

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 3, 2016

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 3, 2016 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Mary Ann Beard Auditor, and Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance. Paul Wilkinson was absent.

President Bruce Levi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the meeting of September 19th were approved on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor Beard questioned the Clerk's claim for mileage. Mark Bacon moved to approve claims but asked that Clerk Debbie Richardson correct and resubmit her mileage claim. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Payroll was submitted by the auditor who asked Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton if FMLA papers had been submitted for an employee that was sick for more than three days. Sitton responded that the employee had the choice to file and he had chosen not to. Beard retorted that she did not believe that was an option but Attorney Leigh Morning agreed with Mr. Sitton. Payroll was approved on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Bruce Levi.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mark Bacon moved to recess the regular meeting to hold a public hearing on the Title VI plan and complaint procedures for Civil Rights. Hearing no public comment, Mark Bacon moved to close the public hearing and return to the regular meeting.

Commissioner Bacon moved to adopt the ADA plan. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion to adopt the complaint procedure was offered by Mark Bacon with Bruce Levi seconding the motion. Motion carried.

JUDGE NORTHAM

Judge Northam appeared to express his displeasure that two clerk employees have been moved from the circuit court area to the clerk's office on the second floor leaving a security void to the Judge's chamber. The community corrections board appointed Prosecutor Phil Caviness to ask permission to use the Clerk's space for a receptionist. Judge Northam does not want the receptionist there and stated that he has a trust issue with the Clerk and Ashley Stevens, the Community Corrections Executive Director. The Commissioners agree to recess later in the meeting to view the area.

PURDUE EXTENSION

Extension educator Gracie Marlatt reported that 4-H online enrollment began on October 1st. Carol Holzback will be hired part time to cover maternity leave. 2017 will mark the 100th year anniversary of 4-H in Rush County.

SHERIFF

The Sheriff reported another slow week at the jail noting 47 inmates are currently incarcerated. The Sheriff was asked by the Commissioner Levi to have the security officers consolidate the escorts to the bank so the courthouse will not be unattended. The Commissioners asked the Sheriff what is needed to secure the courthouse after the intruder.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton reported that he has received approval of federal funding for bridge #127 on CR 900 W north of Base Road. Community Crossing Grant funds will be used for bridge #170 on CR 450E south of New Salem. Mark Bacon moved to sign for the federal aid. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sitton also presented the monthly report for September and a letter to Senator Jean Leising explaining the road in question is in Shelby County.

VACATED ROAD

Attorney Leigh Morning presented the following ordinance vacating a road requested by Rush County Stone. Mark Bacon moved to sign the ordinance. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CASA

CASA is currently renting office space from the county. They have received notice that the building will be demolished to make way for a new jail. Consequently, they have asked that the rent be prorated in December. The Auditor reported that CASA has not paid rent since February. Therefore the Commissioners chose not to address the request.

NEW JAIL

With the increased costs of the jail, DLZ has submitted an addendum to the contract increasing their fees to \$1,057,250. Mark Bacon moved to sign the addendum and Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried. Council President Gerald Mohr suggested that a joint meeting be set to discuss Jail and Area Plan issues. The meeting will be set for Wednesday, October 12th at 11:00 a.m. in the assembly room.

Mark Bacon moved to apply for two variances with the city which requires the HVC unit on the roof of the new jail to be screened and the required placement of clock on the exterior of the building. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEXT ERA WIND

The Commissioners received a request from Next Era to have Craig Trent removed from the board during their request for special exception since Mr. Trent has made biased remarks in public. Commissioner Bacon noted that Trent was replaced for the hearings of APEX Wind but he moved to table the request until the joint meeting on October 12th. Commissioner Levi seconded the motion and the motion carried. Hank Campbell and Stu Linville spoke against the removal.

RESIDENTIAL

Mr. Barry Spiker issue a complaint about a neighbor who has a car painting business at his home in a residential area and is dumping anti-freeze on the ground. The paint fumes causes a health threat to his son. Mr. Spiker has instructed to take his complaint to the APC and Health Department. Carole Yeend suggested that a complaint be filed with IDEM.

Johnny Gardner requested to purchase a wall file cabinet that the Clerk was going to scrap. Mark Bacon moved to sell the cabinet to Mr. Gardner for \$20. Bruce Levi seconded the motion and the motion carried.

2017 CALENDAR

Auditor Beard presented the proposed calendar for 2017. It was noted that Veterans Day falls on Property Tax deadline day and that the final Commissioner's meeting will take place on a Friday; not a Monday. Mark Bacon moved to approve the calendar. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MADRIGAL SINGERS

Rush County High School choir director David Doyle requested the use of the courthouse from December 5th-11th for the presentation of the annual Madrigal Singers performance. Commissioner Bacon move to grant the request. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE

Mary Ann Beard, Auditor noted that offices have received insurance applications from Travelers Insurance distributed by Kevin Krekeler of Assured Partners. Beard asked if the Commissioners were wanting quotes from providers or just from brokers. The Auditor was instructed to complete the applications and Commissioner Levi would contact Bliss McKnight regarding brokers.

WIND FARMS

Craig Custer appeared before the board to ask questions of Bruce Levi regarding statements made on his election flier pursuant to wind farms. Hank Campbell and Ralph Adams offered a rebuttal. Mary Jo Lovett asked why attorneys for both sides sat at the same table at the judicial hearing in Greensburg.

JUDGE NORTHAM cont.

Judge Northam's request to address the new administrative area was moved to the joint meeting on October 12th.

Mark Bacon moved to adjourn. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/ Bruce Levi
Bruce Levi, Chairman

/s/ Mark Bacon
Mark Bacon

/s/ Paul Wilkinson
Paul Wilkinson

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor