

## **REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS November 6, 2023**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 6, 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 October 20, 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 November 6, 2023, in the amount of \$287,641.20 were presented. This includes \$45,000.00 to Baker Tilly, \$50,339.29 to Barnes & Thornburg LLP, and \$5,760.00 to Leigh Morning for Solar Professional Services. Kenny Aulbach made a motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **PAYROLL**

- Payroll for November 9, 2023, in the amount of \$238,484.10 was presented. Ron Jarman moved to approve the payroll claims. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **RIDE RUSH**

- Director Tina Logan presented the Commissioners with the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2023 reports for Ride Rush and asked for approval and signature on the 5311 Rural Transit request in the amount of \$43,578.00. Ron Jarman motioned to sign the Rural Transit request. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Tina Logan advised the Commissioners a special board meeting for the Senior Center/Ride Rush was held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, to discuss the Center being out of money. Logan asked the Commissioners to supply \$13,822.00 for the match on the new vehicle purchase. Logan advised the quarterly money from the state would not be received until sometime in December. Logan also advised the Center would be doing a fundraiser to help offset costs. Commissioner Kenny Aulbach who sits on the Senior Center Board stated he would be approaching the bank for an increase in their line of credit. Discussion was held regarding the bookkeeping practices of the Senior Center and not wanting the community to suffer due to poor planning of the Senior Center. Ron Jarman moved to pay the Senior Center \$13,822.00 for the vehicle purchase match out of Riverboat. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CLERK**

- Clerk Angie Buckley requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the State 2023 HAVA Election Security Grant in the amount of \$3,692.00 with no county match. The purpose of the grant is for election

security and education. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the 2023 HAVA Election Security Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **EMA**

- Director Chuck Kemker updated the Commissioners regarding the elevator issues and advised that he and Dustin Case had been shown how to do the fire check on the elevator.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Dixie Meyer requested approval from the Commissioners to advertise for two (2) new employees in the Health Department which will consist of a full-time school nurse liaison and a part-time food inspector. Ron Jarman moved to advertise for the two (2) new employees. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HIGHWAY**

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to sign the amended contract for Bridge 94 which includes the increased federal aid funds to \$1,900,534.84. Ron Jarman moved to sign the amended contract for Bridge 94. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners he received a letter from INDOT approving \$866,000.00 for paving on 900 N.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2023-6 authorizing the president of the Rush County Commissioners to execute any INDOT agreements and all other documents related thereto and all documents related to any INDOT Grant Programs for and on behalf of and to bind the County of Rush, Indiana. Ron Jarman motioned to sign Resolution 2023-6. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners he was in the process of submitting federal grants for three (3) bridges. Sitton also advised there is no federal funding for covered bridge run arounds and he will not be applying for that grant.
- Discussion was held regarding the right of way on the property in Falmouth.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to open bids for Community Crossings on December 18, 2023, at 9:30 am. Kenny Aulbach moved to open Community Crossing bids on December 18, 2023, at 9:30 am. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **SHERIFF**

- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners there are 49 inmates currently being housed at the jail.
- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Commissioners to pay the merit board out of the sheriff's county general part time budget due to fund 1122 now being utilized by Community Corrections. Ron Jarman moved to pay the merit board out of the county general budget. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that he would be approaching the Rush County Council regarding reappropriating funds from sale of

vehicles to reimburse commissary which is what he is using to pay off vehicles.

- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners of damage done to one of the vehicles used in a pursuit.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners there are parking issues directly behind Shell with the area not being marked as No Parking. Ron Jarman moved to have the area behind Shell marked No Parking. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **AUDITOR**

- Auditor Tammy Justice asked the Commissioners to approve the 2024 Rush County Calendar. Ron Jarman moved to approve the 2024 Rush County Calendar. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners she had received a letter from RCHS choir director David Doyle requesting to use the courthouse for the annual madrigal dinners from December 4<sup>th</sup> through December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Ron Jarman moved to allow the use of the courthouse for the annual madrigal dinners. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice asked permission from the Commissioners to advertise for the 2024 annual appointments. Ron Jarman motioned to advertise for the 2024 annual appointments. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice asked permission to advertise for the County Farm Contract. Ron Jarman motioned to advertise for a two (2) year County Farm Contract. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **MISC**

- Tina Henderson with Mendenhall & Associates LLC approached the Commissioners regarding Anderson Township Sewer District being interested in applying for a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$60,000.00 to \$80,000.00. Rush County would be the lead applicant in the grant with Anderson Township Sewer District being a subrecipient. The grant match would be provided by Anderson Township Sewer District. Discussion was held regarding protecting the County through the subrecipient agreement. Ron Jarman moved to be lead applicant for Anderson Township Sewer District. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Adam Schwering from the fair board opened the discussion with the Commissioners regarding housing the extension office at the fairgrounds. The Commissioners advised Schwering to approach Carly Holland on the topic.
- Ron Jarman made a motion to take two (2) parking spots away on the east end of first street on the south side of the courthouse for traffic purposes. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. 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