

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 22, 2024

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 22, 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 April 9, 2024, were presented. Ron Jarman moved to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for April 22, 2024, in the amount of \$196,021.59 were presented. Kenny Aulbach made a motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for April 26, 2024, in the amount of \$247,756.34 was presented. Ron Jarman moved to approve the payroll claims. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SENIOR CENTER

- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2024-3 Authorizing Resolution for approval. This is a Resolution Authorizing the Filing of a CY 2025 Application for a Grant Under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act, As Amended. Ron Jarman moved to approve and sign Resolution 2024-3. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with Section 5311 Pass-through Agreement. Ron Jarman moved to approve and sign the Section 5311 Pass-through Agreement. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with Certification of Use of Project Equipment and Facilities for approval. Ron Jarman moved to approve the Certification of Use of Project Equipment and Facilities. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with Categorical Exclusion Classification of Capital Projects Checklist for approval. Ron Jarman moved to approve the Categorical Exclusion Classification of Capital Projects Checklist. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with Local Financial Certification and Assurances for approval. Ron Jarman moved to approve the Local Financial Certification and Assurances. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with a Special Warranty Arrangement for approval. Ron Jarman moved to approve the

Statement of Acceptance of the Special Section 5333(b) Warranty.
Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Director Angela Cavaletto advised the Commissioners she would have more information in July regarding the reorganization of the pass-through grants.

TREASURER

- Treasurer Susan Spaeth advised the Commissioners she emailed the March monthly report to them.
- Treasurer Susan Spaeth updated the Commissioners regarding the mailing of tax statements.

CLERK

- Clerk Angie Buckley advised the Commissioners of the resignation of one of her full-time employees. Buckley discussed the possibility of this employee being moved to a temporary part-time position and working two (2) days a week. Buckley would like to keep this employee's pay at \$19.40 per hour due to experience, instead of the part-time wage of \$17.00 per hour. Ron Jarman moved to allow the employee to go to a temporary part-time status. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried. The hourly wage would have to be approved by the Rush County Council.

IT

- Director Randy Herbert discussed with the Commissioners the possibility of upgrading the video servers at the courthouse when the servers at the jail are upgraded. Commissioner Ron Jarman would like to look into upgrading all video servers at the same time and possibly saving money.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Dixie Meyer discussed with the Commissioners the possibility of the Health Department moving into Dr. Morrell's office building upon his retirement. The building is 2,400 square feet and would only need a few handicap updates done. Dr. Morrell would need one (1) year's access to finish up his practice after retirement. All Commissioners agreed that it would benefit the county if a deal could be worked out with Dr. Morrell. Mark Bacon would like a meeting arranged with Dr. Morrell, Ron Jarman, and the Health Department to discuss this further.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice gave the Commissioners an update regarding the 2023 jail inspection done in April. Rice advised the Commissioners the inspector suggested a staffing analysis be conducted. Rice also stated the inspector suggested housing DOC inmates due to overcrowding.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners he's having difficulty getting answers from Federal Marshals regarding housing of Federal inmates.
- Sheriff Allan Rice discussed with the Commissioners the need for security for all after hours events held in the courthouse.
- Sheriff Allan Rice requested the Commissioners keep Cord Coyle, who is the captain for the reserve deputies, in their thoughts and prayers.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners that NaCo had sent two (2) children's books titled The Marvelous Adventures of Countyland for display within the courthouse.

MISC

- Sandy Fussner asked permission from the Commissioners for the Midwest Chocolate Fest to use the Courthouse Assembly Room and hallway for the chocolate festival on November 22 and 23, 2024. Ron Jarman moved to allow the use of the Courthouse Assembly Room and hallway for the chocolate festival. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tina Henderson with Mendenhall & Associates presented the Commissioners with the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant proposal for approval. This grant is for \$87,000.00 with a \$10,000.00 match to be supplied through the Anderson Township Regional Sewer District. This grant will be for creation of a Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan. Ron Jarman moved to approve the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant Proposal. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tina Henderson with Mendenhall & Associates along with County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with Ordinance 2024-1 a Fair Housing Ordinance for Rush County. Ron Jarman moved to approve Ordinance 2024-1. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tina Henderson with Mendenhall & Associates along with County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2024-2. A Resolution Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment. Ron Jarman moved to approve Resolution 2024-2. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Mark Bacon asked Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton for an update regarding the street leading to the Milroy water tower. Sitton advised his department does not pave the road but does put down stone. Until an issue with a current landowner is resolved, the highway department will only place stone down on the roadway up to the water tower.
- Commissioner Kenny Aulbach asked Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton for an update regarding the property at Falmouth. Sitton advised deeds had been recorded. Duke has been notified to remove electric lines and poles and a water well will need sealed.
- Commissioner Mark Bacon advised the Commissioners he had received two (2) quotes from Choice Mechanical regarding water softeners for the courthouse. The first quote was for the entire courthouse building in the amount of \$17,880.00. The second quote was for the courthouse boiler only in the amount of \$16,850.00. Discussion was held on the benefits of purchasing or renting softeners. Ron Jarman would like to compare prices with Moffetts Watercare. Mark Bacon will get in touch with Moffetts Watercare for pricing.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman discussed with the Commissioners the need to start renovations to modernize the Assembly Room. Commissioner Jarman stated the commissioners have funds available within the 2024 budget and instructed the Auditor to create a new line item in the Commissioners budget and move \$50,000.00 into that line. Kenny Aulbach made a motion to move

forward with the renovations. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor.
Motion carried.

- Councilman Kyle Gardner asked for an update regarding the sidewalks around the courthouse. Commissioner Ron Jarman advised they are currently waiting on Envoy.

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