

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS October 9, 2023

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 9, 2023, with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Ron Jarman, and Kenny Aulbach 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 September 25, 2023, were presented. Ron Jarman made the motion to approve the minutes. Kenny Aulbach seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for October 9, 2023, in the amount of \$249,823.57 were presented. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for October 13, 2023, in the amount of \$236,845.69 was presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the payroll claims. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Tony Personett requested the approval from the Commissioners to take the part-time bookkeeper in the Clerks Office back to a full-time employee effective October 16, 2023. Ron Jarman moved to approve the full-time status of the position. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Tony Personett also asked that credit of two (2) months of full-time status at the jail be awarded to April Hatfield, who took the bookkeeper position in the Clerks Office, making Hatfield eligible for benefits after 30 days. Ron Jarman moved to approve benefit eligibility after 30 days of full-time employment with the Clerk. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER

- Treasurer Jodi Harr informed the Commissioners she had sent the September Monthly Report to them.
- Treasurer Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners the 2023 Rush County Tax Sale was held on October 5, 2023. In July Treasurer Harr had certified 67 parcels eligible for tax sale, 30 parcels were paid before the sale, 21 parcels were sold at the sale, leaving 16 parcels that did not sell. Treasurer Harr advised she would send that listing to each of the Commissioners and recommended having a Commissioner Sale on the 16 parcels left.
- Treasurer Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners her part-time employee had given her notice and that she was rehiring Krista Richey who worked part-time previously.

RECORDER

- Recorder Deborah Richardson asked the Commissioners approval to use the county credit card to mail 11 boxes of microfilm to the State Archives in Indianapolis. Richardson would also like to pay the claim for the credit card out of the Commissioners postage budget. Kenny Aulbach moved to allow mailing the 11 boxes to the State Archives and using the Commissioner postage budget to pay the credit card. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Recorder Deborah Richardson asked the Commissioners to approve a five (5) year rental agreement with Eastern L. for a large scanner. Ron Jarman inquired about an agreement with a smaller number of years. Richardson advised that with the five (5) year agreement paper, ink and repairs are included and would not be an added expense. Ron Jarman moved to approve the five (5) year rental agreement with Eastern L. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant, for salary reimbursement, in the amount of \$21,645.00 with no county match. Kenny Aulbach moved to apply for the 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker updated the Commissioners on the solar eclipse happening on April 8, 2024. Rush County is one (1) of twelve (12) counties in the path of the total eclipse. Kemker advised that Rush County Schools have scheduled being closed on April 8, 2024. Kemker inquired as to if the Commissioners wish to be in full operation on April 8, 2024. Mark Bacon feels for safety purposes, it would be best to close the county courthouse and highway garage. Ron Jarman made a motion to close for security and safety the county courthouse and highway garage on April 8, 2024. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton supplied the Commissioners with the Highway September Monthly Report.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 181 Replacement Grant, for replacement of bridge 181 over N Branch of Clifty Creek on CR 250 E, in the amount of \$1,839,500.00 with a county match of \$367,900.00. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the Federal Aid Bridge 181 Replacement Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 164 Replacement Grant, for replacement of bridge 164 over Little Flatrock River on CR 300 S, in the amount of \$2,343,000.00 with a county match of \$468,600.00. Kenny Aulbach moved to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 164 Replacement Grant. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 125 Replacement Grant, for replacement of bridge 125 over Beaver Meadow Creek on CR 875 W, in the amount of \$1,142,800.00 with a county match of \$228,560.00. Ron Jarman moved to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 125 Replacement Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 94 Bypass Bridge, for Ewbank Covered Bridge 94 bypass along the south side of existing bridge, in the amount of \$4,738,373.00 with a county match of \$947,674.00. Ron Jarman moved to apply for Federal Aid Bridge 94 Bypass Bridge. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Commissioners with a proposal from Vogel's for the snow removal and salt application for the courthouse and parking lot as well as the jail area for the upcoming winter season. Ron Jarman moved to approve the proposal from Vogel's. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice asked the Commissioners for clarification on where to pay the invoice for the clean-up of the property located at 7123 US Hwy 52 in Arlington. Ron Jarman moved to pay invoice for clean-up out of Cum Cap. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried. Ron Jarman moved to place a property tax lien for clean-up expenses on 7123 US Hwy 52 Arlington. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Commissioners with the Cyber Renewal from McGowan Insurance for 12.27.2023 through 2024. Ron Jarman moved to approve the Cyber Renewal with McGowan Insurance. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice reminded the Commissioners Jeremy Turner with Liberty Mutual Insurance Risk Control Services recommends implementing a formal written plan to respond to incidents of accidental water discharge and Motor Vehicle Reports and Formal Acceptable Criteria. Turner also had recommendations regarding the boiler inspection for the courthouse.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Commissioners with a revised Rush County Grant Policy. Ron Jarman moved to approve the revised Rush County Grant Policy. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice asked the Commissioners for clarification on posting the HR position. The Commissioners advised HR Director Tony Personett to move forward with advertising the position.

MISC

- Jessica Roberts from the Purdue Extension Office advised the Commissioners she placed information regarding broadband in their mailboxes. Roberts advised that Indiana could potentially get millions of dollars for broadband and encouraged everyone to do speed tests that will be sent out.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with a Sheriff Sale Program Agreement to allow SRI to perform sheriff sales. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve Sheriff Allan Rice signing the Sheriff Sale Program Agreement. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with County Ordinance 2023-7 Establishing the Sheriff's Sale Program and Service Fee. Ron Jarman moved to approve and sign Ordinance 2023-7. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- County Attorney Leigh Morning advised the Commissioners that CCI is advising Horning to proceed with repairs on the jail roof. Mark Bacon inquired about the double lock system on the jail roof. Ron Jarman inquired about leaks in the jail roof once work has been completed. Attorney Morning advised the County would then file a warranty claim. Ron Jarman moved to recommend Horning do repairs for the Peterson warranty. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman moved that a letter be sent to DLZ asking them to look over roof design regarding double lock system and determine what the 3rd party actually put on the jail roof. Kenny Aulbach seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Jenny Bullard, HR Consultant with Jane Smiley CPA gave a presentation to the Commissioners regarding utilizing a 3rd party to offer human resource services to the County.
- Clerk Angie Buckley advised the Commissioners of her intent to apply for a \$20,000.00 grant.
- Ron Jarman updated the Commissioners on the asbestos findings for the Milroy Playhouse stating it would cost \$9,975.00 to abate the asbestos per AMT. Ron Jarman moved to recommend AMT moving forward with the clean-up of the asbestos not to exceed \$9,975.00. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners he had received 2 different quotes to finish out the concrete work at the courthouse, but due to both bids being over the \$50,000.00 limit, the work would need to be bid out.
- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners now that the asbestos on 202 S Pleasant has been dealt with, he moves to accept JA Shroyer bid of \$74,700 to demo the building. Kenny Aulbach seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

/Mark Bacon/
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Kenny Aulbach/
Kenny Aulbach

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

ATTEST:
/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor