

Owen County Board of Commissioners  
Minutes – June 19, 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.

Opening Pledge of Allegiance recited, and Prayer was given.

Approval of minutes for June 5, 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 16 out of cycle claims

Payroll	\$310,274.46
Regular Claims	\$156,107.30
Out of Cycle (9)	<u>\$45,414.43</u>

Total Payroll & Claims \$511,796.19

\*\*Payroll Pending State Board of Accounts Audit

Motion by Lowe seconded by Curry 3/0 approved.

Burton mentioned out of cycle claims are getting out of control try to move those through the normal cycle, unless it is an emergency.

**Financials:** Reeves explained the out of cycle claims has a lot to do with the credit card issue, departments are having conferences there has been something for the last 5-6 weeks. Vendors know our County Government System and know there is a process. Looking at the financial report, most balances are good, both Supplemental LIT and Tax Settlement are in and included in today's current balance of \$5,167,717.00. This will have to last until December. We will know when we start our budgeting process, how far that will carry everybody and the amounts they get in 2025 budgets.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**LOW Time Keeping System:** The time clocks have been ordered, signature required. Maddie Chesser request for Purchase Order. Burton wants to expedite a mandatory zoom meeting for department heads or

individuals that deal with payroll. There are 11-time clocks ordered, the price \$17,425.00, still within budget. Lowe made a motion and seconded by Curry to approve Burtons signature on the purchase order for the time clocks, 3/0 approved.

**Jail Project:** Pending appraisals, received one waiting on the second appraisal, moving forward.

**Code Enforcement Officer:** Pending decision from the Council, any complaints coming in from this point forward will be turned over to the council.

**Pending Ordinances:** Kerr explains there are several Ordinances in the works:

- Grant Application Process if the due date falls before the time that the Commissioners and Council can approve the Grant Request then the President of the Council and the President of the Commissioners could go ahead and approve so it can be submitted. At their next board meeting, Commissioners and Council would ratify this had been done.
- Speed Limit Code for entire County, working with Highway to make sure the correct engineering study is completed that is required by code to lower speed limits that would be lower than state standard.
- Amendment to the Unsafe Building Premises Code Hearing Authority would be the BZA, which meets tomorrow night will bring forth for consideration, if not will prepare an Ordinance for a new board.

**EMA/FEMA Form:** Director Jack White has forms that require a signature to submit to FEMA concerning the Mitigation Grant stating BOC is over White as program manager and White is responsible for correctly implementing the project. Motion made by Burton seconded by Lowe to allow Curry to sign, since he is EMA Liaison the FEMA form 3/0 approved.

White passed out suggested revisions for the Emergency Warning Notification Protocol for review, would like approval and signed on the July 3, 2024 meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Insurance Review:** Ron Remak and Bethany from Proactive MD, brief update on medical plan. Executive summery from 3/12/23 to 2/9/24

shows snapshot of any claims incurred during that time premiums sent into IU Health Plans just over \$800,000 for the amount of claims actually paid \$726,000.00. Amount of subscription cost has increased, using the clinic can help save costs. Conversation continues projections of programs pricing and processes. Would like to come and update the Commissioners about the process and costs. Promotion of the Proactive Clinic, being utilized to help save the County money with open enrollment. Clinic has a 42% engagement.

**Taylor Van Hoy:** Courthouse photo/video request, Van Hoy would like permission to do a community video about Spencer/Owen County including the Courthouse and County employee involvement, also including the shops around the square. Commissioners stated the employee involvement is not a good idea, we cannot show favoritism. County Government will not participate. Van Hoy was reminded that he can take picture/video of the public grounds.

**MYPATH/Owen County Community Foundation:** MYPATH 5K. Motion by Burton to table seconded by Curry, 3/0 approved.

**911 Communications:** Director Cherie Anderson does not have anything to discuss.

**Highway Department:** Greg Melton is out this week.

**Elected Officials and Department Heads:** No comment

**Public Comment:**

Jeff Marks, thanks for rip rap stone applied to a portion of Fish Creek Rd also suggested considering creation of a fund to fix the holes in the roads in an ongoing basis.

Burton discussed the Community Crossing funds and improvement of the roads.

County website is down waiting on communication from the state.

Ron Elkins wanted an update of the Tower Ridge Rd Bridge, issues to decking from overweight dump trucks, load limit dropped, United Consulting supposed to be down this week, Burton to follow up.

Maddie Chesser requests a Policy update for the electronic time keeping, ready for July 3, 2024, meeting.

Kerr mentioned the EPA has been in contact, the Armory is in the contamination area of investigation, a signature is required to access the Armory for an air quality test. Motion by Lowe authorizing Burton to sign, seconded by Curry, 3/0 approved. Sampling is at no cost to the County; results will be shared.

Kerr attended the 911 Advisory Board meeting believes there is ambiguity in the code. The 911 Advisory Board members are the Sheriff, Director of EMS, Director of EMA, the County Fire Chief, and the Spencer Chief of Police or their written designee. They are to meet not less than quarterly elect officers take minutes turn those over to the Auditor and Commissioners. The board currently has a President, Vice President and working on the secretary position. All Emergency Services should have Operating Procedures turned over to the Executive Director and Advisory Board any changes would also need to be communicated. Standardized Operating Procedures shall be adopted. The Advisory Board shall adopt uniform and standardized procedures, personnel standards, dispatch standards and protocols, including but not limited to long range planning and training for the 911 Dispatch Center, or any other matter concerning efficient operation. Advisory Board Executive Director shall assist Communications Director in preparing the annual budget for the 911 dispatch center, said budget to be approved through the Commissioners prior to submission to the Council. They would also work on the Executive Director job description and when hiring an Executive Director, the applicants reviewed by and recommended by Commissioners to the Advisory Board which could accept or reject or do their own interviews. Ambiguity comes with a responsibility after discussion the Commissioners interpretation is the Advisory Board should only be involved with operational procedures, not purchasing of equipment, software hardware etc. Kerr will prepare an amendment and bring it to the next meeting concerning this topic.

Due to excessive heat paving has been suspended due to requiring extra steps.

Dust control discussed if taxpayers have health concerns contact the Highway Department. Sprayer maintenance is almost complete, calcium chloride will be used for dust control, the product is provided to the county free of cost due to phasing out by farmers.

Motion by Curry to adjourn, seconded by Lowe 3/0 approved.