

Owen County Board of Commissioners  
Minutes-December 4, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

Present: Gary Burton and Bob Curry. Also, present Auditor Sheila Reeves.

Absent: Joel Lowe and Attorney Kerr.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, Prayer led by Sam Hobbs.

A motion to approve minutes for November 6, 2023, and November 22, 2023, was made by Curry; seconded by Burton. Carried 2-0.

A motion to approve Payroll \$291,357.90 (pending SBOA Audit) was made by Curry; seconded by Burton. Motion carried 2-0.

A motion to approve Docket Claims \$101,080.61 was made by Curry; seconded by Burton. Motion carried 2-0.

A motion to approve Out of Cycle Claims \$75,387.76 was made by Curry; seconded by Burton. Carried 2-0.

A motion to approve multiple claims for Forthphaze Technology that had just been received to pay out of cycle was made by Curry, seconded by Burton. Carried 2-0. Burton read the copies.

A copy of the LOW Monthly financial report was provided for review.

Reeves also noted that SBOA Audit negative funds will be moved that had been previously approved.

No Old Business was presented.

#### New Business

An Insurance Summary Review was given by Ron Remak and Brittany Doering was given regarding the recent open enrollment, employee navigator use, and claims for periods 08/01/22 through 07/31/23. Rates are still locked in for 2024, and they will go out on the open market when addressing 2025 costs.

AirMedCare-Andy Yenchochic presented a proposal for county employees to purchase Air Evac Transportation Insurance. It would be offered at the rate proposals agreed upon and done as a payroll deduction. An updated proposal will be given on an individual basis, as the commissioners agreed not to contract at this time. Reeves noted that she wanted to make sure that employees were aware that AirEvac might not necessarily be the one called, and they would then owe whatever regular insurance does not cover. Contract will be sent to the attorney for review.

Owen County Tourism and Sweet Owen Convention & Visitors Bureau-Jason Kinney and Mike Spinks requested reappointing Pam Hey, Shirley Kinney, and Beth Wood for a four-year term. Motion made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Carried 2-0. A copy of a 2024 Annual Tourism Agreement Renewal was presented for approval. The contract will be signed at their 12/20/23 meeting to allow the attorney to review.

#### Highway General Update-Tabled

#### Elected Officials-

EMS Cris Lunsford related that he is expecting the body/chassis work sometime around Christmas.

Auditor Comments-nothing further.

Attorney Comments-All Ordinances, Resolutions and Policies were tabled due to his absence.

#### Commissioners Comments-

Burton related that he had been working with Economic Development and Marce King doing a Feasibility Sewer Project Study with GSA Commonwealth down on 43 to Franklin Rd property.-A motion to approve \$8000 and be paid from Cum Cap Fund was made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Carried 2-0. The funds will be encumbered for 2024.

Insurance Company has pending bids/quotes and Burton is working with Steve Gray.

An email from Dan Zuerner reviewing the proposed Budget for a new Owen County Jail was given for a total cost of \$40,620,644 before financing costs. Possible other Property sites are still being pursued as well. Sheriff White related that it will only keep going up if they wait. He added that the property just out of town is in a good location and doesn't care who owns it and will save taxpayers money.

A motion to approve all 2024 Commissioner's Meetings on 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday mornings at 9:00am was made by Curry; seconded by Burton. Carried 2-0. Holiday Schedule is pending until the next meeting.

A Special Meeting was scheduled to be held on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> @2pm for the Highway 2024 Annual Material Bids due to the absence of the attorney. Sealed Bids will remain with the Auditor.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Curry; seconded by Burton. Carried 2-0.