

## **REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **July 18, 2022**

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

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

### **CLAIMS**

- Accounts Payable claims for June 18, 2022, in the amount of \$653,145.96 were presented, Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the claims with the exception of The Booster Club in the amount of \$20,000.00. Mark Bacon seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Accounts Payable claims for June 19, 2022, in the amount of \$127,763.29 were presented for the Courthouse Roof. Ron Jarman moved to approve the claims. Mark Bacon seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **PAYROLL**

- Payroll for July 22, 2022, in the amount of \$218,024.77, which included vacation buy-out for Teresa Poindexter in the amount of \$1,852.20, Julia Apple in the amount of \$1,009.75 and Terry Drake in the amount of \$8,566.40 was approved on a motion by Ron Jarman. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HR**

- HR Director Tony Personett requested approval to hire Cassandra Coe for the Property Records position in the Auditor's Office. Ron Jarman made the motion to hire Cassandra Coe. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Personett also requested approval to hire former Deputy Auditor, Teresa Poindexter as part time in the Auditor's Office to help with training. Motion was made by Ron Jarman to hire Teresa Poindexter part time. Mark Bacon seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Discussion was held regarding the restrooms on the third floor of the Courthouse. Personett advised he had received emails from Courthouse employees concerned about vandalism of the restrooms and that employees would like to see the restrooms locked and available for employee use only. Commissioner Mark Bacon advised that QPH has fixed the leak in the men's restroom and made repairs in the women's restroom as well. If issues keep arising then the Commissioners will address closing the third floor restrooms.

### **Area Plan**

- Area Plan Director Mike Holzback presented the Commissioners with an amendment (APC 2018-11) to the Rush County Zoning Ordinance and Certificate of Adoption. The amendment includes section 7.5 through the end of the Rush County Zoning Ordinance. Ron Jarman made the motion to approve the amended Zoning Ordinance and sign the Certificate of Adoption. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Assessor**

- Assessor Mary Ann Bridges asked permission to replace Dale Gardner on the PTABOA Board with Kenny Aulbach for the remainder of 2022. Ron Jarman moved to approve the replacement. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Health Department**

- Dixie Meyer and Sherry McKinney presented the Commissioner's with two Certificate of Appointments to the County Board of Health. The Health Board would like to appoint Michael Justice and Bruce Levi. Currently there is only one opening on the Rush County Health Board. The intention is to use the other appointment as an alternate to the Board, due to poor attendance at meetings, from the current Health Board members. Discussion was held regarding if these appointments were within the IC 16-20-2-4 requirements that no more than four of the seven board members be from the same political party. Discussion was also held regarding if an alternate can be placed on the Health Board. County Attorney Leigh Morning stated she will leave that up to the Health Boards legal counsel. Motion to approve the appointments to the Health Board was made by Ron Jarman. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **EMA**

- Director Chuck Kemker advised the Commissioners that he has completed the training required by the state to function in the capacity as a COM-L for an All Hazard Incident Management Team. In order to complete the process and operate under the COM-L he needed a letter signed by the Commissioners. Ron Jarman made the motion to sign the letter. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Sheriff**

- Sheriff Rice advised the Commissioners he had 9 applications turned in for the open road deputy position. Six applicants showed up for the agility test, of which only three passed. Interviews of those three applicants is set for July 25, 2022.
- Sheriff Rice advised the Commissioners that the electric bill for the jail had significantly increased. Sheriff Rice also stated Duke is estimating a 47% increase for the remainder of 2022. Commissioner Bacon inquired if the money received for housing out of County inmates could be used to offset the increase. Sheriff Rice indicated funds received for housing out of

County inmates is receipted into the county general fund and he pays the electric bill out of his LIT budget.

- The jail is currently housing 72 inmates, 11 inmates are from Hancock County. Sheriff Rice stated Henry County is still not current on their payment for inmate housing and will get with County Attorney to send letter on the County's behalf.
- Discussion was held regarding the water line issues.
- Sheriff Rice advised the Commissioners that he is short staffed in both the jail and road deputy coverages and that he has been covering the road.

**Misc.**

- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with a Lease between R. Allen Flynn and Kathy J. Flynn and the Rush County Commissioners. The leased premises shall be used for the purpose of storing the tile to be used on the Rush County Courthouse roof. The term of the lease is for six months starting July 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. Motion to sign the lease was made by Ron Jarman. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kristie Amos with the Community Foundation updated the Commissioners on scholarships, grants and education that the Foundation has given.
- Sandy Fussner with the Chamber updated the Commissioners on the Bicentennial events taking place. Fussner also advised there is a new business opening in town called Beyond the Label which specializes in ABA therapy for autism.

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

/Mark Bacon/  
Mark Bacon, Chairman

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Paul Wilkinson

/Ron Jarman/  
Ron Jarman

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/  
Tammy Justice, Auditor