

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MARCH 16, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 16, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi. Auditor Jodi Harr and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also in attendance.

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

Minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson and seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr presented the biweekly claims docket for March 16, 2020 in the amount of \$177,520.52. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve all claims as presented. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending March 20, 2020 in the amount of \$197,756.58 was presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve payroll. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION

Jail construction claims in the amount of \$51,497.58 to be paid from fund 1114 LIT Special Purpose were presented for approval. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

The following jail construction change orders were presented:

- 0930-007 to Circle B Construction for an additional amount of \$1,526.72. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

County Attorney Leigh Morning reported a meeting was held with DLZ regarding change orders. Commissioner Bacon commented he feels better about the change orders after the discussion. They will meet to discuss the change orders again after construction is completed.

TREASURER

The Treasurer report for February was received via email.

VACATE ALLEY –MANILLA

James Bowling of Manilla requested the commissioners set a public hearing to vacate an alley in the James W Trees 1st Addition to the Town of Manilla. The alley runs east west between S950W and Cross Street and is south of Pearl Street and North of Vine Street. Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton commented the alley has never been maintained by the county and he has no problem with the commissioners closing it. Bruce Levi made the motion

to set the public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on April 13, 2020. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE

HR Director Tony Personett requested Health Insurance Plan Document summary modification. It is adding eligibility for elected officials. Elected officials have always been covered. There has become a need to specifically say that they are. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

We did receive a notice from our health insurance third party administrator that they will cover COVID 19 testing with no copays unless the county tells them any different. The commissioners agree for the testing to be covered with no copays.

Personett presented the Rush County Policy Concerning COVID-19 for Rush County Employees. It will be rescinded once the pandemic is over. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY JAIL BUILDING CORP

Mark Hudson with BOK Financing requested the commissioners sign an Authorized Signer Certificate, Short Term Investment Direction form and a Trust Fee letter. These were all documents that should have been signed when the Rush County Jail Building Corp was formed and bonds were issued. BOK Financing is the Successor Trustee of First Financial Bank. County Attorney Leigh Morning reviewed the documents. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to sign the forms. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker requested permission to apply for the 2020 SHSP Homeland Security Grant. It is a federal reimbursable grant in the amount of \$60,995.00 to improve cybersecurity. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the application for the grant. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

He then updated the commissioners on the COVID-19 pandemic.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Carly Holland reported that Purdue has said all Purdue employees are to be teleworking. She and Tonya Campbell will not be in the office until at least April 6. The Extension Board meetings will be postponed or done digitally. She asked what the commissioner's guidance is for the two county employees that work in their office. Can they also work from home? Purdue has given them the capability to forward their office phones and work at home through Purdue. Discussion was held on tracking the employee's time to avoid ghost employment. The commissioners all agreed for these two employees to work from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Julia Apple presented the February report. She updated the commissioners on the Health Departments action regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. As of now there are no reported cases in Rush County.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested permission to apply for a grant with INDOT for the county wide bridge inspections. It will be a grant for federal reimbursement through INDOT. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to allow the application of the grant. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Allan Rice noted the application for the COPS grant has been submitted. He has received the 2020 Durango to replace the 2019 Charger that was totaled last year. He has placed limited restrictions in the new jail.

Paul Wilkinson made a motion to sign dispenser agreements with Tork Advantage which is through Gordon Food Services. There is no charge to the county. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2ND AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

Commissioner Bruce Levi asked what is exactly being asked of the commissioners. They have taken an oath to support the U.S. Constitution. Morning has put together a resolution for the commissioners to review. Levi does not see a need for it since they have already taken an oath to support the constitution. Commissioner Paul Wilkinson would like to take some time to review it and address it at a later date. The proposed resolution was taken under advisement. Brad Hatfield commented the local group is asking for reaffirmation from the commissioners that they will uphold the 2nd amendment by resolution.

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