

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 29, 2019

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 29, 2019 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi, Jodi Harr, Auditor, and County Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance.

Mark Bacon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 15, 2019 were reviewed. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the minutes. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for April 29, 2019 in the amount of \$448,613.09. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending May 3, 2019 in the amount of \$181,977.66 was presented. Auditor Jodi Harr explained there was a question as to the amount of vacation time that was due to Retired Sheriff Deputy Steve Houston. She and Sheriff Allan Rice are working on it. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$180,745.75 and to address Houston's vacation time on the next payroll. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Requisition #32 for Jail Construction claims to be paid from the jail bond proceeds in the amount of \$7,047.69 were presented for approval. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION

Change Order 0930-001 in the amount of \$571.58 for Circle B Construction to provide all labor and material required to construct the twelve inch bulkhead in the kitchen above the door as shown on the response to RFI 127. Construction Manager John Painter explained the purpose of the change order. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the change order. Bruce Levi seconded. Mark Bacon restated and Levi agreed these things should have been included in the original plans. Painter reminded them the percentage of change orders for this project has been low. Wilkinson understands but the project architect should have caught these. These change orders have not been for things that the county has requested to change. Motion carried.

AREA PLAN

Rush County Area Plan Director Gregg Duke presented the following two rezones for consideration by the commissioners:

- Parcel # 70-11-25-327-002.000-004 and 70-11-25-327-003.000-004 belong to Alexander and Kyla Shaver. On April 10, 2019 the Rush County Area Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation to rezone the property from Mobile Home to Residential.

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the rezone of the property from Mobile Home to Residential. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

- Parcel # 70-11-08-400-002.000-010 belongs to Frederick and Wanda Philips. On April 10, 2019 the Rush County Area Plan commission gave a favorable recommendation to rezone the property from not currently zoned to Commercial (C). Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the rezone of the property from not currently zoned to Commercial (C). Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY RIDE RUSH

The Commissioners received via email the January 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019 quarterly report for the Rush County Ride Rush Transportation Grant. The report was not signed by the Director; therefore, the report was tabled until the next meeting.

HEALTH

Julia Apple presented the April Health Department Update. She has been cross training Sherry McKinney to be the back up to do food inspections. Employee evaluations have been completed. May 24, 2019 is Vape Away Day at the high school.

As reported at a prior meeting, she completed a two day training on social media. She commented on how the use of Facebook is reaching the community with information from the health department. With that she ask permission of the commissioners, to allow someone in their office to post to Facebook during work hours. IT Director Randy Herbert commented there are people within the courthouse departments who would have benefits to accessing Facebook through the county server during the day; however, Malware is the risk that you take when you allow access to social media. The county has excellent protection in place but there is always that one chance that something gets through. He stated it is up to the commissioners whether they are willing to take that risk. If allowed, he recommends allowing it only on one computer. A MiFi would be a better option. It would allow her to access it while away from work also. There is a cost for MiFi. Commissioner Levi commented we need to protect our servers as much as possible. It was also noted that our personnel policy does not allow for employees to work from home so it needs to be done during the day. If it is done on her personal phone during lunch hour, we would need to pay her overtime. Commissioner Wilkinson recommended Apple look into the cost of MiFi and for Herbert to investigate Baracuda. In the meantime, Apple can use her cell phone during work hours to post to the Health Department web page.

COUNTY FARM CONTRACT

At 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Bacon ask if anyone had questions regarding the auction to be held for the cash rent of 170 tillable acres owned by Rush County. Joe Niedenthal ask if there are any soil sample reports available for review. The commissioners have not received any. With no further questions, Bacon opened the floor for bids. Niedenthal opened the process with \$150.00 per acre. Elijah Buhler, Scott Ripberger, Cory Busald, Brad Stephenson with Crossroad Family Farms Inc., and Doug Kinder all participated in the bidding process.

Bruce Levi made the motion to accept the highest bid of \$280.00 per acre from Crossroad Family Farms, Inc. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner requested on behalf of the Heart of Rushville to host a dinner on the Moscow Covered Bridge on September 30, 2019. Bruce Levi made the motion to table the request until the next meeting. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Carole Yeend reported on the successful Meds and Shreds day held last week. Shares Inc. was on site for the shredding of confidential documents that any resident provided.

She next updated the commissioners on the broadband project. A survey has been created regarding local internet services. The information will be used to gather data on how we can support internet connectivity. It can be taken on line or by paper. Watch Communications has requested a Letter of Support for the project from the commissioners. Watch is applying for grants to support the cost of the project. It was noted the commissioners will work with all providers of internet for this project. This project will take a few years to complete. The goal is to get high speed internet access to all areas of the county. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to sign the letter of support for Watch Communications or any other broadband provider who wishes to serve Rush County. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

COUNTY FARM TILE

Joe Niedenthal reported the county tile across his farm is broken. It affects about ten acres of his farm. He would like the whole thing replaced. Chad Bowles has looked at the tile. Marvin Rees is not in today to address this. Commissioner Wilkinson stated they would check with Rees. It will depend on the cost and what is budgeted. Commissioner Bacon realizes it is a problem and they will check with Rees.

HR

Tony Personett reported the Treasurer has hired a part time person. The Sheriff has hired a full time merit deputy and a new part time corrections officer.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker reported the communications between departments during last weeks storms were good. He uses the EMA Facebook page to report on weather and emergency situations and closings. Some people asked why the tornado sirens did not go off in the City of Rushville. It was because the City of Rushville was not in the path of the storm. The sirens were activated in the affected areas of the county.

The new trailer is operational. He is applying for a grant to replace the courthouse alarm system. He noted that his new grant applications are asking for a copy of the county grant policy for internal controls. We currently do not have a policy. He does not feel like we are

