

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 23, 2024

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, September 23, 2024, with Commissioners Mark Bacon and Ron Jarman present. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also present. Commissioner Kenny Aulbach was not 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 9, 2024, were presented. Ron Jarman moved to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for September 23, 2024, in the amount of \$397,037.65, were presented. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for September 27, 2024, in the amount of \$244,538.37, was presented. Ron Jarman moved to approve the payroll claims. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mark Bacon read the I Speak statement to the public

RECORDER

- Recorder Debbie Richardson advised the Commissioners that US Imaging would be present for six to seven days. They would be 24 hours a day with two crews. Recorder has notified security, Sheriff, and Chuck Kemker.

CLERK

- Clerk Angie Buckley requested approval for the Voting Election Location. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in Favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER

- Treasurer Susan Spaeth advised the Commissioners the August month end reports had been sent to them.
- Treasurer Susan Spaeth updated the Commissioners on the upcoming tax sale on October 4, 2024, stating there are currently 34 parcels still eligible for sale.

H.R.

- H.R. Director Jodi Harr requested the Commissioners approval and signature of the Employee Insurance Truescripts Prescription Program. Ron made a motion to approve and sign. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in Favor. Motion carried.
- H.R. Director Jodi Harr requested the Commissioners approval of Employee Insurance eligibility changes effective January 1, 2025. This will update the coverage age limit of 26 on medical, vision and dental. Ron Jarman made a

motion to approve. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- H.R. Director Jodi Harr requested the Commissioner approval to pay from our Health Insurance Fund to the health Department in the amount \$5.00 per flu and pneumonia shot. The employee would need to come in on one of the Thursday clinics. This would be cheaper then if we pay for it through the doctor's office. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

At 9:30 a.m. the Commissioners opened the following bids for the Fiber Optics and Related material Bids

- Galloway Group
 - Option 1, Item 1 Durlaline Future Path 132,000 feet @ \$1.28 per ft total \$168,960.00
 - Option 1, Item 2 OFS 144 Micro Fiber 63,600 feet @.98 per ft total \$62,328.00
 - Option 1, Channell Bulk Logo Puck \$525.00 total \$26,250.00
 - Option 2, Curaline Future Path, 132,000 feet @1.40 per ft total \$184,800.00
 - Option 2, OFS 288 Rollable Ribbon 63,600 feet @1.54 per ft total \$97,944.00
 - Option 2, Chanell Valut Logo Puck \$525.00 total \$26,250.00
- Millennium
 - Duraline Future Path 112.7/10, 132,000 feet @1.16 per ft total \$153,120.00
 - Duraline Future Path 16/13, 132,000 feet @1.32 per ft total \$174,240.00
 - OFS 63,600 feet @1.13 per ft total \$71,868.00
 - OFS Ribbon 63,600 feet @1.85 per ft total \$117,660.00
 - 50 Hand Holes @604.71 total \$30,235.50
- National Conduit Supply
 - Duraline Future Fiber Conduit 12/10, 132,000 feet @ .5951 per ft total \$78,553.20
 - Duraline Future Fiber Conduit 12/16, 132,000 feet @.847 per ft total \$111,804.00
 - OFS Fiber 63,600 feet @1.1664 per ft total \$74,183.04
 - Rollable Ribbon 63,600 feet @ 1.9008 per ft total \$120,890.88
 - Vault/Hand Holes 54 @576.675 total \$31,140.45

Ron Jarman moved to take bids under advisement. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

At 9:45 a.m. the Regular Commissioner meeting was resumed.

H.R (continued)

- H.R Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners she had emailed the Personnel Committee Recommendations on Vacation and Bereavement. The Personnel Committee had recommended that all remaining vacation

time at the employee anniversary date, will be transferred to the employee's sick bank up to the total accumulation of 600 hours or Five Days of the remaining vacation can be paid in a lump sum to the employee. Any time remaining over 5 days will be lost. Discussion was held. Ron Jarman made a motion to allow 5 days of vacation to be used in the following year and the days could not be cumulative. Seconded by Mark Bacon. Continue discussion was held. Ron Jarman made a motion to resend the motion to all 5 days of vacation to be used in the following year and the days could not be cumulative. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion Carried. Ron Jarman made a motion to allow the employee to roll over five days of vacation time accumulate up to 600 hours of sick time and after the 600 hours of sick time is met then employee will be paid out up to 5 vacation days. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried. The Personnel Committee also recommended that the commissioner remove on page 47 of personnel policy the words consecutive and congruent. The reasoning is funeral services today are leaning more toward memorial services. This gives the employee the flexibility to save a day for the memorial services. Also, the Personnel Committee recommends to the commissioner that they would like the policy to read Bereavement leave must commence within seven (7) calendar days of the death of the immediate family, unless a different schedule has been approved by the department head. Ron Jarman made a motion to remove words Consecutive and Congruent and to add unless a different schedule has been approved by the department head. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- H.R. Director Jodi Harr sent information to the Commissioners about Grand Canyon University interest in offering educational courses to Rush County Employees. The Commissioners agreed to have Jill from Grand Canyon University to come give a presentation.
- H. R. Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners about using Nixel for the Courthouse emergency Closing. Harr spoke with LeeAnn Jacobs regarding setting up a courthouse employee group in Nixel. Discussion was held. Ron Jarman made a motion to set up Emergency Closing under Nixel. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- H.R. Director advised the Commissioners September 26, 2024, is the courthouse clean-up day.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton updated the Commissioners with the First Covered Bridge issues. The contractors found rot in the arch rings. Cost could go up \$20,000.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners that the Highway is planning on keeping 3 Single Axel Trucks. The commissioners agreed with keeping 3 Single Axel Trucks.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised to have the oil bids rollover and the commissioners agreed.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval for Rush Shelby Operation Round Up Grant Application in the amount of \$2,084.61 with no match. This is to purchase three Alco-Sensor FST Breathalyzer. Ron Jarman made motion to approve Grant Application. Seconded by Mark Bacon.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners she noticed at their September 9, 2024, regular session meeting John McCane discussed a grant with Rush County ECDC to sponsor a Brownfield Assessment Grant and Rush County Commissioners would be the lead grant. She reminded the Commissioners of the Grant Policy and Grant Application process requiring approvals from Board of Commissioners and Council. She reminded them because of internal controls process, and she could not write the claims for the grant. The Commissioners agreed. Auditor advised she sent John McCane an email to notify him.

MISC

- Josh Estell from McGowan Insurance was present to discuss the liability insurance renewals. He indicated that he has been talking with Bliss McNight. He also indicated that Bliss has the same rating in the past. Josh also indicated that he along, Bliss, Sheriff Rice, and Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton would be meeting within the next couple of weeks. Josh will let the commissioners know where we stand with application renewals in November.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented Vacate Alley Ordinance that was approved at the September 9, 2024, Commissioner's regular session meeting for signature.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the RQAW Contract that was approved on August 12, 2024, Commissioner's regular session meeting for signature.

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

/Mark Bacon/
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

/Abstain/
Kenny Aulbach

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor