

APRIL 24, 2023

The Jay County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 24, 2023, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse. Attending was Brian McGalliard, Rex Journey, attorney Wes Schemenaur, auditor Emily Franks, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the minutes from the joint session on April 5, regular meeting April 10, 2023, Executive session April 12, 2023, April 18, 2023 and the special session April 18, 2023. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATION

Leland Lemaster joined by other Portland Evening Optimist members came to the commissioners for their support for Respect for Law Enforcement week May 1st-6th, 2023. Chad Aker read the proclamation as presented. Rex Journey made a motion to sign the proclamation. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

COURTHOUSE

Bruce Sutton, superintendent, came to the commissioners to discuss auctioning surplus items located in the courthouse. He has checked with the Jay County Historical Society about the two rows of auditorium seats and several wooden chairs. They were uninterested in the items due to a lack of space in their current facilities. Chad Aker will check with local auctioneers to see who has an auction coming up to sell the items. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the sale of the items in an upcoming local auction. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HIGHWAY

Eric Butcher, superintendent, came to the commissioners to approve a buried cable permit at 300 S and 1150 W. They will be digging up to 48 inches. Rex Journey questioned what could be done regarding damages to the ditches after the buried cables following several recent issues. The highway will look at what can be done to limit damage in the future. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the permit. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Butcher presented the commissioners with a contract with Choice 1 Engineering related to services on two county bridges. The bridges are on 200 S between Boundary Pike and US 27 and Blaine Pike between 150 and 200 S. The cost of the project will be paid by 75% Community Crossings Grant monies and 25% matching from the county; the contracted amount of the project is \$61,733. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the contract with Choice 1 Engineering for the 2 Bridge Overlays. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2023-03 concerning authorization for executive of INDOT Agreements was presented for commissioners' approval. The resolution would give authorization to Mr. Butcher to sign INDOT documents. The highway superintendent was authorized to sign prior to the passing of Donnie Corn. It was transferred to the President of the Commissioners at that time and is now being transferred back. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-03. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Butcher discussed the dump truck bids from the last meeting. He would like to go with the Western Star dump truck chassis from Stoops at \$129,000. The final cost will be \$76,000 to outfit the dump truck for service. This will come out of next year's budget will just lock in the price and purchase with Stoops. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the purchase of the chassis from Stoops for \$129,000 and the \$76,000 to outfit the truck in 2024. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Lastly, Mr. Butcher discussed the asphalt emulsion bids from the last meeting. He would like for the commissioners to accept all three bids for the most options. The three companies were Asphalt Materials, Marathon, and KTECH. Mr. Journey asked if all companies were aware the county would be accepting all bids but may not use them. Mr. Butcher stated it was a common practice in other counties. Brian McGalliard made a motion to accept all three emulsion bids from KTech, Marathon, and Asphalt Materials. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

AUDITOR

Emily Franks, auditor, came to the commissioners to discuss various topics. The first topic was in regards to a Tax Sale services support addendum with SRI Tax Services. The cost of the tax sale fee has increased from \$100 to \$125. This will be for the fall tax sale scheduled for September 7, 2023 at 10 A.M. Taxpayers must be behind at least 3 tax installments to be on the certified sale list at the end of June. The fee will be attached to all parcels at that time. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the agreement with SRI. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to the Association of Indiana Counties for \$65 for a training class on Record Retention/Grant Audit needs was presented for commissioner approval. This training counts towards the continuing education credits required by Indiana Code and will be paid out of the auditor account in the County Elected Officials training fund. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim to the Association of Indiana Counties. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A professional services agreement from Schneider Geospatial was presented for commissioner approval. Data Maintenance on the GIS was being handled under the annual agreement with 39 Degrees North/Elevate. The company was bought out by Schneider Geospatial who is now requiring a contract and additional fee for those services. The agreement includes 4 hours per month of maintenance from May 1st- December 31st and has been prorated to \$3,968. The cost for next year would be \$5,952. The money will come out of County Plat Book Fund 1181 which only receives money from property transfers. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the Professional services agreement with Schneider Geospatial. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

LIFESTREAM

Kevin DeCamp, Project Manager, came to the commissioners to receive their approval for the 2024 Grant. The proposed 2024 operating budget is approximately \$1,349,000.00 but will most likely be adjusted by INDOT. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the documents for the 2024 Operating Grant paperwork. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

LANDELL PERMIT

The yearly landfill permit was presented for commissioner approval after payment of this year's fee by Waste Management. The commissioners would like to look at raising the permit fee from \$35,000 up to \$50,000. The fee has not been increased since the original resolution in 2001. A new resolution will need to be created to raise the fee. The commissioners will reach out to Waste Management about increasing the fee and will address it at their next meeting.

JEMS

Gary Barnett and John McFarland, shift supervisors came to the commissioner to give them their monthly update. The numbers are slightly down due to two health insurance payments coming out in March. The run counts have stayed the same or slightly declined. The number of transfers have increased but they have not received the revenue yet to know if they will get reimbursed for them. Mr. Barnett was unable to meet the deadline to discontinue the current copier machine renewal. The current copier company is offering \$20 cheaper a month for the year. Mr. Aker questioned what was wrong with the current provider. Mr. Barnett stated it was an issue with the company providing supplies in a timely manner. He will continue with the current copier and will look at discontinuing the contract after the year.

