

Owen County Commissioners
Minutes-January 18, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, and Opening Prayer was given by Sheriff Hobbs.

Roll was called, all members were present. Also in attendance was Attorney Jim Bryan and Auditor Sheila Reeves. Public sign in sheet attached for permanent record.

A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0. Mr. Bryan gave brief overview of the current Financial Status of the county funds. The General Fund is at \$993,924.78. Three Grant Funds are in the red, however they are reimbursable grants and will vary. The County Highway had 66% of the total on the Docket as many were left over from last year and were encumbered. A copy of the Monthly Financial Report was provided for review/discussion.

In addition, the Annual Compensation Statement was provided as required.

A motion to approve the Payroll Docket in the amount of \$249,721.49 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve the Regular Claims in the amount of \$466,364.10 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve the Out of Cycle Claims in the amount of \$12,293.71 was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Old Business

Mr. Bryan and Mr. Burton presented updated information regarding the changes with the American Rescue Plan (ARPA). Effective April 1, 2022, funds can be distributed per the new guidelines. Copy will be attached for permanent record. Mr. Burton related that due to the poor conditions of the county roads and bridges and limited funding for the Highway this would be an opportunity to get some of them fixed. Mr. Melton related this would be only about 20 miles of roadways. This amount would be in addition to the Community Crossing Grant for 2022 roads already identified. A motion was made by Gary Burton to do a pre-amendment for the current ARPA Plan as follows: \$300,000 for Employee Stipends, \$3.7 million for Bridges and Roads, and Administrative Costs from the balance to be reviewed by Barnes & Thornburg. The changes will not include the \$250,000 that had been previously appropriated for broadband. The motion was seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Kathleen Lamb asked, "Why are they so quick to give all of the ARPA Money to the Highway?" Mr. Burton stated that they feel the county is so far behind in infrastructure that it is the best use of the funds.

New Business- A motion to recess the Regular Meeting was made.

A motion to open the Board of Finance Meeting with Treasurer Diane Stutsman was made. Ms. Stutsman presented Packets to each for review that included Interest Reports, Investment Reports and Two-year old checks. Copies will be attached for permanent record.

Election of Officers- Appointment of Bob Curry-President was made with a motion from Dale Dubois; seconded by Gary Burton. Carried 3-0. A motion to appoint Gary Burton as Secretary was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0. A motion to approve the Minutes from January 19, 2021, was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

2021 Interest earned-\$33675.18 and Redevelopment \$2796.98. Total Investments-\$560,000 CD, only one until funds come back up the % required versus allocations is not enough for any further investments. Started with \$1.5 and ended at \$516000.

Allocation of the fund is what steers the allowed amounts and because the permitted funds did not have what was needed; therefore, a loss of one million dollars. Current Cash on hand is a little over \$11.2 (11,259,199.22)

million with bank accounts and investments and Funds Ledger Cash-\$10,473,183.67. She reminded them that the Treasurer's Office deals with the Cash and that the Auditors Office deals with the Allocations. Ms. Stutsman clarified that an Indiana Code that Mr. Bryan had previously read saying that the Treasurer would make notification to them was incorrect and it would actually be the Auditor. If no money in the bank accounts, she would then inform them. She also related that she had come forward in 2019 to Mr. Brothers informing him that they were blowing through money and had overspent the budget by \$4 million dollars. Mr. Burton felt action was taken too late in 2020. She reviewed the list given of Receipts/Disbursements/Balances from 2017-2021 noting that the disbursements exceeded revenue on most of them. Mr. Burton stated that nine out of the last twelve months the county continued to spend more than was brought in. Ms. Stutsman also noted that in the 2021 Revenue it included the \$2million ARPA Funds. Mr. Burton reiterated Mr. Bryans direction of no letting up on expenditures to help with the deficits we are still facing. Ms. Stutsman related that it would be July before Settlement comes and in and in the banks.

Mr. Burton asked Ms. Stutsman to explain where the monies go for distribution when received from Settlement. Ms. Stutsman related that the Auditors Office-Nicole does the breakdown and provides her the breakdowns. Mr. Curry requested for the amounts to be re-affirmed.

Mr. Bryan read the Investment Policy to be adopted. A motion to approve the Policy was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2022-03 and was approved with a motion from Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois to approve Voiding of checks that are over two years old. Carried 3-0.

No other business came before the Board, motion to close the meeting and re-open regular meeting was made by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Highway Superintendent Greg Melton began with requesting of the Commissioners giving him the authority to deal with the Hauswell Ditch. Needing further discussion, a motion to recess the Regular Meeting and open a Drainage Board Meeting was made at 6:55pm by Gary Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

County Surveyor-Bill Pursell began by explaining that Greene County had called him regarding an issue with a ditch in Owen County; actually, connects three counties. The ditch blocks wildlife, sprouts are all grown up, and always full of water. It was agreed that Mr. Melton and Mr. Dubois will contact the property owner and go to the area in question and report back. A motion to close the Drainage Board Meeting and re-open the Regular Meeting was made at 7pm by Dale Dubois; seconded by Gary Burton. Carried 3-0.

Next Mr. Melton presented copies of Bridge#16 location Rocky Hill Road Over Little Mill Creek. The packet included the scope of work for accepting Bids. Advertising two times and receive sealed bids for their March 1st Meeting. Estimated cost is \$155,000 and can be paid from the Cumulative Bridge Fund. Mr. Bryan will have it prepared for the next meeting.

Further discussion included possibly bidding three bridges at a time and/or group areas together to save money. With the proposed added monies from the ARPA Funds, it will be a plan in moving forward. It will also additional appropriations process with council.

A request regarding Lick Creek Road was made by Sharon Dalton to Mr. Melton relating that she had donated property to the county in exchange for her road to be taken care of. She had called the Auditor to cancel her request to attend.

Mr. Melton had received a request for a Speed Limit Ordinance on Six Mile Road of 30mph had been requested. Mr. Bryan will prepare an ordinance for the next meeting.

A request for a 4-way Stop Sign to be placed at Smithville Road and Marion Road was made. Mr. Bryan will draft the ordinance for the next meeting. Both Ordinances were approved with a motion by Bob Curry;

seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Mr. Melton related that at the previous meeting they had approved for a Hot Box from Sourcewell. They sent a refurbished unit; not what was agreed to. Southeastern was the second bidder at the same meeting and he requested permission to make the purchase from them. Mr. Bryan reviewed Indiana Code 5-22-10-15(b) and its requirements for maintaining files. A motion to approve the purchase in the amount of \$29,261.75 was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Next Mr. Bryan presented and read Ordinance 2022-005 for a Speed Limit of 25mph to be placed on Marley Road. A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Mr. Melton asked for Re-Bids for Category#2 Bituminous Mixtures. Mr. Bryan reviewed the requirements and advertising dates-01/26 and 02/09 with the opening of bids at the 02/21/22 meeting.

Lastly, Mr. Melton related that he would have a weather-related event packet at the next meeting.

A Surplus Auction Ordinance 2022-006 for the Sheriff was presented and read by Mr. Bryan. A motion to approve was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

A Surplus Auction Ordinance 2022-007 for Probation was presented and read by Mr. Bryan. A motion to approve the Ordinance was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Dale Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Both Ordinances will be attached for permanent record. Notice of the Auction will be in the paper on 01/26 with the Auction starting on February 21st.

Sheriff Hobbs and Chief Deputy Matt Miller presented Quotes for a new vehicle. Quotes for Andy Mohr in the amount of \$38,856.25 per unit and from Community Ford-Bloomington \$31750.25 with variable options. Kelly Chevrolet did not respond to the bid request. Mr. Hobbs noting that time is of the essences as this vehicle is for the Public Safety Officer. A motion to accept the bid from Andy Mohr with the Sheriffs Dept to pay the additional \$3426 was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Next Mr. Bryan reviewed IC36-1-18-8-19© regarding a Public Hearing for the Jail Feasibility Study. RQAW, Garmond and Jeff Peters will be present to discuss the status and cost, tax rate, and debt service. A motion to advertise the Public Hearing on February 21, 2022, was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0. Mr. Burton added that the study had been done earlier. The biggest issue is that the Insurance company says fix or replace and start within two years. Sheriff Hobbs related that it was almost disastrous a couple of weeks ago due to a gas leak.

EMA Director Jack White provided three copies of Bids as required for a new Truck. He had received a IDHS Grant in the amount of \$40000 for the purchase. Mr. Dubois began by questioning the need for a new truck because he doesn't go anyplace except home. He wants people to know that it was paid for from a Grant! Mr. White related that the process is very specific and that he must place a placard with that information on the truck. He also added that he transports people to meetings and emergency and/or county events.

Mr. Burton said he didn't have a problem with getting a new truck and gave descriptions of the quotes.

Mr. White related that the application process is very meticulous and justification has to be given for exactly what you're asking for, it is called the AEL-approved equipment list and check which item you are submitting for-specialized vehicles is for this truck. Mr. White related that his timeline for purchasing and final reporting only gives him sixty days. Continued discussion on whether a four-door was necessary or a single cab, the size of the engine versus pulling a trailer. Sheriff Hobbs stated that he feels a single cab would not be feasible. Mr. White said it was his job to give them the information and their job to make the decision. He related his opinion on a single cab versus four-door and that it is a smack in the teeth with a single cab. Mr. Burton said Auctions don't bring in any more money with surpluses for a four-door. Mr. Burton made a motion to table until the 02/07 meeting and for him to obtain "like quotes" for single cabs. Dale Dubois made the second.

Carried 3-0. Ms. Reeves reminded them that had approved the Grant and purchase for a new truck. Quotes will be attached for permanent record.

EMS Director Cris Lunsford related that Gateway has been locked down by the State and he can't get his additional appropriation request submitted at this time. He requested permission to pay from his Vehicle Rotation Fund until it could be processed as he does not want to lose the vehicle. A motion to allow the use of the Vehicle Rotation monies and an Out of Cycle Claim to be processed was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Mr. Lunsford related that he was getting an additional \$31000 in funding with program changes with Medicaid. The fund will go in his Cash Balance.

Elected Officials-

911 Director-Kathleen Lamb had several items to present.

1. Quote for J&K as they are having issue with Sheriff's Channels/no dispatch to officers. The quote was less than \$5000 (only \$3690) and would be encumbered from 2021 funds.
2. IT Cad Server is completed. Pathways were set up before moving and IDACS Interface terminals in dispatch.
3. The furnace has been out at dispatch and required a valve for the second time and the two-year warranty is out. She was told the condenser line was too close.
4. Staffing-one employee had returned, but she is still two down. One has also been called out on active duty.
5. Radio Project is a go; waiting on a start date.
6. Working with the Auditor's Office for information to submit her Annual 911 Report.
7. Informed them that a tire had hit the building causing damage.
8. Request for a Fence to be installed; she will present at a later date.
9. The Attic has a water leak. She has called Key Mark to come and look at it.

Sheriff Hobbs related that his secretary has submitted her two-week notice. Also had lost another officer. Donna McElroy-Internet is now working. However, she is requesting for an additional Mifi with AT&T. She was instructed to get with Sheila or Sam as they are the ones with access to the Accounts. Additional conversation about the Amazon Accounts. Mr. Burton related that all accounts were closed because so many individuals had opened accounts under Owen County. Sheriff Hobbs has an account, and she can get with him to make any purchases. She asked for future conversation about re-opening credit card accounts, so agreed a possibility with maybe the new access to funds and processes.

She had received a letter from OCSB saying that they owe a \$120 internet fee. She does not remember the charge. Ms. Stutsman confirmed that she does not have access to Probations Accounts. He asked her to pull prior statements and see if it had been done in the past. Mr. Burton will follow up with the bank.

Attorney Bryan had no further comments.

Auditor-Ms. Reeves provided copies of Advertisements for Farm Bureau for their information.

Ms. Reeves requested a change in processing of the Toshiba Copiers to help eliminate the late charges. A claim will be processed, and Departments will be charged their respective amounts to reimburse the County Fund. A motion to allow the Copier to be paid once annually was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Gary Burton. Carried 3-0. Ms. Reeves related that she has a second copier that sits in the Treasurer's office due to limited space The copier is paid for by the Auditors Office. No action was required.

Workman's Compensation is still pending with notice that the current company will not be covered after March. Mr. Parmley is working on the situation and an update will be given.

Commissioner Comments-Based on the Executive Session interviews; Dale Dubois made a motion to approve Jarrod Kilgore as the new County Maintenance. Second was made by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.