

HEALTH BOARD

Heath Butz, health administrator/environmentalist, came to the council to discuss an appointment to the Health Board as the new health law changes allows the county council to now have an appointment. Mr. Butz recommended Virginia Burkey, current member, as the appointment for the county. Cindy Bracy made a motion to appoint Virginia Burkey to the Jay County Health Board. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business for the council Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

JAY COUNTY COUNCIL

NAY

Faron Parr
Harold Towell
Matt Minnich
Salma Stein
Cindy Bracy

ATTEST: *Emil Franko*
JAY COUNTY AUDITOR

DECEMBER 13, 2023

The Jay County Council met in session on Wednesday, December 13th, 2023, at 6:00 PM, in the auditorium at the Jay County Courthouse. Attending from the council was Harold Towell, Cindy Bracy, Matt Minnich, Randy May, Faron Parr, Dave Haines, attorney Wes Schemenaur, auditor Emily Franks, and Jeanne Houchins, presiding. Randy May made a motion to approve the minutes from the joint executive and regular session on November 8th, 2023. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Additional Appropriations:

COUNTY GENERAL

1000-005-10-0022 Sheriff- Other Compensation \$10,000
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the county general additional appropriation for Sheriff- Other Compensation. Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-172-10-0063 Courthouse- Part time Custodians \$2,000
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the county general additional appropriation for Courthouse. Harold Towell seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-232-30-0055 Circuit Court- Court Appointed Doctors \$5,000
1000-232-30-0041 Circuit Court- Transcripts \$2,000
Dave Haines made a motion to approve the county general additional appropriations for Circuit Court- Postage. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-622-10-0086 Retirement Center- Wages Part Time \$13,000
1000-622-20-0022 Retirement Center- Gas, Lube, Oil \$1,800
1000-622-20-0042 Retirement Center- Meals \$4,000
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the county general additional appropriations for Retirement Center. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion, the motion passed by majority vote with Harold Towell voting against the motion.

SURVEYOR BACKHOE REPAIR & REPLACEMENT

4903-001-20-0055 Backhoe Parts & Service \$1,000
4903-001-30-0016 Equipment Repair \$2,500
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional from Surveyor Cornerstone Perpetuation. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion and the passed by unanimous vote.

97.042 FY22 EMPG

8124-001-30-0046 Misc. Expense \$125.27
8124-001-40-0022 Equipment \$261.01
Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the FY22 EMPG. Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

TITLE IV-E REIMBURSEMENT

8891-001-30-0087 Pauper Counsel \$140
Dave Haines made a motion to approve the additional appropriation from Title IV-E fund. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

TRANSFERS

County General

1000-005-30-0016 Sheriff (Equipment Repair) to 1000-005-20-0017 (Tires) \$511.40
1000-005-30-0016 Sheriff (Equipment Repair) to 1000-005-20-0016 (uniform-clothing) \$1,410.99
1000-005-30-0027 Sheriff (Contractual Services) to 1000-005-20-0017 (Tires) \$753.12
1000-005-30-0012 Sheriff (Travel & Mileage) to 1000-005-20-0016 (Uniform-Clothing) \$69.07

1000-005-30-0012 Sheriff (Travel & Mileage) to 1000-005-20-0022 (Gas, Lube, Oil) \$889.77
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the transfers from county general- sheriff. Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-059-30-0012 Building & Planning (Travel & Mileage) to 1000-059-10-0049 (Employer Health Ins.) \$488.32
1000-059-10-0051 Building & Planning (Workman's Comp) to 1000-059-10-0049 (Employer Health Ins.) \$478.00
Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the transfers from county general-building & planning. Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-068-10-0061 Co. General-Comm (Unemployment Comp) to 1000-068-20-0011 (Office Supplies) \$300.00
1000-068-10-0061 Co. General-Comm (Unemployment Comp) to 1000-068-30-0013 (Computer Maintenance) \$9,171.60
1000-068-10-0049 Co. General-Comm (Group Health Insurance) to 1000-068-20-0011 (Office Supplies) \$768.84

Matt Minnich made a motion to approve the transfers from county general- commissioners. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-068-10-0049 Co. General Comm (Group Health Insurance) to 1000-068-30-0064 (Juvenile Detention) \$19,500.

