

**REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL December 14, 2022**

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members, Charles Smith, Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner and Carl Harcourt present. Auditor, Tammy Justice and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also present. Councilman Scott Barnes was absent.

Councilman Charles Smith called the Regular Session to order at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the November 9, 2022 Regular Session meeting were presented. Denny Corn made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Roll call for Commissioners. Mark Bacon and Ron Jarman present.

**PROSECUTOR**

- Deputy Prosecutor Laura Holt requested approval for the Stop Grant Application in the amount of \$42,536.42 with a county match of \$16,427.61. The match will be paid out of deferral funds per Holt. Kyle Gardner made a motion to approve and sign the grant application. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**TRANSFERS**

- Public Defender Bryan Barrett requested approval for a Transfer from Repairs & Maintenance to Supplies in the amount of \$400.00 in the County General Public Defender Budget. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Janet Kile. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval on behalf of the Commissioner's to transfer from Capital Outlays to Professional Service in the amount of \$13,500.00 in the Courthouse Roof Bond Proceeds Budget. This is to pay ARSEE Engineers and Leigh Morning. Denny made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval on behalf of Soil & Water to transfer from Cons & Educator to Mileage in the amount of \$59.18 for the County General Soil & Water Budget. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**SHERIFF TRANSFERS/ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**

- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval to transfer from Supplies to Body Cameras in the amount of \$18,500.00 in the Misdemeanant Fund. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Rice requested approval to transfer from Technology & Software to Body Cameras in the amount of \$1,410.00 in the County General Sheriff

Budget. Carl Harcourt made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Sheriff Rice requested approval to transfer from Part-time to Body Cameras in the amount of \$9,300.00 in the County General Sheriff Budget. Denny Corn made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Rice requested approval for an additional appropriation for LIT Public safety Fund Vehicle Maintenance in the amount of \$28,000.00. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Seconded by Janet Kile. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Rice requested approval for Beacon Credit Union Foundation Grant application. Rice indicated that the grant money awarded will assist with food, supplies, vet bills, training and purchasing a K-9 for their agency. Grant money raised will help keep the programs funded without using tax dollars. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the grant application. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Rice requested approval for Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative for Law Enforcement Grant application. Rice indicated that the grant would allow the purchase of the Flock License Plate Reader for surveillance in our rural area of the county. This equipment would allow us to find stolen vehicles, people with active warrants, and is extremely useful in the fight of narcotics in our community. Denny Corn made a motion to approve the grant application. Seconded by Janet Kile. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Dixie Meyer requested approval for an additional appropriation for the CFDA #93.354 Cooperative Agreement for Emergency in the amount of \$1,000.00. This is a grant that they received for filling out a survey. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Meyer requested approval for the Rush County COVID Testing Extension grant application in the amount of \$50,000.00. This grant is for an extension of the COVID Testing through December 31, 2022, under the agreement between Rush Memorial hospital and the Rush County Health Department. Carl Harcourt made a motion to approve the application. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **2023 SALARY ORDINANCE**

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval for the 2023 Salary Ordinance. Denny Corn made a motion to approve the 2023 Salary Ordinance. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **OPIOID**

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval for an Ordinance Establishing Opioid Fund Restricted. The State Board of Accounts requires to separate fund to properly account for the receipts and expenditure of monies received from the Opioid Settlement. Discussion was held for a committee to be formed for the Opioid money. There are certain rules for what the money can be spent on for the restricted fund. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve and sign the Ordinance Establishing Opioid Fund Restricted. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Auditor Justice requested approval or an Ordinance Establishing Opioid Fund Unrestricted. The State Board of Accounts request to separate fund to properly account for the receipts and expenditure of monies received from the Opioid Settlement. Denny Corn made a motion to approve. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **AUDITOR – COURT SERVICES ALTERNATIVE FUNDS**

- Auditor Tammy Justice informed the council that the Department of Correction is requiring that the Court Services use alternate fund numbers. The current fund #9104 RCCC Grant Fund alternate number is fund #9119. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve An Ordinance Creating the Rush county Community Correction Department of Corrections Alternative Grant Fund #9119. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried
- Auditor also added the current fund #9114 RCCC Drug Court Grant Fund alternate number is fund #9120. Janet Kile made a motion to approve An Ordinance creating the Drug Court Alternative Fund #9120. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Justice indicated the current fund #2505 RCCC User Fee Fund alternate fund is #1122. Denny Corn made a motion to approve An Ordinance Creating the Rush County Community Correction Alternative Users’ Fee Fund. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Justice requested approval to create a new grant fund for Pre Trial Services through the Community Corrections grant. Denny Corn made a motion to approve An Ordinance Creating the Pretrial Services Fund #9124. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **2023 Appointments**

- Alcoholic Beverage Board – Daniel Shanahan
- Area Plan Commission – Denny Corn
- Eastern Indiana Development District – Scott Barnes
- Economic Development District – Kyle Gardner
- Employee Health Insurance Committee – Charles Smith
- Hospital Board – Mark Spurlin
- Fiber Board – Carl Harcourt
- Library Board – Lou Starkey
- Solid Waste Board – Kyle Gardner
- EMA Board – Carl Harcourt
- Revolving Loan Board – Charles Smith
- Redevelopment Board – Charles Smith
- Personnel Committee – Janet Kile
- JRAC – Charles Smith
- Extension – Amy Grocox

Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the 2023 County Council Appointments. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

- Commissioner Ron Jarman discussed the ARPA Funds Community Center. Jarman discussed that the council had approved 1 million from ARPA funds to go towards the Community Center and 1.5 million to go towards the

Broadband. At that time the council would discuss later down the road the funding for \$500,000 for the Community Center with the commissioners. The County's Financial advisors, FSG suggested that the additional funds of \$500,000, come from the Edit funds over a period of 3 years. The Community Center Committee is looking to close in March 2023. Discussion was held on funding Broadband. Jarman had indicated that the Broadband committee will not be ready for a plan for broadband before the July 2023 deadline that the council put in place for the plans of spending the ARPA funds. Discussion was held. Gerald Mohr indicated that the Community Foundation has ear marked for Rush County \$105,000.00 that will go towards the funding of the \$500,000.00. Continued discussion was held. Kyle Gardner made a motion to pay \$395,000.00 for the Community Center out of the ARPA funds if broadband goes through before July 2023 then we will use Edit funds for Broadband. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried. Ron Jarman will prepare 2 letters to the Community Foundation for the \$105,000.00 and \$395,000.00

- Commissioner Jarman held discussion on an IT assistant with a salary of \$50,000.00. The salary would come from the LIT Special Purpose fund and would report to the IT Director. Continued discussion was held. Carl Harcourt made a motion to encourage the Commissioner to hire IT Assistant and pay it out of the LIT Special Purpose Fund. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Jarman also indicated that the IT Director Randy Herbert had put in for a 2% raise during the 2023 budget process. That position currently makes \$75,000.00 and Randy did not receive a 2% raise. Discussion was held that Herbert would like to bring his salary up to \$85,000.00 in 2023. The Commissioner agreed to transfer from his equipment line to cover \$5,000.00 and the other \$5,000.00 Randy would have to ask the commissioners for it for the 2024 Budget. Continued discussion was held. Charles Smith also indicated that this all should have been done through the normal budget process.
- Commissioner Mark Bacon gave an update on the courthouse roof, sidewalks on the east and west side. Bacon also talked about the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor renovation.

## **HR**

- HR Director Tony Personett discussed with the Commissioners the issues of hiring and retaining employees and the need for competitive wages in the future. Personett indicated we really need to increase the wages up by \$2.00 per hour and we need to develop a plan.

Motion to adjourn was made by Carl Harcourt. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/CHARLES SMITH/  
Charles Smith, Chairman

absent  
Scott Barnes

/DENNY CORN  
Denny Corn

/JANET KILE/  
Janet Kile

/KYLE GARDNER  
Kyle Gardner

/CARL HARCOURT  
Carl Harcourt

/AMY GROCOX  
Amy Grocox

ATTEST:

/TAMMY JUSTICE/  
Tammy Justice, Auditor