

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS January 18, 2022

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday January 18, 2022, with Commissioners, Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Ron Jarman present. County Attorney Leigh Morning was present. Auditor Tammy Justice was absent.

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

MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Session held on January 3, 2022, were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Ron Jarman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for January 18, 2022 in the amount of \$1,407,791.44 were presented. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the claims. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for January 21, 2022, in the amount of \$204,945.61 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Tony Personett reported the resignation of a parttime administrator in the child support division of the Prosecutor's Office. He requested permission to advertise the position. Ron Jarman moved to advertise the position. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- The Prosecutor recommended Kristen Haas to fill the position of parttime investigator. The pay is \$23.58 per hour, up to 29 hours per week. Paul Wilkinson moved to fill the position. Ron Jarman seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- The United States Supreme Court stopped the vaccine mandate for employers with over 100 employees.
- There is a requirement for insurance companies to pay for at-home COVID tests. Tony just received the information from TrueScripts. It covers two (2) tests per insured person. This is a reimbursement for the tests.
- March 16, 2022, from 7:00 to 10:30 is the annual wellness screening for employees.

JAIL

- Megan Tate reported that Elwood did a fire inspection at the end of December. The backflow device off of the water main did not work and needs to be rebuilt. She received two (2) quotes – one from Elwood in the

amount of \$1,608.85, and one from Choice in the amount of \$1,215.00. Ron Jarman moved to proceed with Choice, and Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- The Jail is currently closed to extra program due to COVID with employees and inmates. The Jail will still receive inmates, but will continue to quarantine new inmates on their arrival.
- The kitchen cooler is out. The refrigeration unit is down, currently an outside unit. The board is out, and they are waiting on parts.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- Sandy Fussner reported they are working on the bicentennial.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

- Kristie Amos said everyone was invited to the Community Based Action Planning meeting on January 26, 2022, 11:30 to 1:30 at the City Council Chambers.

AREA PLAN

- Rush County has developed into a county heavily involved in raising livestock. Rush County has 47 CAFOS/CFOs. Twenty-five percent (25%) of ground in the A-3 zone is being fertilized in a natural manner. APC recommends no moratorium on any confinements (of any type, hog being the main type) without a change to the comprehensive plan or strategic analysis in the County.

RECORDER

- A contract with Pay.Gov was presented, to allow customers to pay by credit card. This was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson, seconded by Ron Jarman. Motion carried.

AMENDED AMERICA RESCUE PLAN ORDINANCE

- The Amended Ordinance was presented. It was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson, seconded by Ron Jarman. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed for the Board of Finance meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:34 am.

ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

- Discussion was held. General animal care will be removed because there are no penalty provision. The Animal Running Astray Ordinance will be amended to include dogs, cats, and ferrets. It will become effective March 1, 2022.

BROADBAND

- Paul Wilkinson discussed broadband, and contracting with Bose, McKinney and Evans to look at funding options. The point of contact will be Nikki Schultz. She charges \$545.00 per hour. Others working on the project charge different rates. Paul proposed that the Broadband committee use the \$40,000 budgeted in the EDIT fund to contract with Bose, McKinney and Evans, at an hourly rate, no minimum or maximum number of hours, to work on expanding broadband services in Rush County. Ron Jarman moved to engage in a contract with Bose, McKinney and Evans, capped at \$40,000, to expand broadband services in Rush County. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- Ron Jarman moved to reappoint Emily Ellis, Dr. Jonathon Lassar, and Jacki Gettinger to the Board of Health. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MISC.

- State Board of Accounts is still conducting the audit, and has moved on to the federal audit.
- Paul Wilkinson moved to reappoint James Neal to the Carthage Library Board. Seconded by Ron Jarman. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman reported that Shelby, Rush, Decatur counties and their cities, and Batesville, are meeting to discuss the ARI grant, and how to move forward.

Commissioner Ron Jarman made motion to adjourn. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/absent/
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Paul Wilkinson/
Paul Wilkinson

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor