

Owen County Board of Commissioners
Minutes-November 6, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Bob Curry.

Present: Bob Curry and Joel Lowe. Also present, Attorney Dana Kerr and Auditor Sheila Reeves.

Absent: Gary Burton.

Minutes were tabled.

A motion to approve Payroll \$267,507.77 & \$259,357.67 (pending SBOA Audit) was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Motion carried 2-0.

A motion to approve Claims \$363,837.20 was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Motion carried 2-0.

A motion to approve Out of Cycle Claims \$106,324.70 was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 2-0.

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

No Old Business was presented.

New Business

Clerk Diane Stutsman presented an update regarding the 2023 HAVA Grant-Secretary of State election improvement projects. She had previously been approved in the amount of \$10,000. Following discussion, a motion was made by Curry to increase the application amount by \$11,000 for a total of \$21,000. A second was made by Lowe. Motion carried 2-0. Also noted was that any unspent funds must be returned to the State.

Highway-Greg Melton & Chad Walker

Melton related they were down two trucks at this time.

Mary Craft had reached out about the semi traffic on County Line Road. Atty Kerr was to look into a possible ordinance to address the situation. Sheriff White related that if there were signs at both ends of the road it can be enforced by the Sheriff's Department.

Rocky Hill Road Bridge #16 will need major repairs with the approach. Truck traffic from the water plant is causing damage. Attorney related to determine costs and send request.

Annual Material Bids Notice have been sent/posted and are due December 4, 2023.

Stogsdill Road was pre-discussed, and it is too late due to weather and will be on the schedule for spring. He reminded them that the wind events in the county have put them behind.

ADA projects is also currently being addressed for the Extension and Coroner's Office to bring up to code. Kerr reminded everyone to keep track of ADA expenditures. The highway building had water in the building and due to grade will be an estimated cost of \$55,000. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Community Crossings Road Plans to add Splinter Ridge and Pea Ridge was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Motion carried 2-0.

Cold Mix for a portion of Smithville was approved with a vote by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 2-0.

Adel Road will be done with chip-seal. Motion by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Motion carried 2-0.

Cold mix left on the lot will be for White Springs Road with a motion by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 2-0.

Elected Officials-

Sheriff White related that the DARE Program was moving forward with a third SRO Bill Browne with the assistance from Probation and Dispatch MOUs with portions of their Opioid Funds. Health Department was purchasing a K9 Dog friendly for drug awareness programs. ARPA has purchased Sheriff K9.

Hamilton Center-Cindy Rotman requested a letter of support for a federal grant. A motion to support with a letter only (no financial funding) was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 2-0. Kerr will write the letter with Mr. Lowe to sign.

Auditor-A copy of the Treasurer's Report was provided for review.

A copy of a Quantus Company Agreement to assist with insurance claim preparation was presented for approval to allow Gary Burton to sign. Motion to approve was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 2-0.

A copy of the Co-Alliance 2024 exemption forms was due. A motion to allow Gary Burton sign was made.

Attorney-

Kerr presented a copy of a "Time Off Request Form" to be used for all employees (not elected officials) to help assist with the processing and tracking of payroll. It was also created for commissioners to assist with their appointed departments. A motion to approve was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Motion carried 2-0.

Kerr presented and read Tax Deed Sale Bids that had been received.

Pond Road-Gerald Hunsicker \$100. Motion to approve and allow Burton to sign made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 2-0.

Bullerdick Road-John & Julie Hunter \$500. Motion to approve and allow Burton to sign made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 2-0.

Ten High Road- Brandon Kaiser \$250. Motion to approve and allow Burton to sign was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 2-0.

Lakewood Property (2) Parcels-both received two bids from Kent and Jennings. Per IC second bid notices need to be sent to each bidder. Kerr will send notices.

Executive meeting per statutory purposes was held and no other business or topics were discussed.

No Commissioner comments were made.

A motion to adjourn was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 2-0.