

Richland County Board

May 12, 2022

Convene

Chairman Dennis Graves called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00 PM on May 12, 2022 at the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited and Prayer/Moment of Silence was offered. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Present; Shawn Rose, Present; Emily Blackford, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Bill Clow, Present; Steven Schonert, Present. Ms. Blackford attended per phone conference.

Motion/Vote - Agenda

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. District 7 Steven Schonert seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Steven Schonert (Yes).

Information, Meetings

Chairman Graves read a thank-you note from Project Community for the donation to the Splashpark. The members announced their meetings for the month.

Open

Board Member Schonert noted two resignations from the 708 Board. He thanked Dennis Kapper and Sheila Ritter for their years of service on this board. Mr. Schonert also mentioned the TB Office is anticipating to be more active offering expanded medical and mental health counseling services.

Motion/Vote - Consent Agenda

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to approve all items from the Consent Agenda. District 1 Brian VanBlaricum seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Steven Schonert (Yes). Items approved were the minutes of April 14, county officer reports, Road and Bridge Minutes, the St. Joe/Stringtown liquor license, the resolution establishing the sheriff's salary, a grant application for a squad, Denver Township's Aid petition, oil letting bids and an Olney Township bridge letting.

Finance Committee

Finance Chairman Clow reviewed the previous committee meeting. He noted Circuit Clerk Holder was awarded a \$189,000 technology grant to be used for office improvements.

Motion/Vote - Payment of Claims

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to pay all presented claims. District 3 Shawn Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Steven Schonert (Yes). County general claims totaled \$324,820. Non county general claims totaled \$343,207.

State's Attorney Report

(none presented)

Animal Control

Mr. Henton stated the ordinances continue to be updated. A power washer is needed for animal control. The current washer is inoperable, using the sheriff's temporarily. It was suggested a gas powered washer, and gas can be purchased from Rural King.

Highway Business

County Engineer Dan Colwell commented on the material costs due to inflation. Township bids are now required on anything over \$30,000.

Board Committee Reports

(none)

Old Business

(none)

ARPA Funds

Mr. Henton commented on the City of Olney's Dog Park. The design is approved. The fencing expense is estimated at \$57,000, and he would like to see \$50,000 be donated to the City to begin work. Mr. Henton stated the Little League appreciated the donation to the ball diamonds at Musgrove Park.

Mr. Schonert and RDCD Director Lauren McLain spoke of the need for a grant writer to be used locally for our county, city schools, community, etc. Mr. Schonert proposed \$100,000 be set aside from ARPA funds to get this started. Mrs. McLain described how the RCDC would be involved. Ms. Blackford asked how long this amount would last. An approximate salary for a grant writer could be \$65,000 to \$75,000. The members concurred this would be a good investment.

Mr. Clow stated the windows in the courthouse are to be replaced. At last month's meeting \$183,000 had been approved from ARPA funds. JT Taylor Construction has submitted a \$100,000 down payment at this time.

Motion/Vote - ARPA Funds - Dog Park

District 4 Emily Blackford made a motion to approve \$50,000 from ARPA funds be presented to the City of Olney to begin work on the dog park. District 6 Bill Clow seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Steven Schonert (Yes).

Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Schonert noted there have been no new developments.

Motion/Vote - Executive Session

District 5 Morgan Henton made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel and negotiations. District 6 Bill Clow seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Yes), Steven Schonert (Yes). The members entered into Executive Session at 7:26 pm. At 8:15 pm a motion was made by Mr. Clow, seconded by Mr. Henton to return to Open Session. This passed. Chairman Graves noted discussion had taken place with action taken.

Adjournment

Immediately after returning to Open Session, Chairman Graves entertained a motion to adjourn from Mr. Clow. This was seconded by Mr. Henton. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm

Mary Beth Coan
Chief Deputy County Clerk

Dennis R. Graves
County Board Chairman