

Richland County Board
March 14, 2024

Convene

Chairman Dennis Graves called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00pm on February 8, 2024, at the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and a Silent Prayer was offered. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Shawn Rose, Present; Cindy Given, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Present; Travis Paddock, Present; Steve Schonert, Absent.

Changes to Agenda

Morgan Henton made a motion to move 6K from the consent to new business.

Information, Correspondence, Upcoming Meetings

Nothing to report

Open

Nothing to report

Motion/Vote - Consent Agenda

Cindy Given made a motion to approve all items under the consent agenda. Morgan Henton seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote: Dennis Graves (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Cindy Given (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Travis Paddock (Yes). Items approved were the minutes of February 8, 2024, for County Board, March 7, 2024, for Road and Bridge meeting, January 24, 2024 for 911 ETSB meeting; the county officer reports; Resolution to allow the Village of Noble to temporarily close a section of County Highway 9; Resolution to award contracts to the low bidders from the February 6, 2024 MFT bid letting; K. Wohltman Construction, Inc. to perform repair work at County Highway garage funded by building insurance settlement; Re-appointment of William Clow Jr to a five-year term on the Public Building Commission; Fox Creek Vineyards and Berryville Vineyards annual liquor license renewal; MyDec Resolution.

Motion/Vote - Finance Committee

Morgan Henton discussed the claims. Claims totaling \$131,300.13 total county and \$307,131.63 non-county. There was a question about two claims without receipts, Circuit Clerk Zach Holder was in attendance and stated that he could provide both receipts. Morgan Henton then made the motion to approve all claims, Shawn Rose seconded the motion.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Hires discussed the upcoming April 8, 2024, total eclipse and the services that they will provide for the influx of people that will be traveling through the county. Sheriff Hires

also discussed the Resolution to increase the number of Deputies – SRO Officer. Sheriff Hires met with Chad Lecrone about the details of the new SRO salary. 85% of the salary would be paid for by the school district and the county would pay 15% for the first 3 years then it would change to the school district paying 80% and county paying 20% after the 3 years. This rate would also apply to the current SRO Officer. Sheriff Hires informed the board that this needs to be done ASAP for the new officer to be trained by the start of next school year in August. Cindy Given made a motion to approve increasing the number of Deputies. Shawn Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

States Attorney's Report

State's Attorney John Clark discussed the decrease in the number of lawyers in Richland County stating that it is going to become a problem.

Animal Control

Travis Paddock stated that he stopped by the new building. He thought they may be done in July of this year.

Motion/Vote Circuit Clerk

Zach Holder discussed the local debt recovery program with the Illinois Comptroller. Cindy Given made a motion to approve, Travis Paddock seconded the motion. Motion passed. Shawn Rose stated that he would like to discuss 11B in Executive Session. Zach Holder discussed a technology grant that he was previously approved for, totaling over \$107,000.

Highway Business

County Engineer Dan Colwell stated that the Preston Bridge work on Hurricane Lane will begin on March 25 and will take about six weeks to complete.

Board Committee Reports

IT. Corey McDonald discussed the new County website. Corey also discussed setting up the Jail Meeting room for zoom and recording meetings. Sheriff Hires stated that they would be able to do more in-house training once that is completed. Corey stated that he would use the \$14,079 that is set aside in ARPA and the IT budget would pick up any remaining. He thought labor would be around \$1600.

Morgan Henton stated that Shelly Harmon had texted him and she is hoping to hear back about the Enterprise Zoning soon.

Motion/Vote Old Business

ARPA. Nothing to report.

Immigration Resolution. Morgan Henton discussed the Immigration Resolution. State's Attorney John Clark stated that he understands the desire behind the resolution, but immigrants have rights. He understands that it is a Political Statement but if passed, it may not be able to be followed. Sheriff Hires stated that law enforcement would still have to provide services regardless of this resolution. Sheriff Hires also stated that he understands

the statement that the resolution is trying to make but he still must provide a service. Cindy Given stated that she feels it is just a political statement and that there are more important things to spend time on. Morgan Henton made a motion to approve the resolution. Travis Paddock seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote: Dennis Graves (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Cindy Given (No), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Travis Paddock (Yes).

New Business

Corey McDonald discussed the need for a County Seal for the website. Corey stated that it would be more of a County Logo rather than a seal, as each office has their own official seal. Cindy Given likes the idea of opening it up to the public for artwork. Morgan Henton stated that he would take over the project.

Morgan Henton also discussed Jessica Clark replacing Kevin Parker, who resigned from his position of REMA officer in January. Morgan stated that Jessica Clark has a degree in Emergency Management and is a current EMT. Kevin Parker has agreed to train Jessica. Morgan made a motion to hire Jessica Clark as the new REMA officer. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Cindy Given made the motion to enter Executive Session at 7:55 PM. Shawn Rose seconded the motion.

Brian VanBlaricum made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:14 PM. Travis Paddock seconded the motion.

Morgan Henton asked to amend \$33.92 to County General. Morgan Henton made a motion. Cindy Given seconded the motion.

Adjournment

Brian VanBlaricum made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Travis Paddock seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Dennis Graves
County Board Chairman