

are collected. Mr. Aker said that if the department is only asking for \$12,000, this could be paid from the commissioner's budget.

Auditor, Emily Franks, gave members information about other possible fund options. The information includes the amounts that are remaining in the fund and how it can be spent. She also explained that the LIT-Public Safety fund could be used to pay for the radio project. Currently, the fund is used to pay for vehicles and wages for the Sheriff's department. There will be more discussion for a possible increase to the public safety portion of the local income tax rate (LIT). This increase would include every city and town and could be used towards the cost of the new radio system.

With no further business, Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 PM; Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Rex Journey


Chad Aker

Brian McGalliard

Attest: 
Jay County Auditor

AUGUST 12, 2024

The Jay County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium in the courthouse. Attending was Rex Journey, Brian McGalliard, auditor Emily Franks, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. Absent was county attorney, Wes Schemenaur. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the minutes from July 29th, 2024 and the joint session from July 31, 2024. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Yvette Weiland, director, came to the commissioners to request help paying the remainder of their rent for 2024. They have been solely operating from user fees and state grants. The number of offenders using their services averaged around 80 before COVID and now average around 40. However, the cost of items has not gotten any cheaper. The remaining rent for the rest of the year is around \$1,500. Mr. Aker stated the long-term goal would be to move them to another county building after the new JEMS/Health/Coroner building is built. Rex Journey made a motion to pay the employer portion of two employees' health insurance and the remainder of rent up to \$10,000 out of their budget. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Heath Butz, administrator, came to the commissioners to receive approval for the 2024-2025 Bioterrorism Grant- Coordinator position. The position has been held by Amy Blakley for several years but has not had a change in pay since 2019. Mr. Journey questioned what duties were entailed in the position. Mr. Butz explained she is required to meet all the requirements of the grant to have emergency preparedness documents and procedures up to date. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the contract as presented. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

OWNER OCCUPIED REHAB

Nate Kimball, Assistant Executive Director, came to the commissioners to discuss contracts for an engineering firm and radon testing and remediation for the owner-occupied rehab program. Mr. Kimball will supply a copy of the contract for radon testing by the end of the day, and an engineering contract by the end of the week. The commissioners can review and submit any questions back to him before voting on them at their next meeting.

HIGHWAY

Robert Howell, superintendent, came to the commissioners to give an update on operations. They have been working on the last roads for conversion this year including 1025 W between Balbec and River Road, River Road between 500 N & 450 N, and 450 N between River Road and 1150 W. Those conversions should be completed by the end of next week. They have already completed the other conversion on 850 E near Reiers and it has been holding up. He is currently waiting on an estimate to pave 300 feet on 500 N by Helena Chemical for their trucks. There are no pending equipment issues. They have been trying to stay ahead of the mowing using one mower and the MowerMax. The west

side has been mowed three times and the east side has been mowed two times. The scoring for the 2025-2028 bridge inspection is due back to INDOT by August 19th 2024. They have been starting to berm roads as time allows.

SHERIFF

Larry "Ray" Newton, sheriff, came to the commissioners to inform them of a recent pursuit and the potential need to purchase a new vehicle. The individual they were pursuing intentionally locked his brakes causing the county deputy in the 2021 Dodge Durango to strike their vehicle. After the original crash, the same individual, struck another county vehicle. That vehicle was a Dodge truck causing an estimated \$4,300 worth of damage. The 2021 Dodge Durango is anticipated to be a total loss, but Sheriff Newton will know more once the adjuster supplies their report. Mr. Newton believes the dealer in Highland still has a surplus of vehicles at around the same price as the vehicle that was purchased in the beginning of the year.

BUILDING AND PLANNING

John Hemmelgarn, director, came to the commissioners to give a quarterly update on operations. They have had 17 commercial use permits including Joyce Dayton with a large addition. Mr. Jounray questioned how a barn dominium was categorized. Mr. Hemmelgarn explained it would be filed under a home permit.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

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

The clerk's report for July was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the clerk's report. Rex Jounray seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The county home report for July was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the county home report. Rex Jounray seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A donation to the county home from the Portland Friends church for \$100 was presented for commissioner approval. Rex Jounray made a motion to approve the donation as presented. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

An emergency claim to Town of Bryant Park Board for \$10,000 was presented for the commissioners' approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim. Rex Jounray seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business, Brian McGalliard made a motion to adjourn at 9:33 a.m.; Rex Jounray seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Chairman


Brian McGalliard


Rex Jounray

Attest: 
Jay County Auditor