

Minutes of
Jackson County Commissioners
July 7, 2020
6:00 PM

Present: Commissioner Matt Reedy & Commissioner Bob Gillaspay.

Absent: Commissioner Drew Markel

Commissioner Matt Reedy called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Prayer was given by Commissioner Reedy.

Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Reedy seconded. Two (2) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the Payroll of June 19, 2020 in the amount of \$436,062.41 and July 3, 2020 in the amount of 419,583.37 along with Monthly Claims, which included Electronic Checks and the Spring Settlement Distributions in the amount of \$32,086,221.99. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Two (2) yes votes, motion carried.

Reports from other Committees: None

The Public Hearing for the Work Release Center that was advertised for July 7th, 2020 has been rescheduled for July 21, 2020.

Dan Davis, with the Community Foundation of Jackson County and the Jackson County Education Coalition, then appeared before Commissioners to ask to be considered in their 2021 budget for the amount of \$30,000 for the Education Coalition. Davis discussed programs that are available through The Learning Center and shortfalls in other areas of funding for 2021.

Jerry Hounshel, Clint Wolka and Mark Bonbright appeared before Commissioners to request sponsorship on a Community & Rural Affairs Grant for \$500,000 for the Driftwood Fire Department. The grant would be for the construction of a new fire station to replace the current one. The Department is working with Trena Carter with ARA for the Grant process. Wolka stated that the Department has the \$50,000 match that is required. Commissioners discussed that the County can only sponsor 3 of these types of grants at one time. Currently the County has 2 open grants, with 1 of those close to being closed out. After discussion, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve sponsoring the Driftwood Fire Department Community & Rural Affairs Grant. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Two (2) yes votes, motion carried.

Chad Leinart with Indiana Land Survey came before Commissioners to discuss approval of the Cloverleaf Subdivision. This subdivision will be located along the interstate at the corner of 1040E and 400N, Jackson Township. Leinart stated he has spoken with Jerry Ault and Conner Barnette and he discussed property information such as elevation and utilities. After discussion, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Two (2) yes votes, motion carried.

Arann Banks, Jackson County Visitor Center Director, then came before Commissioners to ask for a change of hours for the center. Currently they are open to the public from 8am to 5pm Monday thru Friday. Banks requested a change of the following: Open to the public 8am – 4pm Monday thru Friday with employees working 8am – 4:30pm. This would line up with the hours of the Courthouse and other county offices. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Two (2) yes votes, motion carried.

Plan Commissioner, Conner Barnette then presented Commissioners with updates and changes to the Zoning Ordinance and Map Amendments. The previous Zoning Ordinance was completed in 2017. County Attorney Susan Bevers will bring the Ordinance to the July 21, 2020 Commissioner Meeting.

JL Brewer, with Jackson County Community Corrections, then presented a Letter of Support for the IDOC 2021 Grant. The grant will be submitted on July 17th, 2020. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the Letter of Support from the Commissioners. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Two (2) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Meyer presented Commissioners the January 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020 Commissary Report.

Highway Superintendent Jerry Ault informed Commissioners that the work on 875N is approximately ¼ of the way complete.

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard discussed the following with Commissioners:

- CARES ACT reimbursements received by the county is approximately \$80,000, with invoices still outstanding.
- Interviews will begin Monday for the EMS Director position.
- Hubbard said that offices were questioning that with the numbers on COVID on the rise, are Commissioners planning to keep county offices open? Commissioner Reedy responded that at this time, yes, offices are to remain open. However, Commissioners have the ability to close immediately if the need would arise.

Auditor Kathy Hohenstreiter stated that the Commissioners have received the June 2020 Fund Report in their packet of information.

Jerry Hounshel informed Commissioners that there is a meeting Monday night in regards to Fort Vallonia Days 2020. An announcement will be made after the meeting whether or not the festival is cancelled or not.

Commissioners then recessed until July 21st, 2020.

The next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 21st, 2020 at 9:00 AM.

Signed this 21st day of July, 2020.

Matt Reedy

Drew Markel

Bob Gillaspay

Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest