

Owen County Board of Commissioners
Minutes-, February 6, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Board Members Present: Gary Burton, Bob Curry, and Joel Lowe.

Also, present Attorney Dana Kerr and Auditor Sheila Reeves.

Public Sign in sheet attached for permanent record.

A motion to approve the minutes from December 19, 2022 was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0

A motion to approve the minutes from January 3, 2023, was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0.

A copy of the LOW Monthly Financial Report for all Funds was provided for review.

Copies of Payroll and Absence Balances were provided for review.

A motion to approve Regular Claims-\$416,482.80 was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve Payroll- Docket \$263,341.63 was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0.

A motion to approve Out of Cycle Claims-\$126,622.02 was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

Old Business

ADA Compliance Review-Gary Burton, Dana Kerr, and Jack White met with ADA Consultants David and Preston. Kerr related it will be a long project to process and bring buildings up to compliance. Step 1. Plans in Place, Step2. Building Evaluations, Step 3. Plans to Code Compliance. They are currently in compliance with INDOT and grants status. Burton related that White is the one who will be working with consultants and another meeting in a couple of weeks. They will start with the Courthouse and then move to the Jail.

New Business

Marce King with Economic Development and Chamber of Commerce presented the Commissioners with a copy-slide review for the Uplands Region READI explaining the objectives and funding in the amount of \$2,747,250.30 The county was able to capitalize with matching grant funds committed. The first round is with Cook and BBP water and sewer projects. Second round projects will be decided, and an update given.

Highway Department Greg Melton & Chad Walker related that Franklin Road has been completed, Wasatch Lake was a head of schedule and Sandhill was due to start early next week-weather permitting.

Little Flock Road has had a sink-hole develop and would like a meeting at 1:15 at the highway with the contractor and commissioner to proceed with a alternative route. Quotes for the project had been received from Fender Excavating-\$45,000, Barr Excavating-\$52,000, and All out Construction-\$60,000 were read and reviewed. A motion to approve the quote from Fender Excavating-\$45000 was made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

An Ordinance 2023-001 for a Four-way Stop at Kelley Road was presented/read by Kerr. A motion to approve was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

A Surplus Ordinance 2023-002 was presented/read by Kerr. A motion to approve was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Auditor Reeves requested permission to obtain another Adobe License for her office. A motion to approve the request was made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

She related that 2023 Budgets had been entered and that encumbrances were soon to follow.

The Asset Management Plan from Data Pit Stop had been provided for review. A meeting with all Departments will be scheduled in the near future to provide training on data entry that will give Auditor-Treasurer Tax Data, Inventory/Asset Management, Record of Collections, and Property Tax Calculator. The Fee for the Plan is \$4000.

Commissioner Comments-

Burton related that he had reviewed a Company called Right Stuff and is still interested in a Time Management System-Payroll Company and will look into others. Kerr related that he is worried about ghost employment. Burton now is concerned with current Policies and Work at Home. While there is no current Policy for working at home there is one for attendance policy 701. Burton said no two departments are figuring time the same way, and Lowe adding only the highway has time clocks. An update to the Manual must be done to address this issue and several others; but a Time System of some kind needs to be obtained. They will continue to move forward with options.

They next appointed Gary Dubois as the new County Building Inspector with a motion made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Caried 3-0.

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