

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

### **April 9, 2024**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, April 9, 2024, with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Kenny Aulbach 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 March 25, 2024, were presented. Ron Jarman made the motion to approve the minutes. Kenny Aulbach seconded. Ron Jarman moved to rescind the previous motion due to Kenny Aulbach needing to abstain from vote. Ron Jarman moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CLAIMS**

- Accounts Payable claims for April 9, 2024, in the amount of \$536,006.63 were presented. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **PAYROLL**

- Payroll for April 12, 2024, in the amount of \$242,631.56 was presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the payroll claims. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **PROSECTOR**

- Deputy Prosecutor David Thompson requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the Prosecutor's Felony Diversion Program Grant in the amount of \$26,025.00 with no county match. The purpose of this grant is to provide funding for the Prosecutor's Felony Diversion, which serves to divert qualified defendants facing felony charges from incarceration and probation while still holding them accountable for their behavior. Ron Jarman moved to approve applying for the Prosecutor's Felony Diversion Program Grant in the amount of \$26,025.00. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Deputy Prosecutor David Thompson requested approval from the Commissioners to sign a letter to Indiana Department of Corrections regarding approval to apply for the 2025 Prosecutor's Felony Diversion Program Grant. Ron Jarman moved to sign the letter to IDOC. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Deputy Prosecutor Laura Holt requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2024-2025 STOP Grant in the amount of \$41,021.08 with a county match of \$13,673.69. The purpose of this grant is to provide for a deputy prosecutor dedicated to the prosecution of cases involving domestic violence. Ron Jarman moved to approve applying for the 2024-2025 STOP Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **COURT SERVICES**

- Director Ashley Stevens requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2025 Community Corrections and Justice Reinvestment Grants in the amount of \$338,510.00 with no county match. This grant encompasses three (3) separate grant funds. The purpose of these grants are to help supervise programs or residential services for adult offenders that are re-integrating into the community who otherwise would be incarcerated in local jails or state prisons. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve applying for the Community Corrections & Justice Reinvestment Grants in the amount of \$338,510.00. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Ashley Stevens requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2025 IOCS Grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 for Pretrial and \$16,000.00 for Problem Solving Court, with no county match. The purpose of this grant is to provide financial assistance to certified pretrial service agencies and certified problem-solving courts. Ron Jarman moved to approve applying for the 2025 IOCS Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Ashley Stevens requested approval from the Commissioners to sign a letter to Indiana Department of Corrections regarding approval to apply for the 2025 Community Corrections and Justice Reinvestment Grants along with the 2025 IOCS Grant. Kenny Aulbach moved to sign the letter to IDOC. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Director Jodi Harr gave an employee update to the Commissioners.
- Director Jodi Harr gave a wellness clinic update to the Commissioners.
- Director Jodi Harr discussed a spring clean up for the courthouse with the Commissioners. Offices can begin bringing down broken or unwanted items to the assembly room May 13, 2024. The public will then be allowed access to the unwanted items. Anything left in the assembly room after May 24, 2024, will be disposed of.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners the PHI contract for Rush County Employees who live out of county is being reviewed by County Attorney Leigh Morning. Harr also advised the Commissioners the out of county employees would have to accept or waive the coverage due to it being a fringe benefit and being taxed.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners a flag collection box has been placed by the courthouse entrance. Brad Hatfield has agreed to collect the flags every couple of weeks and hold them until the next flag disposal service.

## **AREA PLAN**

- Director Mike Holzback requested approval from the Commissioners to amend the APC zoning map for two (2) parcels in Milroy, 106 and 110 Main Street from commercial to residential. Ron Jarman moved to approve the rezone from commercial to residential. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Mike Holzback advised the Commissioners there are 27 homes in the Milroy area that are zoned as commercial. At their next Area Plan meeting, these parcels will be reviewed, and a recommendation will be made.

## **SURVEYOR**

- Surveyor Marvin Rees presented the Commissioners with an agreement with USI Consultants Inc. for approval. This agreement is for Rush County INDOT State Road 3 Right-of-Way Permit Assistance and is to not exceed \$12,000.00. Ron Jarman moved to approve the agreement with USI Consultants not to exceed \$12,000.00. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Dixie Meyer asked for approval from the Commissioners to use an area within the courthouse once a month for Aspire to do free HIV and Hepatitis testing for the public. Ron Jarman moved to approve an area of the courthouse for the free HIV and Hepatitis testing. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Dixie Meyer advised the Commissioners the state health commissioner would be visiting on May 22, 2024, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am to talk and answer questions if anyone would like to attend.

## **EMA**

- Director Chuck Kemker updated the Commissioners on the visitors to Rush County with the recent total solar eclipse. Kemker also extended thanks for everyone's help with the planning and meetings over the last year and a half regarding the total solar eclipse.

## **HIGHWAY**

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented the Commissioners with the Highway Departments March monthly report.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners regarding road closures around the county.

## **SHERIFF**

- Sheriff Allan Rice presented the Commissioners with a Purchase Agreement with Pitney Bowes for approval. Ron Jarman moved to approve and sign the Pitney Bowes Purchase Agreement. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice presented the Commissioners with a preventative maintenance contract with Choice Mechanical Services for the jail in the amount of \$16,696.00 per year or four (4) payments of \$4,174.00. Ron Jarman moved to approve the preventative maintenance contract with Choice Mechanical Services. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners of the annual jail inspection taking place later in the afternoon.

## **AUDITOR**

- Auditor Tammy Justice discussed with the Commissioners the issues regarding establishing a non-reverting fund for voting equipment. Ron Jarman made a motion to table the Cum Voting fund for another year to have more time to research. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Auditor Tammy Justice discussed with the Commissioners an issue with a parcel owned by the Board of Commissioners in Manilla and an adjoining parcel.

**MISC**

- Commissioner Mark Bacon presented the Commissioners with a preventative maintenance contract with Choice Mechanical Services for the courthouse in the amount of \$6,470.00 per year or four (4) payments of \$1,617.50. Ron Jarman moved to approve the preventative maintenance contract with Choice Mechanical Services. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tina Henderson with Mendenhall & Associates along with David Young President of Anderson Township Regional Sewer District was present to discuss the \$87,500.00 grant application with the Commissioners. Henderson advised that Strand & Associates would be doing the engineering study. Discussion was held regarding the forms and ordinances needing to be in place to meet the May 17, 2024, filing deadline for the grant. Discussion was also held regarding the match funds that would be paid by ATRSD. Commissioner Ron Jarman requested more time to look over the Fair Housing Ordinance before making a motion.

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