

**REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Friday, November 20, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi present. Auditor Jodi Harr and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also present.

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

**MINUTES**

- Minutes of the regular meeting held on November 9, 2020 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS**

- Accounts Payable claims for November 20, 2020 in the amount of \$201,944.21 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**PAYROLL**

- Payroll for November 25, 2020 in the amount of \$202,175.44 was approved on a motion by Bruce Levi. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**JAIL CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS**

Jail construction claims to be paid from the LIT Special Purpose Fund 1114 in the amount of \$699.11 was presented for approval. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**NEW JAIL MAINTENANCE**

Matron Megan Tate presented two quotes for the maintenance of the generator at the jail. Davis Towing proposed \$815 for basic service twice a year. Evapar proposed \$3,400 for extended services twice a year. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to table this to give legal time to review the proposals and receive/review the warranty documents on the generator. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held again on the sand and rocks in the water system at the jail. Greiner Brothers does not believe this has been caused by an error made by them. They think we will still need a water softener after this issue is fixed. The commissioners would like for someone from Greiner Brothers, someone from the City of Rushville and someone representing the county to look at this together. Tate will contact QPH to be the county representative. Commissioner Bacon will also attend.

Sheriff Rice asked who is responsible for mowing and snow removal at the new parking lot. The commissioners will hire someone to take care of it.

A quote was presented from QPH in the amount of \$8,620.00 to resolve the dispatch center backdraft control issue. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the quote and pay it from the LIT construction funds. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jail Commander Chris Plough updated the commissioners on the housing of inmates from other counties. He is currently working with Madison and Henry counties. The county receives \$37.50 per day per inmate from the other county. He will work with the county attorney on creating a memo of understanding between Rush County and any county that we house inmates for.

## **TREASURER**

The October Treasurer report was received.

## **RECORDER**

Recorder Kevin Spilman requested the commissioners approve an electronic recording agreement with Simplifile LC. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **I.T.**

Randy Herbert requested the commissioners approve the Suiteone Media Services contract with BIS Streaming. The cost is \$5,600 per year. The first year has been paid with CARES Act funding. Herbert will need to budget this in his 2022 budget. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **HEALTH DEPT**

An Addendum to the COVID-19 Testing Agreement with Rush Memorial Hospital was presented. It allows the hospital to apply for a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments waiver for rapid testing. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the amendment. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Dixie Meyer gave an update on the local COVID-19 pandemic.

## **EXTENSION OFFICE**

The extension office is in need of a new copier. A quote from Office Shop was presented in the amount of \$7,569.00. They have funds to transfer within their current budget to pay for this. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the purchase. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Carly Holland requested permission for her staff to take turns working from home. They both have high school students living with them and have both been quarantined at different times. They will make sure there is always someone in the office. Their work can be tracked by their supervisor. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **CLERK**

Angie Buckley requested permission for two of her employees work at home. She currently has one positive case and two pending cases in her office. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to allow as long as the work can be monitored and her office is still open to the public for appointments. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

She is working on how to do the swearing in of elected officials for January 1. There will not be a formal ceremony as in the past.

## **RIDE RUSH**

Ride Rush Board member Janet Kile was present. Director Tina Logan was available by phone if needed. The information was received to approve the requested reimbursement claim for INDOT in the amount of \$42,469.00. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the quarterly report. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. A special meeting of the commissioners will be held on January 11, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. with Todd Jennings from INDOT and Ride Rush representatives present.

## **BROAD BAND**

Carole Yeend gave an update on the broadband project. Internet providers say that all of Rush County has acceptable internet service. This is not the case but a base needs to be established to show this. Consumers are asked to go to a link on the county website to do a speed test on their internet service. It will report it and be gathered to report to the committee.

## **AREA PLAN COMMISSION**

Gregg Duke stated the Board of Zoning Appeals will have its first hearing on solar project permits. The meeting will be on December 1, 2020.

10:30 a.m. Bruce Levi made the motion to recess until 1:00 p.m. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

1:00 p.m. Chairman Mark Bacon reconvened the regular commissioner meeting.

## **HIGHWAY**

Jerry Sitton presented the following items:

- A construction contract for Bridge 127 between Rush County and INDOT. The state will pay 80% of the construction cost up to \$2,463,200.00. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- An addendum to the contract between Rush County and INDOT for engineering fees on Bridge 127 for 80% reimbursement up to \$391,780.00. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the addendum. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- A bridge inspection contract between Rush County and INDOT for 80% reimbursement up to \$409,979.55. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the contract. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ordinance 2020-9 establishing a maximum speed limit in Williamstown was presented to be effective December 1, 2020. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **E911**

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to sign an Interlocal Agreement with Rushville City to reimburse them \$136,968.00 for 2021 salaries of their E911 dispatchers. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Incoming Commissioner Ron Jarman noted he wants to continue discussions on a central dispatch center.

## **HR**

Tony Personett presented new jail descriptions for the jail rankings of Commander, Lieutenant, Sergeant and Corporal. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on re-educating all courthouse employees on the COVID-19 restrictions at the courthouse. If an employee agrees to be tested for COVID-19 they can use COVID paid time off followed by sick days, vacation days and then we would pay them with county funds. If an employee refuses to get tested, they can use sick days, vacation days or be unpaid. Department heads are reminded if an employee is sick, send them home. Personett will go to each office and remind them of the current policy.

## **SHERIFF**

Sheriff Allan Rice requested that road deputies be allowed to take 2021 holidays on the actual holiday rather than on the day observed by the county calendar. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

He is still looking to hire part time correction officers.

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

County Attorney Leigh Morning asked if the commissioners wanted to do a one year or a five year capital improvement plan. The financial advisor advised doing a five year economic development plan. Discussion was held on items that can be paid from Edit funds. It was also

noted that our current budget is spending more money than what we are receiving each year. The commissioners will do a one year plan for 2021 and work on a five year plan for 2022.

Bruce Levi made the motion to adjourn. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/Mark Bacon/  
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Paul Wilkinson/  
Paul Wilkinson

/Bruce Levi/  
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/  
Jodi Harr, Auditor