
Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
November 1, 2022

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on November 1, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Prayer was led by President Montgomery followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present: President Kenneth Montgomery, Vice-President, Mary B. Key and Commissioner Warren Fleetwood

MINUTES: The minutes from the October 18, 2022, meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Key motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS:

WHEEL AND SUR TAX DISTRIBUTION	\$64,459.89
INNKEEPERS DISTRIBUTION	\$22,700.80
DITCH CLAIM, TAX REDEMPTION REFUND	\$24,277.41
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$4,943.46
CAW-1	\$33,432.09
CAW-2	\$15,795.70
CAW-CO. GENERAL	\$61,477.76
CAW-HIGHWAY	\$84,662.19
CAW-SHERIFF	\$5,100.04
CAW-ACH	\$147,842.38
CAW-3	\$20,532.34
COUNTY GENERAL	\$114,765.38
HIGHWAY	\$16,196.99
SHERIFF	\$9,805.15
ACH	\$87,695.77
PAUPER CLAIMS	\$1,920.79
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$2,286.16
PAYROLL	\$374,141.58
ELECTRONIC PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$199,489.45
Total Claims Presented on 11/01/2022	\$2,191,525.33

Commissioner Key motioned to approve claims presented for payment, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Department Reports

Deputy Vanoven was present for the Sheriff's Department. He reported the incarcerated total for today as 91 inmates with 11 in work release.

Health Department Director Hornby presented the October reports to Commissioners. Their testing site is still busy, and people are still testing positive. COVID vaccines are administered on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday as they try not to throw any doses away. They are not doing flu vaccines for the community because pharmacies are offering this service and they had a lot of wasted doses. In future years, they might consider reinstating this service.

COMMISSIONERS OLD BUSINESS

Jail Update – Owners Representative, George Ballard told Commissioners they have sent in another federal report. If they do not hear from them, that is positive. The County highway came in and broke up a lot of concrete on the lot, they will use this for rip rap and erosion control. The gray steel building is up and running with all utilities installed.

Burn Ban is Lifted for Gibson County

COMMISSIONERS NEW BUSINESS

ARPA Funding- Debbie Bennett-Stearsman – Grant Administrator Stearsman came to Commissioners to receive approval to award 6 new projects recently approved by the ARPA Core Group in the amount of \$2,791,500.

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|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1) \$30,000 | Independent Contract | Grant Administration | |
| 2) \$910,000 | Gibson County Sheriff | Vehicle Overhaul in 2022, 2023, and 2024 | |
| 3) \$800,000 | Gibson County Animal Services | New building | |
| 4) \$710,000 | Gibson County Highway Dept | 2 Single axle dump trucks | \$320,000 |
| | | Gravel/Stone | \$300,000 |
| | | Side Mount Mowers | \$90,000 |
| 5) \$200,000 | Public Defender's new building | Technology, paving, & demo of old Building | |
| 6) \$141,500 | Gibson County Sheriff | Alcohol/drug treatment & recovery program | |

Commissioner Fleetwood told everyone the Commissioners were proud to back the blue in Gibson County. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve these 6 projects, seconded by Commissioner Key. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Animal Services Building Update – Sharon Werne thanked Commissioners for backing this project. They received a vehicle in the last round of funding and have a few extra dollars remaining. They would like to add on some accessories with the approximate \$1700 of remaining money. Grant Administrator Stearsman feels if they equip the awarded vehicle and not another one, they are fine to spend this money to equip this vehicle. Commissioner Key suggested they not poke any holes in the roof. Mrs. Werne requested direction on the ARPA expenditure of building the new structure and how involved the Commissioners wish to be. Commissioner Fleetwood volunteered to help with the project. Debbie told them this is a public works project. The County can choose a company to do the design for the professional services, then they will have to bid the project. They will also try to do some fundraisers to help raise funds for this new building.

Annual LEPC Plan Update – Attorney Spindler told Commissioners the plan is the same as last year. He asked Commissioners to approve this plan. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to approve the plan, seconded by Commissioner Key. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Franklin School – termination of lease and removal of personal property – The County has a lease with NGSC. NGSC is interested in transferring this property over to ARC. The County's lease is set to expire in 2028; it was last used by the Health Department. Attorney Spindler will ask Commissioners to table this item until the Health Department and Andy Schafer inspect the building and gather their inventory or dispose of the items before they release the lease. Commissioner Key motioned to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Labor Day Parade 2023 – Commissioner Fleetwood explained that Charlie Woodruff and the Labor Day Committee is working on this item trying to bring the event back to the county. It will involve a lot a

different entities in order to accomplish this task. They will not know if it is coming back to the county until November 14, 2022, but if it is brought back, it will be a boost to the local economy. Mr. Woodruff has requested the County maintain their monetary support of this project with a \$2,000 contribution. This would be paid from the special event line in the EDIT budget.

Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to approve this funding, seconded by Commissioner Key. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Bob Schmits - Roads in Center Township – Mr. Schmits is requesting that the grader operator be dismissed, as they have roads like wash boards, and he feels the operator is not qualified. He went on to say he is in favor of the broadband installation, but he would like to see this project done correctly as he is afraid it is not being done correctly. Commissioner Fleetwood has gone out and looked at the lines being installed to ensure they are tall enough for trucks and tractors to get under.

James Hall Lives in Center Township – on CR 550 going toward SR 168, they are cutting off power poles and laying them in the ditch; he wants to ensure the county stays on top of this so they get all of the materials picked up before they get washed downstream in rain/flood waters.

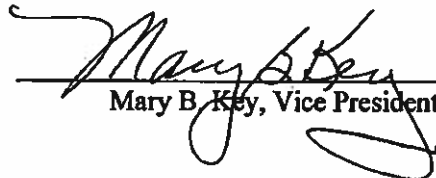
Another resident asked protocol for cleaning out ditches, however, Highway Superintendent had exited the building.

Mark Fehrenbacher - Bridge of Honor Site. He has talked to George Pickersgill as was last instructed in a meeting. Mr. Pickersgill is totally supportive of the project. Mr. Fehrenbacher would like to have signs at the entrance of the site. He is also asking permission to replace the stone or for the County to replace the stone. In the spring, he requests the ditch be cleaned out. Commissioner Montgomery asked for clarification on signs. Mr. Fehrenbacher is requesting a duplicate of the one on the bridge. Commissioner Fleetwood suggested that he go to the highway garage where they can make a sign. Commissioners explained that parking would be on the Town of Ft. Branch property, thus they need to be in the loop. Commissioner Fleetwood will contact Ft. Branch and they will coordinate with Mr. Fehrenbacher.

With no further discussions, Commissioner Key motioned to adjourn the meeting. The vote to adjourn is 3-0.

Minutes from the November 1, 2022, Meeting.


Kenneth Montgomery, President


Mary B. Key, Vice President


Warren Fleetwood, Commissioner


ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor