

**Minutes of
Jackson County Commissioners
September 7, 2021
6:00 PM**

Present: Commissioner Matt Reedy, Commissioner Drew Markel & Commissioner Bob Gillasp

Absent: All Present

Commissioner Matt Reedy called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Silent Prayer observed.

Commissioner Gillasp made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021 Regular Meeting.

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

Commissioner Gillasp made a motion to approve the Payroll of August 27, 2021 in the amount of \$451,978.75 along with Claims, including electronic checks, in the amount of \$4,028,964.58. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Reports from other Committees: NONE

Tyler Henkle appeared before Commissioners to discuss ARPA funds. Commissioners confirmed that the county has received the first disbursement of funds and asked Henkle to address the County Council for questions regarding the allocation of these funds.

Rick Anderson with Johnson Melloh Solutions then presented Commissioner with a Request for Proposal for Guaranteed energy Savings Contract. Commissioners asked for time to review and gather more details.

Heather Blaker, 911 Director, then presented Commissioners with the 911 2022 Budget. After review, Commissioner Gillasp made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as presented. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Blaker then discussed the need for an additional appropriation to be completed in the 911 fund. The additional will be for \$50,000. Commissioner Markel made a motion of intent to approve pending County Attorney Susan Bevers review of the process for a Commissioner additional appropriation. Commissioner Gillasp seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

EMS Director then discussed the need to release 2 Ambulance titles for remount. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve the release of the 2018 Ford VIN 1FDXE4FS5JDC443, the 2016 AMERG VIN1FDXE4FS9GDC22051 and to allow Commissioner Reedy to the titles upon legal council review. Commissioner Gillasp seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioners then held discussion with Sheriff Meyer regarding the future operation of Red Sky Rescue. Sheriff Meyer reported that an email was received stating that she has sold the property and will no longer be operating a dog shelter. The new owner, according to the email, will take county dogs until October 6, 2021. Sheriff Meyer believes, from conversations with the new owner, that she may be willing to keep taking county dogs. After discussion, Commissioners advised Sheriff Meyer to contact the new owner to get the exact date she took over and if she will enter a contract for the county dogs.

Commissioner Reedy then read a letter from County Health Officer, Dr. Bunce. The letter requested that the Jackson County Commissioners mandate mask wearing in all county schools. Commissioner Gillasp made a motion that a copy of the letter from Dr. Bunce and a copy of the April 6, 2021 Commissioner minutes be sent to all schools for their review. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Discussion on this topic then followed with public input.

After Discussions, Commissioner Gillasp resended the motion from the floor. No vote was taken.

Commissioner Markel made a motion to request that Dr. Bunce communicate with the Local School Boards directly regarding his request and letter. Commissioner Gillaspay Seconded. Three (3) Yes votes, Motion carried.

The Custodial 2022 Budget/Personel listed on the agenda was tabled.

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard presented Commissioners with the County health insurance quote for Oct 1, 2021 – Sept 30, 2022. The renewal rate is basically even with the current rate. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the Zurich/SIHO/Optum offer and to show a 0% increase to employee premiums. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Highway Superintendent, Jerry Ault, then discussed the following with Commissioners:

- The cost for the Jackson Co Highway to mill and overlay the Health Dept parking lot will not exceed \$15,000. Auditor Hurt stated that there are funds available in the BOND to cover the expense. Currently \$6,681 is available in Bldg Maint and funds can be transferred from IT for the remainder. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve paying from BOND 4928- 40413 & and transfer from 4928-43009 to cover the paving expense. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.
- CCMG and contract paving is complete.
- Any leftover paving funds are going toward the patch paving over replaced small structures and areas in roads that needed new road base.
- Bridge #154 is still in process and moving along.
- Bridge #197 – still waiting to hear from INDOT for direction.
- Bridge #84 in Hamilton Twp is complete.
- Ault asked if an ordinance can be put into place in order to stop irrigation systems from spraying water on the county roads. They are creating soft spots in asphalt and creating a mess on gravel roads. Commissioners would like the County Attorney to review any current ordinance regarding irrigation systems in Jackson Co.
- Ault asked them if it is possible to have a countywide speed limit of 45mph unless otherwise posted. Commissioner tabled this discussion until legal council could be present.

Conner Barnette then address the Commissioners regarding the following:

- The funding for the Powerwashing of the courthouse. After discussion, Commissioner Markel made a motion to pay the \$9,800 bid from the Custodial / Building Repair account(1138-40310-000). Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.
- D&T Powerwashing will start Thursday
- The hornets nest on the one column of the courthouse needs to be addressed before they begin washing that portion. Commissioner advised Barnette to get someone here to take care of the issue and to pay for that service from the Custodial Building Repair account.

Auditor Roger Hurt presented Commissioners with:

- The August 2021 Treasurer report,
- The August 2021 Fund report &
- The September Meeting room schedule.

Commissioners then recessed until September 21, 2021 at 9 AM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

Signed this 21st day of September, 2021.

Matt Reedy

Drew Markel

Bob Gillaspay

Roger Hurt - attest