

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS November 4, 2024

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 4, 2024, 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 and afterwards read the I Speak statement to the public.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Session held on October 18, 2024, were presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Minutes of the Special Session held on October 28, 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 November 4, 2024, in the amount of \$152,769.04, were presented. Kenny Aulbach made a motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for November 8, 2024, in the amount of \$251,540.90, was presented. Ron Jarman moved to approve the payroll claims. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with the 3rd quarter grant reports for approval. Ron Jarman moved to sign the 3rd quarter report. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Angela Cavaletto presented the Commissioners with Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs for approval. Ron Jarman moved to sign the certifications and assurances. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RECORDER

- Recorder Debbie Richardson presented the Commissioners with a Disaster Recovery Services Agreement for 2025 with Computer Systems, Inc. (CSI) for approval. Ron Jarman moved to approve the agreement. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

H.R.

- H.R. Director Jodi Harr presented the Commissioners with a 2025 PHI Cares Agreement in the amount of \$46,428.00 for approval. Director Harr stated there are 2000 county households registered and approximately 150 flights from January 1, 2024, to August 31, 2024, have been made. Ron Jarman stated this is a great service for the community and moved to approve the 2025 PHI Cares Agreement. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- H.R. Director Jodi Harr requested the Commissioners approval of the job description for the newly re-added full-time IV-D Administrative Assistant position in the Prosecutor's Office. Ron Jarman moved to approve the job description. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- H.R. Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners the Personnel Committee is cleaning up issues with the Personnel Policy. The final issue needing resolved is a discrepancy in sick leave for full-time employees going to elected officials. Currently the policy states in 2.19 Full-Time to Elected Official Employment states the employees sick time will be frozen and available for use in the event the elected official returns to a non-elected full-time position without any interruption in County employment. 4.4 Sick Leave states If an employee becomes an elected official, up to twenty (20) sick days may be retained by the employee in the event they revert back without a break in employment to become a regular full-time employee. The Personnel Committee is recommending the policy reflects the language in 2.19 sick time will be frozen. Ron Jarman moved to approve the language in 2.19 where sick time is frozen for full-time employees going to elected officials. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- H.R. Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners that part-time employee Emily Mullins would be filling in for the full-time sheriff administrator for 8 to 12 weeks. Mullins will be working 40 hours per week but has not worked the maximum part-time hours for the last 12-month period to change her classification from part-time to full-time.
- H.R. Director Jodi Harr reminded the Commissioners that the job description for the IT Director needs to be updated and a job description for the IT Assistant needs to be created.

SURVEYOR

- Surveyor Marvin Rees advised the Commissioners that USI is requesting the Commissioners sign a supplemental agreement for the Sam Trabue Reconstruction Drain. INDOT needs more information for the permit on the Drain which will increase the engineering fees by \$30,000.00. This increase will change the assessments for the drain. Ron Jarman moved to table signing the supplemental agreement. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of \$21,645.00 with no county match. The purpose of the grant is for salary reimbursement. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the 2024 EMPG. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2024 Duke Grant in the amount of \$5,794.31 with a county match of \$2,213.89. The purpose of the grant is to provide an emergency high speed mobile wi-fi that has the capabilities to be established in areas of outages and disasters. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the 2024 Duke Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker updated the Commissioners regarding the BRIC Grant pre application.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for Local Rural Project Bridge 181 Replacement Grant in the amount of \$2,463,446.00 with a county match of \$492,690.00. The purpose of the grant is to replace bridge 181 on CR 250 E. over North Branch Clifty Creek. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the Local Rural Project 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 Local Rural Project Bridge 164 Replacement Grant in the amount of \$2,875,784.00 with a county match of \$575,158.00. The purpose of the grant is to replace bridge 164 on CR 300 S. over Little Flatrock River. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the Local Rural Project Bridge 164 Replacement Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for Local Rural Project 700 W. Resurfacing Grant in the amount of \$3,689,548.00 with a county match of \$737,909.60. The purpose of the grant is to grind, patch, resurface and stripe 700 W. from US 52 to 800 N. And upgrade all ADA sidewalks along 700 W. in Arlington. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the Local Rural Project 700 W. Resurfacing Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton provided the Commissioners with the Highway Monthly Report for October.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested the Commissioners set December 2, 2024, at 9:30 am for stone and gravel bids for 2025. Ron Jarman moved to set December 2, 2024, at 9:30 am for the 2025 stone and gravel bids. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton updated the Commissioners on Falmouth Road.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners regarding a breaker/compressor issue at the jail. Sheriff Rice advised that Choice Mechanical had submitted a quote of \$8,000.00 to fix the issue. Sheriff Rice advised Choice Mechanical that the system should still be covered under a five (5) year manufacture warranty as of 02.27.2020 and is waiting on their response.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners of a possible freezer unit issue.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice reminded the Commissioners about the Plymate Contract.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Commissioners to advertise for the 2025 appointments. Ron Jarman moved to advertise for the 2025 appointments with letters being returned by the December 16, 2024, meeting. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice reminded the Commissioners about the ARPA funds.

MISC

- Tina Henderson with Mendenhall & Associates LLC advised the Commissioners that Anderson Township Regional Sewer District would like

to reapply to OCRA for grant funds for the three-utility study and would like Rush County to serve as lead applicant.

- Tina Henderson requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant in the amount of \$87,000.00 with match funds of \$10,000.00 to be paid by Anderson Township Regional Sewer District. The purpose of the grant will be to obtain a Water, Wastewater and Stormwater master plan. Ron Jarman moved to apply for the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tina Henderson requested the Commissioners sign the Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report. Ron Jarman moved to sign the Disclosure Update Report. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tina Henderson requested the Commissioners sign the CDBG Signature Page for the CDBG Planning Grant Program. Ron Jarman moved to sign the CDBG Signature Page. Seconded by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Commissioners with two (2) engagement letters to appraise the Rush County Senior Citizen Center at 504 W. 3rd Street, Rushville from Rick Borges Real Estate Services, Inc. and Matt L. Nepote MAI. Ron Jarman moved to approve both engagement letters. Seconded by Mark Bacon. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kenny Aulbach advised the Commissioner that Patricia Zerr had resubmitted the application for a cemetery heritage sign for the Bell-Barrett Cemetery located off SR 140 in Knightstown. Ron Jarman moved to sign the application. 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

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

Kenny Aulbach/
Kenny Aulbach

ATTEST:

/Heather Carlton/
Heather Carlton, Auditor Assistant