

Owen County Board of Commissioners
Minutes-November 22, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer was given by Dana Kerr.

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

Minutes were tabled.

A motion to approve Payroll \$----- was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Motion carried 3-0.

A motion to approve Claims \$ ----- was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Motion carried 3-0.

A motion to approve Out of Cycle Claims \$----- was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Motion carried 3-0.

Copies of the LOW Monthly Report was provided for review.

No Old Business was presented.

New Business

LOW Financial Payroll/Time Management Plan was presented for review. Due to recent payroll issues with departments and the hap-hazard pay system currently in place, it was agreed to implement the Time & Attendance Program with an emphasis on payroll integration, Tie Tracking, Employee Self Service and Absence Accruals, Leave and some HR components. A motion to approve and present to the Council was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Motion carried 3-0.

Mid America Elevator Company presented a proposal to become ADA Compliant with an expected project date in January 2024. A motion to accept the proposal was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Motion carried 3-0.

AirMedCare Presentation was tabled until the next meeting.

911 Director Kathleen Lamb requested consideration and funding for the LMR System Proposal that has been previously presented. The cost of the Radio Assessment Project is \$51000. A motion to approve the request and present it to the Council for ARPA Funds approval was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

Highway Department Greg Melton & Chad Walker

Melton related the need to complete the County Road Plan for the 2024-01 1st Call for Jones Road to Quincy and to Truesdel for the Community Crossing Grant. Motion made by Burton; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Melton then asked with the \$60000 left and apply for One Million Crossings Safety Grant 2024-02 for Baseline and Drunkards Pike. Motion to approve made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Motion carried 3-0.

Work has slowed down at the highway, but the influx of ARPA Funds has allowed a lot of road work has been. Various roads-Marley, Stogsdill, Oberholtzer and Pea Ridge to Greene County will have a combination of hot mix, cold mix (weather permitting) chip-seal and fogging. A motion to approve was made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0. Road Projects with Chip-seal with budgets Road Plan of 12 miles and address others if needed was approved with a motion from Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0. Discussion on Brine system product was made. Concern for storage issues, but all agreed to keep discussion open.

Quotes from VoMac, Community Ford Lincoln and Curry Auto Center were presented for new vehicles. A motion was made by Curry to approve the VoMac Truck \$169505.77 (1) 2024 Mack MD7; seconded by Lowe. Motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made Burton; seconded by Lowe to transfer funds from Line Item-Fuel to Vehicle to purchase the second vehicle from Curry Auto Center. Motion carried 2-1abstention/Curry.

Public

Pat Conder spoke about a gate not being put up and that the road needs to be completely shut down.

Auditor-no comments (Noted Reeves left at 10a/Chesser completed meeting)

Attorney-

Presented and read a copy of Personnel Policy 205-Update effective 11/22/23 for 1st responders and re-hires considered non-exempt employees may have health insurance, life insurance, long term disability insurance, and short-term disability insurance for which they were eligible when they left employment with Owen County. A motion to approve was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Bids for Tax Deed Properties were received and read as follows Jennings \$210/315 and Kent \$580 each parcel. A motion to accept Mr. Kents proposal was made by Burton; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Commissioners

Further discussion about time-keeping policy was had.

Quotes from Gibbons repair bill for the attic air duct and insulation \$25600 not to exceed to stop decaying at the EMS Building. A motion to approve the project was made by Lowe; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.

Brand Tech through Forthphaze presented quotes for a new recording system \$ 16900 in the Commissioners Room by 01/01/2024 and \$2960 for Courtroom ADA compliant Hearing-Impaired System. A motion to approve was made by Curry; seconded by Lowe. Carried 3-0. Burton will sign quotes.

Continued discussion on a new Jail included additional possible property locations to include eight acres of Winders Quarry next to Walmart. Burton was to make contact.

A motion to adjourn was made by Burton; seconded by Curry. Carried 3-0.