Mr. Barnett presented a spec list for a newly remounted ambulance at a cost of \$190,000. This would be the same box but just put on a new chassis in 2024. This would be replacing the oldest ambulance, a 2016, which is Medic 2. This would include a power load system for \$30,000 per truck, the cot to go with the system will be another \$30,000 each. Mr. Barnett believes that it is not worth the extra expense to include the power load system. Mr. McFarland added insurance companies say one back injury will cost over the \$60,000. Mr. Barnett will go through the cost list to see if there is anything that can be removed from the spec. Chad Aker asked what the cost would be for a new ambulance. Mr. Barnett indicated a Type 3 which is what they drive now would be an estimated \$300,000 or a Type 1 with a truck chassis for \$400,000.

Lastly, council member Cindy Bracy came to Mr. McFarland to discuss the county starting a yearly subscription to the ambulance service. He has looked into this option with the closest being Fort Wayne. If it is deemed medically necessary, everything after insurance would be written off. This would not be a money maker for the department but might help out local residents. It is not allowed to be sold to Medicare or Medicaid patients which makes up 60-70% of their patients, but would be available for anybody else in the county. The current IU Health coverage through the Jay School Corporation does not cover ambulance transportation. Mr. McFarland asked if the commissioners would like him to pursue the matter further. The commissioners decided it did not seem to be worth it to pursue it further.

SHERIFF

Larry R. Newton, sheriff, came to the commissioners to discuss water softener quotes he has gathered. They have been shut down since the last week of March 2023 and were originally installed in 2019. All three companies agreed the current softeners were undersized. The size was based on monthly gallon usage to determine the grains. Don Myers quote was for 900,000 grains with 3 metered tanks. The two will work together with one as backup while regenerating. The current ones regenerate 65 gallons per minute but would be 130 gallons per minute and the three booster pumps

might not be needed. This would include a 5-year warranty. Patriot Water Solutions was at 1 million grains and should last 20-30 years at \$50,000 with only 2 tanks. Laux Plumbing came in at \$32,352.38 with 3 tanks. Chad Aker made a recommendation to ask the council to pay for the project out of ARP monies. Mr. Newton will come back to the next meeting after gathering more information from the companies.

The second topic was in regards to changing from Comcast to Community Fiber Solutions. They would be saving about \$10,000 going with their 36-month contract \$6,895.08 month or a 1 year contract for \$6,535.08 60- month. He is looking at trying to get a new video arraignment system as their current one is starting to fail. Mr. Newton is waiting on Community Fiber Solutions for more information and will come back to the commissioners next meeting. He would also like to look at new radios for the department.

The third topic was concerning the invoice for ammunition. This is the last year for this ammunition as they will go back to 9mm handguns. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim to Manley Firearms for \$7,696.50. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. They will get the generator serviced that has not been since 2021 and is meant to be done every year. He will go with Co-Alliance to add more fuel to the generator.

Lastly, the Law Enforcement Youth Camp was discussed in relation to employee compensation for work on the event. In the past, merit deputies only were allowed to be compensated for work at the camp. Mr. Newton believed all his employees should be compensated for work on the camp. Mr. Aker felt as though all employees who work the event regardless of department should be compensated for their time. Rex Journey made a motion to compensate all county employees involved in the Jay County Law Enforcement Youth Camp. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

RETIREMENT CENTER

Melissa Blankley, director, came to the commissioners to give them her monthly update. She has had two emergency resident admissions with two more potential applicants coming in today. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the two new residents. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Brian McGalliard made a motion to table the contract with FSSA until the insurance can be checked into. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. A claim to Branch Management for the tree trimming on the property for \$3,000 was presented for commissioner approval. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim to Branch Management. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The payroll docket was presented for commissioner approval. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the payroll docket. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The claims docket was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claims docket. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to the Jay County Scout Facilities was presented for \$10,974 for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim to the Jay County Scout Facilities. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A claim to Haller Colvin PC from the Assessor in the amount of \$168 related to legal fees for an assessment appeal. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to Pitney Bowes from the Treasurer's Office for \$237.98 was presented for commissioners' approval. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the Pitney Bowes claim. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to the Upper Wabash River Basin Commission for \$1,000. The commissioners discussed the lack of benefits of the commission. Rex Journey questioned if the amount was a donation or dues to the commission. As he sits on the board he felt as though there was not much going on and had no grants. Carl Walker, resident, asked if they had anyone on the commission currently working on grants as it is an impaired watershed. Mr. Journey did not believe they were actively working on any grants. Brian McGalliard made a motion to table the claim until more information can be obtained. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to Matrix Integration LLC for \$17,625.60 was presented for commissioner approval. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the Matrix Integration LLC claim. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to Milestone for the project on 100 N for \$55,867.54 was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim to Milestone. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to RQAW for \$1,885 was presented for commissioners' approval. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim from RQAW. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Virginia Burkey appointed by the commissioners to the Community and Family Services Board gave an update. She has been unable to get in contact with anyone via phone, email or in person. She asked for any suggestions from the commissioners of a way to get in touch with the correct people at the organization. The commissioners will look into the matter to see if they can assist.

With no further business, Brian McGalliard made a motion to adjourn at 11:25 a.m; Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker

Rex Journey

Brian McGalliard

Rex Journey

Attest:

Jay County Auditor