

Minutes of
Jackson County Commissioners
February 7, 2017
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 a silent prayer observed.

Commissioner Drew Markel made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2017 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Bob Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the payroll of January 20, 2017 in the amount of \$394,933.79 and Payroll of February 3, 2017 in the amount of \$401,444.63, along with Claims, including electronic checks, for February 7, 2017, in the amount of \$3,846,445.49. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Reports from other Committees: None

Carrie Riley with ARA then spoke to Commissioners in regards to the Workforce Development Grant. Riley presented the Contract to Administer the Grant for Commissioners approval. The County Attorney has reviewed the Contract. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve the acceptance of the Grant. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Riley then asked for support to send a letter to the state to request an additional class be added through funding of the grant. Advanced Manufacturing Practitioner Course is the requested additional class. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the letter. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Emergency Management Director, Duane Davis then discussed the following with Commissioners:

1. Bi-Monthly Emergency Management Report
2. Gave the Commissioners a booklet that describes what Emergency Management involves.
3. A request by the State to spend \$15,000 'leftover' money on behalf of Jackson County. Davis presented a IDHS Consent Letter for signature. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. The IDHS Consent Letter was then signed.
4. The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plain (CEMP) was given to Commissioner and Attorney Susan Bevers for review and will be under old business for next Commissioners meeting.
5. After discussion, Commissioner Markel made a motion for Commissioner Reedy to continue with the Electronic Signature on Emergency Management Grants when requested. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Cliff Sommers then appeared before Commissioners to give a BiCentennial Update. Discussion was held regarding where to place the time capsule. Commissioners agreed that the Time Capsule should be placed somewhere in the lobby of the Historic Courthouse.

WTH Electronic Map Application Agreement – The annual agreement was presented for approval. After review, Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Becky Scott then spoke on behalf of property owners on which an easement lies for a road that leads to Ironwood Apartments in Jackson Township (parcel #36-66-14-209-063.000-008). Property owners state that the Apartment owners are refusing to maintain the easement/road. Property owners asked Commissioners if there was anything the County would do. Commissioners stated that currently this is not a county road, and in order to add it to inventory certain requirements would need to be met, which obviously, this road would not meet at this time. Residents were advised to speak with an Attorney and Engineer and research whether any maintenance agreement was recorded in regards to the easement.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Shieldstown Bridge - There will be a Meeting held with INDOT at the Highway Garage on February 28, 2017 at 10 am in regards to an Update on the Shieldstown Bridge. Attorney Bevers stated that she would advertise as a Special Commissioners Meeting.

Update on Middendorf/Kloppenbug Properties- First Appraisal has completed the appraisal on the Middendorf lot with the building and also Kloppenburg property. Meyers Appraisal should be here next week to complete their appraisals. Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to send a request to Council to purchase the lots. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Liability Insurance Renewal – After discussion, Commissioner Markel made a motion for Liability Insurance Renewal with a \$20,000 deductible. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Handgun Amendment to Personnel Policy – Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to have the Personnel Manual remain as is with the requirement that all county employees sign a certification that they have reviewed and understand the handbook and for Jeff Hubbard to get with Department Heads to come together as a committee and review the entire handbook and report back to the commissioners within 90 day with recommendations. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

END OF OLD BUSINESS

Plan Commissioner Conner Barnette stated that he is currently working on an updated Property Ordinance.

A HFI quote was presented for the HVAC units at the Jail. Sheriff Carothers stated that another bid will be available next week. HVAC quotes will be under old business for next Commissioners meeting for update.

Sheriff Carothers then presented the January 2017 Jail Report, Meal Expenditure Report, Dog Detention Report and Monthly Statistics.

Sheriff Carothers stated that Klaes imaging is donating time to put together a short video that will be used for Dog Shelter Fundraising.

An Equitable Sharing Agreement for \$4,155.23 was then presented for approval. After review, Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Carothers then introduced Kenny Whipker and Lee Hord, State Jail Inspectors to discuss the overcrowding issue at the Jail. Minimum requirements were discussed. The possibility of changing the Detention Center into a Womans pod was discussed. Following the overcrowded Jail discussion, Commissioner Gillaspy made the motion for the Sheriff and President of the Commissioners to send a letter of request to the National Institute of Corrections to request a study on the Jail and also reform the Committee including the following departments-Prosecutor, Judges, HR, Probation, Community Corrections, Sheriff, Council and Commissioner representatives to review the Jail Overcrowding issue. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Commissioner Markel volunteered to sit on the Committee to represent Commissioners.

Sheriff Carothers then presented a claim for signature. This is for the purchase of a 2017 Chevy Tahoe for the Sheriff's Department. The claim must be signed by Commissioners as all vehicle purchased from Go Bond Funds are under Commissioners.

Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Conner Barnette then spoke in regards to a house located in Quail Creek Subdivision. It appears to be an abandoned property and is in need of clean up. A letter was sent by Barnette in July 2016 which was returned to the office as undeliverable. Barnette was advised to also give notice to the mortgage company who has interest in the property before any work is done.

Commissioner Markel then advised Barnette to approach Council with an additional appropriation request of \$30,000 to use toward property maintenance. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Highway Supervisor, Jerry Ault presented a work report for the Highway Department for January 2017 for review. Ault then presented the Close Out Agreement for Bridge #195 for approval. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Auditor Kathy Hohenstreiter then presented a Title for the Ambulance Service to trade in toward the purchase of a new ambulance. The vehicle to be traded is a 2010 Chevrolet Express Cutaway G450 and has VIN # 1GB9G5B64A1101544. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Attorney Bevers then presented an Engagement Letter with Piper Jaffray & Company in regards to the Judicial Center. Commissioner Markel made a motion to accept. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

An Equitable Sharing Agreement was then presented in regards to the Prosecutor's Office in the amount of \$4,650.77. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Jon Stahl then asked to speak to Commissioners. Stahl stated his concern for what he feels is a lack of information to the public in regards to the building of the new Judicial Center and the overcrowding issues at the County Jail. After discussion, Commissioners thanked Mr. Stahl for coming to the meeting and expressing his concerns.

Commissioners recessed until the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 21 , 2017 at 6:00 PM.

Matt Reedy

Drew Markel

Bob Gillaspay

Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest