

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MARCH 19, 2018

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 19, 2018 with Commissioners Paul Wilkinson, Mark Bacon, and Bruce Levi, Jodi Harr, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney, in attendance.

Paul Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the flag.

Minutes of the March 5, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the minutes. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for March 19, 2018 in the amount of \$261,219.48. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending March 23, 2018 in the amount of \$181,007.58 was presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve payroll. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

Requisition #3 for Jail Construction claims to be paid from the jail bond proceeds in the amount of \$502,899.16 were presented for approval. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL BOND PROCEED INVESTMENTS

The Rush County Jail Building Corporation met this morning to give their recommendation of naming the Rush County Treasurer, Cindra Humphrey, as the county representative to work with Umbaugh to manage the investments of the jail proceeds. County Attorney Leigh Morning presented Resolution 2018-3, A Resolution Appointing Authorized Investment Representative. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve Resolution 2018-3 naming Rush County Treasurer Cindra Humphrey as the county's investment representative. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the Agreement for Cash Advisory Services with Umbaugh relating to the investments of the jail bond proceeds. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER

Rush County Treasurer Cindra Humphrey presented the February, 2018 financial report. She noted that spring property tax statements will be mailed on April 2, 2018.

GIS DATA REQUEST

Mathew Kane with Transfinder requested permission to use the Rush County GIS data to assist the Rush County Schools in realigning their bus routes. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the request. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

ECDC

Chairman Paul Wilkinson advised ECDC is requesting an additional \$5,000 to help pay the cost of a Retail Consultant to help replace lost retail business in Rush County. They are asking all stake holders to help cover the cost of \$36,000. Rush County Schools, Chamber of Commerce and ECDC have pledged their support. The Rush County Council has given their support of the additional funding pending commissioner approval. The intent is to look for retail business that surrounding counties do not have. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$5,000.00. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE STUDY

Leigh Morning has spoken with Attorney Beth Henkel of the Preservation Collaborative regarding financing for the courthouse project. Henkel has spoken with Umbaugh to see if it is feasible to request legislative changes to the special income purpose for the new jail by adding the courthouse has an allowable use of funds. She would like Umbaugh to do a financial study on the finances the county has available. The cost would be \$5,000 to \$7,000. Another option suggested was to add an additional income tax. Morning explained the county already tried to change the legislation and failed. Commissioner Wilkinson and Commissioner Bacon noted they are not supportive of this request at this time. Morning reminded the commissioners of the resistance from those within the city and county regarding increasing income tax. She has heard from three county council members who are also not in favor of doing this. Commissioner Levi made the motion to table this to give the county council time to consider the request and give a recommendation. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested to fill a vacant custodian position at the highway department. Mark Bacon made the motion to allow the request. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jim Cowan reviewed the Annual Jail Report for 2017 which will be sent to Circuit Court Judge David Northam. He noted due to an increase number of female inmates, they have rearranged cell blocks so there are now two blocks for females. There are on-going plumbing issues; however, they are repairing at as little cost as possible. There are currently seventy inmates housed at the jail.

NEW JAIL CONSTRUCTION

Ron Jarman has worked with Frontier to get the cost down on moving copper lines and fiber optic cables. The new estimated costs is \$15,349.00. Due to the time sensitivity of getting this started, each commissioner gave Chairman Paul Wilkinson permission to sign the Frontier Contract on March 15, 2018. At this time, Mark Bacon made the motion to ratify the contract with Frontier for an estimated cost of \$15,349.00. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the Project Sign in the amount of \$130.12. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

The issue with the size of the piping for the storm sewer lines has been resolved. Coors Consulting will pay the contractor for the increase in cost since they certified the wrong pipe size.

At 10:00 a.m. Bruce Levi made the motion to recess the meeting to allow for John Painter from CCI to arrive. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

At 10:10 Commissioner Wilkinson reconvened the meeting.

Mark Bacon made the motion to use striated metal roofing. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried. The roof will be rolled and cut on site. The color of the roof needs to be determined. There will be a cost increase in April if not ordered by then. John Painter with CCI has talked to the contractor. They are getting samples of the colors. There is a meeting with DLZ on Tuesday of this week. He will bring the recommendation from DLZ to the commissioners April 2 meeting for them to make a decision. Leigh Morning asked if we have already awarded the contract, can they change the cost. Painter said that is a question to ask Joe Hoffman. Ron Jarman reminded them the Rush County Historical Board has already approved the proposed color. If it is changed, we would need to get their approval.

COURTHOUSE

Commissioner Levi reported the water/sewage bill at the courthouse almost doubled this month. He looked and did not find a leak; however, it has been reported that toilets in the public restrooms are found running most all of the time. He would like for them to be checked after night meetings to make sure all are off. Also we need to look at replacing the toilets.

EMS REPORTS

EMS reports were received from Anderson Township, Carthage and Raleigh Fire Departments. A financial report from RMH ending December 2017 was also reviewed.

E911 BOARD

Commissioner Wilkinson reported the county council has a concern on who will be authorizing the spending of E911 money if the E911 board is realigned. That will have to be determined after the board is realigned.

COUNTY HOUSING CONCERN

Commissioner Wilkinson reported due to a continued decline in population, EIDD is still working on a housing study.

The next regular Commissioner's meeting will be held on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

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

/Paul Wilkinson/
Paul Wilkinson Chairman

/Mark Bacon/
Mark Bacon

/Bruce Levi/
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/
Jodi Harr, Auditor