

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 9, 2018

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, January 9, 2018 with Commissioners Paul Wilkinson, Mark Bacon, Jodi Harr, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney, in attendance. Commissioner Bruce Levi was absent.

Paul Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the flag.

The first order of business was election of officers for 2018. Mark Bacon made a motion for Paul Wilkinson to be President and Mark Bacon to be vice chairman. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes of the December 22, 2017 regular meeting were reviewed. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the minutes. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for January 9, 2018 in the amount of \$491,108.94. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending January 12, 2018 in the amount of \$181,237.06 was presented. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve payroll as presented. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

RECESS – Mark Bacon made the motion to recess the commissioner meeting in order to conduct the Board of Finance Meeting. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

BOARD OF FINANCE

Rush County Treasurer Cindra Humphrey opened the Board of Finance meeting for 2018. Mark Bacon made the motion to leave officers the same as 2017, Paul Wilkinson, President and Cindra Humphrey, Secretary. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. Humphrey gave the annual report of cash on hand and investments. She noted there is a twenty nine dollar shortage on the cashbook which is not uncommon. This has happened over the five years she has served as Treasurer. At the end of her term, she will pay the difference out of her personal funds. She reported the county did not have to borrow money in 2017 and that interest earnings increased during 2017. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the report. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Mark Bacon made the motion to adjourn the Board of Finance meeting. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Wilkinson reconvened the regular commissioner meeting.

TREASURER

Cindra Humphrey, Treasurer, presented the December 2017 monthly report. Commissioner Bacon made the motion to approve the report. Commissioner Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

EMS REPORTS

December EMS reports were received from Carthage Volunteer Fire Department and Raleigh Fire Department. November and December reports were received from Rush Memorial Hospital. September, October, November and December reports were received from Anderson Township Vol Fire Department.

COMMISSIONER PROPERTY TAX SALE

The commissioners are meeting with the sewer districts and will address this at their next meeting.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, requested the commissioners approve a Supplemental Agreement for Bridge #170 with USI. It will result in an additional amount of no more than \$15,000. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve Supplemental Agreement #1 to the USI Consultants agreement for Bridge #170. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Sitton presented the Highway December monthly report.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jim Cowan presented the preliminary 2017 annual report of statistics for the sheriff and jail departments. There are fifty one inmates currently housed at the jail.

Auditor Jodi Harr presented a special pay claim to the commissioners. It was determined the wrong overtime rate was being paid to sheriff deputies. She went back to January 1, 2016 and recalculated overtime pay through December 15, 2017 for sheriff deputies. This resulted in an additional amount of \$5,304.72 due to the employees. Overtime incurred after December 15, 2017 is being paid at the correct amount. Sheriff Cowan was able to encumber overtime money from his 2017 budget to cover this expense. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the additional payroll on January 16, 2018. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Ordinance 2018-1 An Ordinance Adopting County of Rush, Indiana Job Descriptions was presented to the commissioners for their approval. Waggoner Irwin Scheele prepared the job descriptions and recommended the Jail Matron and Sheriff Chief Deputy be classified as exempt due to them being political appointments. Sheriff Cowan and Auditor Harr contacted other counties to research the best way to handle this. Cowan reported there was a mixture of exempt versus non-exempt. The common factor being whether the two positions strictly did administrative work or if they work along -side other employees with regular duty responsibilities. We are a small community who relies on cross training of employees to

efficiently meet the needs of the department. County Attorney Leigh Morning advised the commissioners to think carefully if they were thinking of making one exempt and not the other. They need to be consistent with their decisions since they both are political appointments. Mark Bacon made the motion to leave both of these positions as non-exempt because they are being utilized in non-administration areas. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. This can be addresses again at budget time.

Mark Bacon made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-1. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

EMS STUDY

Commissioner Bacon reported that he had spoken with Fitch and Associates regarding them doing the county wide ambulance study. County Attorney Leigh Morning has reviewed the proposal and does not have a problem with it. Their charge will not exceed \$10,000 including travel expenses. They will meet with all EMS departments and make a recommendation to the county commissioners. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the proposal. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. Commissioner Bacon will contact them to see how soon they can start.

NEW JAIL

County Attorney Leigh Morning presented an additional contract with Creek Run LLC to remove two additional tanks found on the new jail construction site. The additional cost is \$11,175. Mark Bacon made the motion to sign the contract. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

The next regular Commissioner's meeting will be held on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Mark Bacon moved to adjourn. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Paul Wilkinson Chairman

Mark Bacon

Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

Jodi Harr, Auditor