

Owen County Commissioners  
Minutes-June 6, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

Mr. Burton commented that the Sheila Reeves was present and that no caucus/no resignation and are moving forward with business as usual.

Pledge of Allegiance was said and opening prayer was given by Sheriff Hobbs.

Present: Gary Burton, Bob Curry, Dale Dubois, Attorney Jim Bryan, and Sheila Reeves.

Public Sign in sheet is attached for permanent record.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Motion carried 3-0.

A financial review was given by Mr. Bryan (copies of reports attached) The report included the Settlement that had been processed and the General Fund balance was at \$1,587,239.37. Continued concern for the costs of fuel and supplies was noted. Mr. Burton thanked everyone for the financial strides that have been made.

A motion to approve the Payroll Claims dated for 05/20/22 in the amount of \$227,224.09 was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve the Payroll Claims dated 06/03/22 in the amount of \$226,411.29 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve the Regular Claims in the amount of \$440,902.85 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve the following Out of Cycle Claims:

Visa #1 \$764.85 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Visa #2 \$581.83 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Visa #3 \$298.00 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Visa #4 \$297.18 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Visa #5 \$1435.52 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

EPIC Insurance \$ 103,954.75 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

COVID Clinic \$4625.00 was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0. Mr. Curry asked about the time sheets that had been submitted that said *remote*. Ms. McBride related that they were performing related job duties and can work from home.

Utilities \$25,063.01 and \$12,315.28 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

SB Research \$36,000.00 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

#### Old Business

911 Director Kathleen Lamb gave an update that all parties have been communicating and things have progressed and the only thing pending at this time was with the radio static issues. Mr. Burton related that it had been quite the process and he had pushed a lot of buttons and that everything was for the safety of the citizens. She next related that during storms and being in a metal building they couldn't hear callers from the noise from the rains. Discussion about different types of insulation being installed was given and she is to bring quotes back to the commissioners. She was also going to check with other counties on what they have. A copy of a contract for Bland's Wrecker Service as presented for approval. A motion to approve the contract and have Mr. Curry sign was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

#### New Business

A contract from the Prosecutors Office for STOP Grant was presented and approved with a motion from Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Mr. Burton noted that a Conflict-of-Interest Form was required. Carried 3-0.

Health Department Administrator Christine McBride provided a copy of a proposed lease agreement with Trillium for their review only. It was to be presented to the Health Board for consideration.

Mr. Bryan then presented a copy for Plans & Specifications for the Health Building Roof Project to be sent out for quotes to at least three companies. A motion to approve was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0. A motion to have Ms. Reeves put on the County Letterhead and signed by Mr. Curry was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Gary Burton. Carried 3-0. Letters of Estimates will be due/presented at the June 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting. The East Wall Repairs will also be discussed at the next meeting.

A Maximus Contract for three years of a cost allocation plan and Title IV-D Department of Child Services was presented by Ms. Reeves. Years 2022-2024 will be covered at a cost of \$3500 per year. A motion to approve the contract was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Mr. Burton related that he feels it should be paid from the Auditors Budget, not the commissioners. Carried 3-0. A motion to authorize Ms. Reeves to sign the contract was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

EMS Director Cris Lunsford began with the Ambulance Bid Packets. Only one Bid Packet had been received from Penn Care. Per IC 5-22-7-1 all proper procedures had been followed for advertising and receiving of sealed bids. Mr. Bryan opened and reviewed all paperwork noting that it had met all requirements necessary. A Bid amount of \$199,706 was given. A motion to table for further discussion and review was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Ernie Dufault commented that a recent accident had happened with his neighbor and wanted to thank EMS and that they were present in full force.

Mr. Lunsford related that they were at 1325 runs to date, the new Tahoe was in service and that he would like to request for the old Tahoe be put up for surplus. Mr. Bryan will prepare the resolution for the next meeting.

Highway Superintendent Greg Melton began with a road review/schedule for the month including River Road, Truesdel Road, Stone Mountain, McCullough and Bridge #16 approach work-noting it would be closed during the day. Chip Seal Projects were given also, noting that #11 stone is stockpiled at this time.

He requested permission from the commissioners to give him permission to have the Paver out as needed on projects. All members agreed it was not a problem nor necessary to call/ask every time.

He will not be hauling any more stone until needed due to increased costs and will see how far they can make it with the current inventory.

He related that some mowing is getting done as he has not hired summer help yet and the Massey is in the shop. Victor Vaillette asked about poison hemlock. Mr. Burton stated no public comment.

Mr. Bryan presented/read Resolution 2022-010 establishing a four-day work week for Highway employees from June 12<sup>th</sup> to August 20<sup>th</sup>. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Presented next was Bid Packets for Hardscrabble Road that had been received from E&B Paving and Milestone. Mr. Bryan gave a review of the Highway Fund balances with Mr. Burton noting that this project was from ARPA Funds.

E&B Paving was opened and read/reviewed first. Mr. Bryan noted that all items were presented and that they were to be considered as a responsible bidder. Total Bid Price given was \$365641.50. Section 1-\$160203.75, Section 2-\$80236.50, Section 3-\$53850.00, and Section 4-\$71351.25.

Milestone was then opened/read by Mr. Bryan noting that they too had presented all items and were to be considered as a responsible bidder. Total Bid Price given was \$373,789.50. Section 1-\$163773.75, Section 2-\$82024.50, Section 3-\$55050.00, and Section 4-\$72941.25.

Mr. Melton related that they were over \$39000 than original estimated amounts. Members agreed that the project was important and that it provides safety and assistance to the school and that ARPA monies would be

used to pay the additional costs. Following discussion, a motion was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois to award the Contract to E&B Paving in the amount of \$365,641.50. Carried 3-0. All paperwork was presented for signatures with originals to stay with the auditor.

Elected Officials-

Ms. McBride wanted to further comment/explain on the Health Department Grants and Claims, noting that the staff have other duties besides testing and vaccine clinics paid from various funds. Mr. Dubois asked/stated that they were paid from grants, confirmed by Ms. McBride. She will submit claims accordingly.

Attorney-Mr. Bryan asked for Recognition that 78 years ago today on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944 the combined forces of the United States Military and its Allies began deliberations on Europe, noting the bravery of all of those that served.

Auditor-Ms. Reeves asked for members to consider an Event Application that had been received for a Civic Theatre presentation. A motion to approve the application with the fees to be paid was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

She noted that they had in their packets the Annual Executive Budget paperwork.

Commissioners-

Mr. Burton had presented a catalog from Uline and asked for them to consider purchasing lawn furniture as it had discussed before sometime back to dress up the courthouse lawn. Items were marked in the book and a motion to approve the purchases was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

He next commented regarding the increased fuel prices/costs and that they should consider parking the take home vehicles except for the Sheriff's-Law Enforcement-emergency vehicles. They will establish a list over the next couple of weeks mentioning EMA, EMS, Prosecutor. The Assessors, Maintenance and Building vehicles are already parked. He feels it is their fiscal responsibility for the taxpayers of the county. An auxiliary location is being considered at the Millgrove area.

He would also like to look into possibly utilizing the Health Department Building in an effort to save monies, consolidate with the Soil and Water Office moving there. He will review further and give an update.

A new Armory Lease/Contract had been given to the Commissioners for review and will be presented at the next meeting and signatures in September.

He then related copies from one appraiser had been received back for the 188 acres-\$795000 and the Armory-\$380000 from Figg Appraisers. Two appraisals are required and will be presented when received.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.