

**REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
August 1, 2022**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 1, 2022, with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Ron Jarman present. Auditor Tammy Justice 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 Session held on July 5, 2022, were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon seconded. Ron Jarman abstained due to not being present. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Minutes of the Special Session held on July 8, 2022, were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon seconded. Ron Jarman abstained due to not being present. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Minutes of the Regular Session held on July 18, 2022, were presented. Ron Jarman made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon seconded. Paul Wilkinson abstained due to not being present. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS**

- Accounts Payable claims for August 1, 2022, in the amount of \$443,461.37 were presented, Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the claims. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Accounts Payable claims for August 2, 2022, in the amount of \$440.50 were presented for the Courthouse Roof. Paul Wilkinson moved to approve the claims. Ron Jarman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**PAYROLL**

- Payroll for August 5, 2022, in the amount of \$199,323.02 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **Health Department**

- Chuck Kemker notified the Commissioners that Hannah Augsburger will no longer be serving on the Health Board.
- Chuck Kemker presented the Commissioners with a Certificate of Appointment to the County Board of Health. The Health Board would like to appoint Michael Justice to take Hannah Augsburger's place. It was noted that there are currently not enough Democrats sitting on the Health Board and they are working to rectify the situation. Paul Wilkinson moved to sign the Certificate of Appointment, appointing Michael Justice to the County Board of Health. Ron Jarman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Chuck Kemker presented the Commissioners with a Pass-through Agreement between the Rush County Health Department and the Board of School Trustees, Rush County Schools for the application of the Crisis CoAg COVID-19 Local Health Department School Support Sustainment Grant. Ron Jarman moved to sign the Pass-through Agreement. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Chuck Kemker introduced Kim Roe, the new Health Department Environmentalist/Office Manager, to the Commissioners.

## **HR**

- HR Director Tony Personett requested approval to hire Kaylee Crowe as a part time Administrative Assistant at the jail. Paul Wilkinson moved to hire Kaylee Crowe as a part time Administrative Assistant. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Personett also requested to hire April Hatfield as a part time Administrative Assistant at the jail. Paul Wilkinson moved to hire April Hatfield as a part time Administrative Assistant. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **Sheriff**

- Sheriff Rice advised the Commissioners he had a discussion with the Sheriff of Henry County regarding the payment for housing their inmates, a payment was received last week.
- Sheriff Rice advised the Commissioners that he has two patrol vehicles needing brakes. Currently there is a shortage of brake pads worldwide. Parts needed to fix these two patrol cars are expected to arrive soon.
- Sheriff Rice advised the Commissioners of a lighting issue within the jail. When Banta Electric wired the night time lights in the cell blocks, they were not wired correctly. Estimated cost to fix one cell block is around \$4,100.00. The parts are still under warranty but the labor is not. Discussion was held on the issue and advised to find a local electrician to fix the issue.
- Sheriff Rice indicated there is a communications employee who needs an extension on using their allotted vacation time. Sheriff Rice is requesting a 60 day extension. Paul Wilkinson moved to grant the 60 day extension. Ron Jarman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Rice presented the Commissioners with a retirement agreement for K9 officer Justice effective August 1, 2022. Paul Wilkinson moved to accept the retirement agreement for K9 officer Justice. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### Veteran Service Officer

- Veteran Service Officer Dannon Todd advised the Commissioners that there were 25 to 26 veteran markers, from previous years, not placed before he took over the position. He has worked diligently to locate each veteran and is now needing to get the markers placed. All markers are over seven years old and no way of knowing if the veteran claim was filed with the County and paid. He has a vendor willing to place the markers at a cost of \$110.00 per marker. Dannon is inquiring as to who the vendor should bill. County Attorney Leigh Morning advised Dannon to have the vendor bill Rush County. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve up to \$3,000.00 to bring the veteran markers current and get them placed. Ron Jarman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### Misc.

- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with a Resolution Authorizing Borrowing of Funds for the Carr-Stanley Drain Reconstruction and Authorizing Signatures. It was noted that the loan shall not exceed \$755,000.00 and shall be paid within six (6) years from the date of closing. Paul Wilkinson moved to adopt and sign the resolution. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning advised the Commissioners she has been approached by Rush Memorial on transferring all hospital property currently deeded as Rush County Commissioners to Hospital Board of Trustees. It was discussed that this transfer will have to be advertised and a public hearing held. Ron Jarman made the motion to start the process to change the deeded name to Hospital Board of Trustees. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion as long as there is a statement that the hospital will remain a County Hospital. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Discussion was held regarding an Opioid Abatement. Currently the funds are coming from Johnson & Johnson. If the County utilizes these funds, reporting will have to be made to the office of Family Social Services.
- Ron Jarman advised that he has been approached by Dr. Morris, who is requesting a letter of support from the Commissioners, regarding the rehabilitation of the historical Dr. Jefferson Helm house. Paul Wilkinson moved to sign the letter in support. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman advised he has been approached by the 5 Days of Prayer Group. The group noticed there are several dead trees on the grounds of the County owned Conservation Club. The group has asked if the County would assist in getting the trees cut down and then letting indigent families come and take what wood they need. Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised his employees would get the trees cut down as time permits. County Attorney Leigh Morning advised there should be a release of liability signed as well.
- Ron Jarman advised the Heart of Rushville would like to place a 30 foot metal pole on the courthouse lawn that would serve as the City's Christmas tree. Heart of Rushville will be responsible for putting up the pole and then also removing it. Paul Wilkinson moved to allow the Heart of Rushville to use the Courthouse lawn for the 30 foot metal pole, as long as it is taken down no later than February 1<sup>st</sup>. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman advised the Heart of Rushville would like to have the cannon moved from the back lawn of the Courthouse to the front lawn. Heart of Rushville will assume all costs of moving the cannon. Paul Wilkinson

moved to allow Heart of Rushville to move the cannon at no cost to the County. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

/Mark Bacon/  
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Paul Wilkinson/  
Paul Wilkinson

/Ron Jarman/  
Ron Jarman

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/  
Tammy Justice, Auditor