
Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
November 15, 2022

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on November 15, 2022, at 5:00 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 November 1, 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.

Clerks and Treasurers Reports were acknowledged by Commissioners.

CLAIMS:

OCTOBER INSURANCE PREMIUMS	\$431,119.70
EMPLOYEE INSURANCES	\$8,675.97
PERF	\$133,197.24
PAYROLL	\$359,284.18
JUDGES SALARY SUPPLEMENT	\$5,382.48
UNION DUES	\$8,145.00
CAW-1	\$59,197.51
CAW-2	\$22,701.62
COUNTY GENERAL	\$399,254.45
HIGHWAY	\$14,646.19
SHERIFF	\$154.91
ACH	\$83,187.71
BLAIR STORMONT DITCH LOAN PAYMENT	\$10,000.00
LIT DISTRIBUTION, TAX SALE REDEMPTION REFUND, DITCH CLAIM	\$559,230.97
DITCH CLAIMS, TAX SALE REDEMPTION & EXCESS REFUNDS	\$39,985.00
RIVERBOAT AND ED PLATE DISTRIBUTIONS	\$55,233.68
Total Claims Presented on 11/15/2022:	\$2,189,396.61

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

EMS Director Pond was not present, but he had given Commissioners his October reports. EMS is requesting approval to write off \$10,069.15. Commissioner Key motioned to approve this write-off, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS OLD BUSINESS

Jail Update - Owner's Representative George Ballard gave Commissioners a brief report on construction of the jail.

Franklin School Building -Termination of lease and removal of personal property – Attorney Spindler told Commissioners the County has a lease with NGSC, set to expire in 2028, on the Franklin School property for \$1 per year. NGSC is interested in transferring this property over to ARC. Attorney

Spindler asked Commissioners for consent to prematurely terminate the lease with NGSC and set a date to remove personal items from the property within 60 days. Commissioner Key motioned to approve Attorney Spindler's recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0.

United Consulting Bridge Inspection – Chris Andrzejewski, United Consulting Representative presented Commissioners with a bridge inventory, which is required by the federal government every four years. The federal bridge inspection program is paid from county funds with an 80% reimbursement from the federal government. This program puts hands and eyes on all bridges and collects data to make needed plans for repairs/maintenance to keep them safe for the public. Mr. Andrzejewski told Commissioners the report summarizes the condition of the 254 bridges located in Gibson County and provides statistics on how Gibson County compares to other counties regarding their bridges.

COMMISSIONERS NEW BUSINESS

Prosecutor's Office / Child Support – Attorney Spindler told Commissioners a mold test was conducted in the basement of the north annex, which has proved positive for mold. The report was circulated to Commissioners. Prosecutor Cochran respectfully requests permission to allow the offices of the Prosecutor and IV-D to relocate while mold remediation is conducted. The prosecutor's office is separated from the child support office for federal reasons; thus, they must be careful in making this temporary relocation. If they combine the offices, they will have to offer training to the non-child support office. The Prosecutor and Attorney Spindler have been diligent in trying to consider their relocation options.

Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the temporary relocation, seconded by Commissioner Key. The vote was 3-0.

Prosecutor Cochran explained his office is digital, so they must have IT in the temporary location. He explained the office could go remote; however, he does not feel it would be practical as they interact with law enforcement partners. They tend to react as things happen and working remotely will slow that reaction time. He went on to explain the frequent interactions of the Victims Advocate with the public and the fact that they do not want to impede this work. The office will need help with heavy lifting for the relocation. Prosecutor Cochran feels the temporary relocation move comes at a good time, due to the nature of court proceedings and this time of year, things tend to slow. Commissioner Fleetwood wonders if the new Probation Building has extra space for them. Attorney Spindler does not feel there would be enough space. Prosecutor Cochran told Commissioners he is not asking for one more thing than they currently have. In theory, Prosecutor Cochran told Commissioners IV-D could be in a separate location, however, he likes them combined as he is the Prosecutor for the IV-D office, and they have frequent interaction. He also likes them combined for security. Commissioner Fleetwood asked if IV-D could go into the Probation Building. Prosecutor Cochran recommends the entire office be separated from Probation. Commissioner Montgomery feels Prosecutor Cochran should choose the temporary location. Attorney Spindler requested the Commissioners rescind the prior motion. He requested Commissioners motion to authorize a 12- month lease comparable to the current Probation rent, Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Key. The vote was 3-0.

GoGibson Initiative – Eric Heidenreich with Visitors and Tourism Bureau, Gibson County Economic Development Director Tami Hack, and Gibson County Chamber member John Feutz were present to inform the Commissioners of their group branding effort. They plan to build a comprehensive website that will host a community calendar. All events and meetings within the county can be posted on this website. The initiative will highlight the benefits of Gibson County to current and potential residents and businesses. It will promote "Live-Work-Play-Learn". They hope this initiative will bring dollars into the county as they work to grow tourism and increase the population. Commissioner Key feels this has been discussed many times and feels putting everyone under the same umbrella will be a benefit. She feels the Commissioners should support this initiative. The group applied for ARPA funding, but they were required to supply more information to Commissioners.

Health Department – Director Hornby was present to speak about the requested ARPA funding for a new health department building. She told Commissioners the building they currently reside was supposed to be temporary and they have made the building work, but she does not feel it is adequate to allow for all the services the health department should/could provide. She told Commissioners the state will be offering new initiatives to participating county’s offering core services. They will pay per capita, and the County could get an additional \$800,000-\$900,000 per year. The department will have to expand in order to meet their core initiatives and she feels it will require a new building. The State is trying to increase the health equity of the people in the county. She told Commissioners the difficulties elderly or handicapped people face if they must enter the building. Director Hornby requests that Commissioners look at their request for a building very seriously as health equity is important in the County.

Advertise for Bids on Bridge #168 Replacement –Commissioners agree they should advertise for bids on bridge #168 replacement. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to advertise for bids, seconded by Commissioner Key. The vote was 3-0.

Tulip Tree Drive – Commissioner Fleetwood explained that TIF is set to expire in 2025. The county will have some expenses to maintain after the expiration of the TIF on Tulip Tree Drive and areas surrounding the Toyota Plant. Matt is supposed to get back with RDC and Commissioner Fleetwood on the anticipated future cost, but he feels there should be a TIF road reserve set up to maintain these roads. He asked Commissioners to think about this while they are awaiting Engineer Holden to come back with a number. He thinks this project number might come in around about \$15,000,000 and even with Community Crossing Grant Funds, the county would not have enough to maintain these roads. He will come back to the group with a firm number.

Credit Card Limit for CASA – CASA Director, Ruth Wilson is requesting a temporary limit increase of \$6,000 to her credit card until the end of January. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the temporary limit increase, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. The vote was 3-0.

Major Medical Leaves (2) was approved by the Commissioners with a motion from Commissioner Key seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0

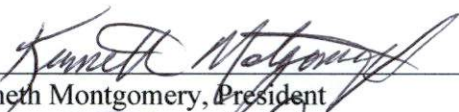
Holiday Calendar 2023 – This schedule mirrors the 2022 holidays. Commissioners approved the 2023 Holiday Schedule with a motion from Commissioner Key, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0


Randy Hall says SR 64, in Francisco will open before Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Fleetwood reported the Labor Day Celebration will return to Gibson County in 2023.


With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned.

Minutes from the November 15, 2022, Meeting.


Kenneth Montgomery, President


Mary B. Key, Vice President


Warren Fleetwood, Commissioner


ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor