

Owen County Board of Commissioners
Minutes – July 3, 2024 @9:00 AM

Commissioners present: Gary Burton, Bob Curry, and Joel Lowe

Also present: County Attorney Dana Kerr and Auditor: Sheila Reeves

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

The Opening Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Prayer was given.

Approval of minutes for June 19, 2024, motion by Curry to approve the minutes as read seconded by Lowe, approved 3/0.

Approval of Claims and Payroll \$310,274.46 with 8 out of cycle claims

Payroll	\$299,968.93 (June 28,2024)
Regular Claims	\$314,079.33
Out of Cycle (8)	<u>\$64,702.03</u>
Total Payroll & Claims	\$678,750.29

Motion by Curry seconded by Lowe

**Payroll Pending State Board of Accounts Audit

OLD BUSINESS

LOW Time Keeping System Update: 11 clocks and locations, Zoom training meeting on July 17, 2024, for supervisors and payroll secretaries for calculation and use of clocks in the Commissioner’s Room.

Code Enforcement Officer: Simmerman has the part-time position advertised

Pending Ordinance:

2024-014 911 Advisory Board Responsibilities Amended Kerr read and explained the reasoning behind amendment. Discussion: Lowe does not agree with the amendment, he feels as though this is not in the best interest of the Emergency Management/Services Sheriff, EMS and EMA. “I am not going to sit here and pretend that I know what is best for these departments, so I’m not going to put my name on an ordinance that says that I know that and I’m not going to vote for and approve things that aren’t useful to everybody involved that’s my discussion”. Curry made a motion to approve the Ordinance seconded by Burton 2/1 approved.

Jail Update: Burton stated that the Jail project has been moved over to the Redevelopment Committee (RDC) they are in the process of moving forward with this,

checked with the State and they have the authority to make the transfer of the property and there are steps and stages that we are going to go through to do that it was voted on last Friday. Kerr presents the timeline (see attached) Commissioner Lowe question the process, he wanted information to bring the public and himself up to speed. Kerr explained the situation, Lowe “I want to make sure there is nothing left on the table”. The RDC has taken that upon themselves to look at the State for help on this, it’s been done by many counties before, stated Burton. Question from Lowe (at what point did we turn this over to RDC anyway”). Burton replied it has to come back to us anyway. Sheila stated that it is too late to advertise this in the newspaper, however it will be posted on the board here and outside, the meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2024 @ 2:00 P.M. she will send the timeline to Curry and Lowe for review.

Code Enforcement continued:

Pending Ordinance: 2024-015 Amending the Unsafe Building and Premises Law

Hearing authority for the unsafe building and premises law. The commissioners appoint one Commissioner, Health Department Administrator, and the Highway Superintendent. These meetings would happen during the day, no evening meetings. Commissioner Lowe voiced his opinion and wanted to discuss further, Burton proceeded to voice his reasoning, Curry did not see anything wrong with the choices. Burton instructed Kerr to continue reading 2024-015 Amending the Unsafe Building and Premises Law. Motion to approve by Lowe seconded by Curry 3/0 approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Emergency Warning Notification Protocol has been updated Motion by Curry to approve seconded by Lowe 3/0 approved, was vetted through the 911 Board and the Director. Discussed the activation of 211 Emergency help and resources.

Fleet Gas Cards: Application was made, Sheriff wants one in every car, Highway and EMS will get the numbers they request, motion by Burton to have Lowe sign the application for the cards seconded by Lowe 3/0 approved.

My Path/Community Foundation: MyPath 5K Kyle Hannon request the Special Event Application. Lowe made a motion to approve the event on October 19, 2024 @ 8:30 A.M. and wave the application fee seconded by Curry 3/0 approved.

Highway: Melton requested Fuel Cards for the dump trucks. He expressed his appreciation for patience, hard work and help from citizens. Two Highway workers were injured in an accident, one seriously. Main expense is the overtime 426.5 hours (about 2 and a half weeks) of overtime. Mow trim broke down repair costs is \$10,907.11 motion

made by Lowe, seconded by Burton 3/0 approved. Melton states Milestone should be able to start paving in a week or so subject to weather. Burton expressed appreciation to the crew and prayers to Josh Dean.

Comments Elected Officials & Department Heads:

Health Department: Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant, Christine McBride requests to get the contract ready and advertise to fill the position. Motion by Lowe to move forward with the process, seconded by Curry 3/0 approved.

EMS: Cris Lunsford will be picking up the new ambulance on July 11, 2024. Commission requesting emergency purchase for generator replacement at Rocky Hill Rd motion by Burton seconded by Curry, Lowe abstains 2/0 approved.

Motion to sign Covered Bridge Certification by Lowe seconded by Curry 3/0 approved. Auditor Reeves mentioned the issue of submitting late claims, this is a problem and please all departments pay attention to the dates. Limit out of cycle claims as well.

Motion to adjourn by Burton seconded by Curry 3/0 approved.