Dave Haines made a motion to approve the transfers from county general- commissioners. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-172-30-0027 Courthouse (Contractual Services) to 1000-172-20-0031 (Janitorial Supplies) \$1,000.00

1000-172-30-0027 Courthouse (Contractual Services) to 1000-172-20-0022 (Gas, Lube, & Oil) \$1,000.00

Matt Minnich made a motion to approve the transfers from county general- courthouse. Harold Towell seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-380-30-0016 Jail (Repair Equipment) to 1000-380-20-0038 (Prisoner Meals) \$268.16

Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the transfers from county general- Jail. Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-622-10-0085 Retirement Center (Wages- Repair & Maint) to 1000-622-10-0085 (Wages Part time) \$3,492.49

1000-622-10-0022 Retirement Center- (Wages- Other Comp) to 1000-622-10-0086 (Wages Part Time) \$4,847.56

1000-622-30-0026 Retirement Center- (Telephone) to 1000-622-20-0042 (meals) \$1,383.02

1000-622-30-0046 Retirement Center (Misc. Expenses) to 1000-622-20-0019 (Garage & Motor Supplies) \$600.00

1000-622-30-0099 Retirement Center (Utilities-Gas) to 1000-622-20-0222 (Gas, Lube, & Oil) \$1,800.00

1000-622-30-0102 Retirement Center (Meat Processing) to 1000-622-20-0042 (Meals) \$1,900.00

Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the transfers from county general- Retirement Center. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Harold Towell opposing the motion.

1151-001-10-0094 JEMS (Wages-Paramedics) to 1151-001-10-0039 (Wages-Overtime) \$3,000.00

1151-001-10-0094 JEMS (Wages-Paramedic) to 1151-001-10-0131 (Wages-Super./Training Officer) \$2,200.00

1151-001-10-0040 JEMS (Wages-Per Diem) to 1151-001-10-0131 (Shift Super./Training Coordinator) \$357.22

1151-001-10-0094 JEMS (Wages-Paramedics) to 1151-001-10-0095 (Wages- Reserves) \$3,300

1151-001-20-0040 JEMS (Medical Supplies) to 1151-001-10-0039 (Wages-Overtime) \$4,000.00

1151-001-20-0040 JEMS (Medical Supplies) to 1151-001-10-0132 (Wages-Supervisors) \$12,800.00

1151-001-20-0022 JEMS (Gas, Oil, Lube) to 1151-001-10-0049 (Employer Health Insurance) \$5,200.00

1151-001-20-0011 JEMS (Office Supplies) to 1151-001-10-0017 (Employer Social Security) \$600.00

1151-001-20-0011 JEMS (Office Supplies) to 1151-001-10-0018 (PERF) \$1,100.00

1151-001-30-0027 JEMS (Contractual Services) to 1151-001-10-0095 (Wages-Reserves) \$30,000.00

Faron Parr made a motion to approve the transfers from JEMS. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1170-005-10-0025 LIT (Deputy Salaries) to 1170-005-40-0014 (Vehicles) \$13,227.00

Faron Parr made a motion to approve the transfers from LIT Public Safety. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1222-001-40-0038 911 (Equipment) to 1222-001-30-0132 (Charges from Phone) \$3,813.50

Dave Haines made a motion to approve the transfers from Statewide 911. Matt Minnich seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-005-10-0025 Sheriff (Deputies) to 1000-005-10-0022 (Other Compensation) \$10,000

1000-005-30-0012 Sheriff (Travel/Mileage) to 1000-005-20-0022 (Gas, Lube, Oil) \$65.95

1000-380-10-0117 Jail (Wages- Matron) to 1000-380-10-0116 (Wages-Cooks) \$450.00

1000-380-10-0119 Jail (Wages- Comm Officers) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Wages- Other Compensation) \$22,319.29

1000-380-10-0114 Jail (Wages- Jailers) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Wages- Other Compensation) \$25,000

Matt Minnich made a motion to approve the transfers for the sheriff's department. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT MONIES

Kimbra Reynolds, Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition, came to the council to discuss appropriation of opioid settlement monies based off the determination of the Opioid Settlement Taskforce. The opioid settlement taskforce made up of 10 members of the community, identified the need for a sober living facility/recovery home in Jay County. This was determined using statistics and interviews with family members affected by the opioid epidemic. The proposed facility is located on Meridian St. in downtown Redkey and would be required to follow all federal, state and recovery guidelines. The request would be for \$35,060 to include a feasibility study and earnest money on the property. The feasibility with RQAW would determine if the home meets all requirements and is a viable option, including a good neighbor policy. The facility would need to house 10-15 residents in order to be sustainable. A large crowd of residents from the town of Redkey were present in the audience to oppose the facility. The council discussed tabling the motion for more time to review the information as it was received after the commissioners' meeting on December 11, 2023. Dave Haines made a motion to table the request until the next meeting. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ms. Houchins requested the residents get together to have one representative on the agenda for the next meeting.

RADIO UPGRADES

Larry Ray Newton, sheriff, came to the council to discuss the appropriation of funds for a phase one contract with Ritter Strategic Services. The contract not to exceed \$76,400, would help the county determine what infrastructure would be best for radio upgrades. The department has been looking at various radio systems for the last four years with many solutions being proposed by different companies. Mr. Newton believed the failing system has become a safety issue, as officers cannot understand what they are responding to by officers and dispatchers. They also have issues in various locations in the county and inside certain buildings. They have been told they need to go to 800 mhz, which has failed in the past or to get another tower. The discussion turned to helping smaller towns' emergency responders in the transition due to lack of funds. Mr. Newton assured those present, agencies willing to participate with

the phase one study, would be heard and included in the solution. Mrs. Bracy questioned if the company would help provide the county with the necessary equipment. Mr. Schemenaur stated the guidance was not coming from a sales person and should be unbiased. He added it will be a long term very expensive investment, but the first phase only included a study. Mr. Newton informed the council the solution might cost at least two million. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the funds for the study out of Economic Development windfarm monies. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

2024 SALARY ORDINANCE

The 2024 salary ordinance was presented for council approval with one change from the budget. The community corrections director and assistant directors' salary was changed to match the salary approved by their board. Ms. Franks explained their wages are paid through grant monies not included in the budget process. They will request additional appropriations after the first of the year for the wages. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the 2024 salary ordinance as presented. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ROSE GOLD SOLAR UPDATE

Mr. Schemenaur discussed an update the county had received from Rose Gold on their solar farm. The federal government has changed the approval process for connecting to the grid which has set back their original timeline. They are invoking section 21 of the EDA, force majeure, citing the federal government rule change as out of their control. The company will have representatives at the January 2024 council meeting to formally ask for an extension of the abatement deadline. Their perfect timeline would have them included in the fall 2024 federal approvals and start the process in 2025 with construction started in 2026 and completed in 2027.

RESOLUTION 2023-10 PROPOSED ABATEMENT-

A proposed abatement from Hodson energy for a new solar farm located in Richland Township near the Anderson grain terminals was presented to council. Mr. Schemenaur explained the company had originally requested a traditional abatement with a total of \$500,000 in Economic Development payments over four years. The proposed solar farm will be smaller than those previously approved leading to the small payments. Jason Semler, Baker Tilly Financial Advisors, ran numbers on various scenarios including figures on a 100% abatement for 10 years. After some negotiation, Hodson Energy approved \$2,516,000 which would be \$629,000 a year payable upon completion of construction.

Resolution 2023-10 Preliminary (Declaratory) Resolution for the creation of an economic revitalization area, real and personal property tax abatement was presented for approval. The resolution sets up the intent for a final resolution with the public hearing on the matter, tentatively for January and to work on the Economic Development Agreement. Mr. Schemenaur explained in the meantime, the county would continue to work on the economic development agreement, a road use agreement, and a decommissioning agreement. The first commissioners' meeting in January would be the timeline for those agreements to be presented/approved. There will be some items needed to be done by the planning commission level too. Brandon Deakins, representing Hodson energy, introduced himself to answer any questions the council may have after the information was presented. The resolution requires notice to all the taxing units directly for the public hearing and posted in the newspaper. Mr. Semler was asked how much the company would save in the agreement. He responded based on his figures the company would save \$4.4 million with \$1,930,000 in savings between the 10 years declining over the 10 years 100%. Faron Parr made a motion to approve resolution 2023-10. Dave Haines seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote with Randy May opposing the motion.

With no further business for the council Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

JAY COUNTY COUNCIL

NAY

AYE
Leanne Shorckoff
Heather Seitz
Mark J. Smith
Randy May
Cindy Bracy

ATTEST: *Emily Frank*
JAY COUNTY AUDITOR

