance. Callahan and Commissioners reviewed the information provided on changes Callahan believes need to be made to the Ordinance. Commissioner Markel thanked Callahan for his time and he would take this information to the Committee that has been formed to update this ordinance.

Arann Banks, Visitor Center Director, then came before Commissioners to ask permission for the Oasis Group to hold a luncheon on the Medora Covered Bridge on June 12, 2019. Banks has contacted the Friends of the Medora Covered Bridge and they held no issue with the event. The Oasis Group will be traveling through Jackson County that day, making multiple stops to enjoy the county. The group has provided a certificate of Insurance. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve the luncheon on the bridge for June 12, 2019. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Banks then asked if the \$25,000 that was for the moving of the round barn is available. Attorney Bevers stated she has some followup paperwork completed and has been sent out for review. Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion that when the funds are available, to create a fund to move the \$25,000 to be used for the round barn. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Plan Commissioner, Conner Barnette then addressed Commissioners concerning county road 625 North. Currently this road is unmaintained. A landowner in the area may start construction of a residence in the future and was concerned with the maintenance of the road. Commissioner Markel made a motion stating that as soon as construction begins, the road will be maintained as it is currently on County inventory. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Markel stated he was contacted by Missy Casner with the Girl Scouts. She was exploring the idea of a shadowing day (several hours) for the Girl Scouts. Markel said he will follow with more details as he gets them, to decide if this is a feasible idea.

Highway Supervisor, Jerry Ault, presented Consulting Contracts for Bridge 197 & Bridge 154. Jansen & Spaans won both projects, which was preciously approved. Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to accept the 2 contracts as presented. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Reedy then opened a Thank You card from Soil & Water thanking them for the contribution to their 2019 operating budget.

Jerry Ault presented a handout of man hours worked in the Highway Department for the past couple weeks. Ault then asked Commissioners for guidance on next step for the county truck he drives. Currently the truck is getting another repair. The truck is a 2010 or 2011 and has had numerous repairs done. Ault stated he has received 1 quote back for a new truck. Commissioner Markel made a motion

allowing Ault to purchase a 2019 Chevy Silverado, not to exceed a \$30,000 purchase price. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Reedy informed Emergency Management Director, Duane Davis, that Commissioner Markel is now the electronic signator for the Grants.

Warren Martin then discussed the following with Commissioners regarding the Judicial Center:

- Only a few finishing items still out for the completion of the Judicial Center.
- HFI will be back this week to finish repair work.
- Substantial completion documents will be signed soon.
- The Kloppenburg property has been demolished. The surveyors office will help get a final grade for the ground so landscaping can be completed.
- Martin stated he appreciated the kind comments made by the Commissioners at the Open House, and he thanked Commissioners for having the confidence in him to allow him to do his job.
- Martin then thanked Attorney Susan Bevers for all her help.
- Martin then thanked the Auditors Office for all their help throughout the process.
- Martin also thanked Jeff Hubbard for the the timeliness of getting bills turned in.

Commissioner Reedy stated that the Judicial Center came in Under budget, and that is due to Martin's knowledge on this project.

Commissioner Markel stated that there are now projects at the Highway Garage and the Historical Courthouse that need to be addressed. Commissioner Markel asked if addressing the heaters at the County Highway Garage and cleaning Ductwork in the courthouse could fall under the restrictions of 2016 GOBond Series B. Attorney Bevers and Auditor Kathy Hohenstreiter will look into this question.

Commissioner Markel then asked Martin to start getting quotes on the items that need addressed in the historical Courthouse. Markel asked Auditor Hohenstreiter to address Council with a request for additional funding, allowing the county to pay Warren Martin as needed for the remainder of this year for the projects. Commissioner Markel stated that the value of having a Owners Representative, such as Warren Martin is an invaluable asset to the county. Additional work in the Historical Courthouse would include work to the roof, fixing leaks, and adapting the 'old circuit courtroom' into the new meeting room, while keeping it historically correct.

Sheriff Meyer then presented Commissioners with the January Jail Report, Meal Expenditure Report and Jail Statistics.

Commissioner Markel then asked Sheriff Meyer if he would be open to allowing Securitecture to come into the Jail to see about maximizing all space in the Jail. Sheriff Meyer stated he would be glad to have someone come in and assess the space. Commissioners then informed Sheriff Meyer that Lieutenant Dustin Steward can proceed with selling Sheriff cars to other counties as long as the county receives trade in value at minimum.

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard stated he was approached by the Surveyor to purchase a Verizon Jet Pack, allowing a hot spot when the crew is out of the office. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Hubbard also stated that he has PERF employee meetings and 457K meetings set up. Information was attached to employee paystubs on Feb 15, 2019.

Auditor Hohenstreiter informed Commissioners that the SmartWatt invoices for the Annex and the Health Department have been paid, and warrenty information has been passed along to Mitch for maintenance and the Health Department for their records.

Commissioner Gillaspy then made a motion to sign the request letter for the moving of \$60,000 from the Community Foundation to the Jackson County Canine Shelter Fund. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Emergency Management Director Duane Davis then stated that he has been contacted by Margo Brewer from the Jackson County History Center regarding the use of his office in the event of extreme weather during elementary school tours for this year. Davis stated that since the construction of the Judicial Center, his office is no longer open to the public. Commissioners advised Davis to instruct Brewer to sign out a key for his office during this time.

Davis then stated that an opportunity to apply for a Grant for Defibrillators will be coming up later this year.

Davis also stated that he has set up a mass email for Human Resource Offices at various employers throughout the county, so that in the event of a weather emergency, he can send out this information quickly.

Commissioners recessed until the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

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Matt Reedy

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Drew Markel

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Bob Gillaspy

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Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest