
Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
December 6, 2022

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on December 6, 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 November 15, 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:

2019 OVERPAYMENT REFUNDS, TAX SALE REDEMPTION REFUNDS	\$143,878.37
INNKEEPERS, ED PLATE, COURT COSTS DISTRIB & TAX INTERCEPT	\$33,645.53
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$147,800.00
PAYROLL	\$398,180.77
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$2,236.16
ELECTION CLAIMS	\$15,059.64
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$8,737.30
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$138,474.06
COUNTY GENERAL	\$191,710.57
HIGHWAY	\$170,229.43
SHERIFF	\$6,778.85
CAW-3	\$14,926.93
ACH	\$225,225.56
CAW-1	\$46,182.96
CAW-2	\$68,383.31
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	\$8,498.27
PAYROLL	\$376,843.31
Pauper Claims	\$4,528.71
Total Claims Presented on 12/06/2022	\$2,001,319.73

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

Clerk Report - acknowledged by Commissioners.

Department Reports

Health Department Director Hornby presented the November reports to Commissioners. The Health Department cannot test for RSV. The COVID testing site will close at the end of the month as they do not expect the grant to be extended. They can still provide COVID home testing kits.

COMMISSIONERS OLD BUSINESS

Patoka/Union Township Long-Term Road Plan Fund – Commissioner Fleetwood explained to other Commissioners that it is estimated they will need approximately \$15 Million for future road upkeep

around Toyota. He would like to request the Redevelopment Commission provide \$15,000,000 so it can be invested to earn interest to benefit the county for years to come. He wants to ensure longevity of the roads. He does not feel this will affect any TIF projects proposed or approved.

SPM Development Lawsuit update – Attorney Spindler gave an update on the lawsuit stating that a judicial review hearing is scheduled for 3/10/23 at 9 a.m. Briefs can be presented to the Judge prior to the hearing. Commissioner Fleetwood told the audience that Kenny Reinbrecht has filed a lawsuit against the County because the County is against the cluster sewer system they proposed to use in a new development. The Commissioners have reached out to other counties; there have been no findings where other county's are approving the cluster sewer system. He does not feel cluster systems are suitable for a large subdivision as it does not support a large amount of sewage; thus, he does not feel the clusters are in the best interest of the County.

TIF Road Project for the City of Princeton - Commissioner Fleetwood feels the City of Princeton's request for TIF money to extend 2nd Avenue should be tabled as he feels it takes away from the citizens. He feels there are road needs within the county and does not feel the County should be in the business of redistributing road money. He asked for this item to be tabled until it is looked at more in depth. He wonders if the City of Princeton could get a bond issue. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. The vote was 2-1 with Commissioner Key casting the opposing vote.

Prosecutor's Temporary Relocation – The Prosecutor's office has found lease space on the south side of the Courthouse, on Broadway. They request the Commissioners approve a 12-month lease in the amount of \$2,800 per month. Commissioner Fleetwood made the motion to approve the lease amount, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0.

The Prosecutor has a deferral program fund they intend to use to pay the rent. Prosecutor Cochran requests Commissioners permission to use this for lease expense, utilities and all necessities related to moving into this building, including IT. Commissioner Key made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. The vote was 3-0.

Spectrum Broadband Update – Commissioner Montgomery told everyone that Spectrum had 93 new homes connected to the new broadband.

ARPA- Debbie Bennett-Stearnsman – Attorney Spindler told Commissioners the core group met prior to the Commissioners meeting and recommended up to \$50,000 be paid for environmental remediation of the North Annex basement. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion carried 3-0.

Attorney Spindler also recommended the Commissioners approve an extension to the current contract for Grant Administrator with expenses to be paid from ARPA funds. Commissioner Fleetwood made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Key. The vote was 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS NEW BUSINESS

MOU INDOT – Jim McDonald – Attorney Spindler asked Engineer Holden to explain the MOU. Engineer Holden told Commissioners the MOU was a lengthy negotiation between the County, City of Princeton and INDOT. The initial phone call stated the County had a \$650,000 problem at the corner of Main & Brumfield. Currently, a steel plate is in place at this corner where a structure, no longer called a culvert, is collapsed. The County is responsible for this pipe, even though it is on the state highway. The municipality is also responsible by INDOT's standards. The city of Princeton has a new storm water tax, but not enough money has accumulated to pay for this repair. INDOT says it is Princeton's responsibility and if they do not fix, the state will fix and invoice Princeton. The state has provided a plan for repairs with a price tag of \$240,000. Thru long negotiations between the three parties, it has been agreed that the

county will pay 80% (\$192,000); and the city will pay 20%. They have explored grant funding, but nothing is available. The county will pay their portion from the Cumulative Bridge Fund. Bridge 168 has been pushed into 2023, thus allowing the funding to be available now. Engineer Holden urged Commissioners to okay this MOU since the money is available in current budget. Commissioner Key motioned to approve the MOU, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

E-REP 2023 contract – Audrey Burkett and Bob Grewe were present to discuss E-REP and the 2023 contract with Commissioners. E-REP advocates for communities and they request the County’s investment to help them continue working for the County. Commissioner Fleetwood would like to table this item, as he is in discussions with Tammy Hack at the Gibson County Economic Development Coalition, and he would like to have more conversations with E-REP regarding Gibson County. Commissioner Key says they have been a part of this organization for a long time. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to table, seconded by Commissioner Key. The vote of 3-0.

Safety and Security Policy – Stephanie McKinney – The courthouse is required to have a security policy. Based on Judges’ recommendation and a few other ideas Ms. McKinney has put together a plan that has been circulated. She would like to get this policy into effect and if supplies are delivered in a timely fashion, the policy will go in effect on January 1, 2023. Attorney Spindler has worked on committee and reviewed the policy; he gave his blessing. Commissioner Key motioned to approve security policy, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Handicap Accessible Doors – Stephanie McKinney – Stephanie presented quotes for ADA pushbuttons on the 2 main entrances of the probation building and the south entrance of the courthouse. She is unsure where the funding for this will be derived.

Disposition of Old Furniture building – The ARPA Committee has approved funding for the demolition of this building; departments have been working on removing property in preparation of this. Public Defender Moody requests permission to move forward when everything has been removed. Commissioner Fleetwood asked Attorney Spindler if it was possible to advertise for bids with Gibson County contractor’s only. Attorney Spindler feels the bid will be low enough the Commissioners might be able to request quotes from Gibson County contractors for this project. Commissioner Key motioned to proceed, when the building is empty, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Extension Contractual Service Agreement Between Purdue University & Gibson County – Megan Brothers presented the annual agreement. Commissioner Key motioned to approve annual agreement, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Staffing Changes & Health Board Member Appointment- Health Department – Director Hornby requested approval from Commissioners to allow her to become a public health nurse and Juli Shade will take over the administrative role. The Board of Health has approved this move. Directory Hornby explained the last few years have shown that the public nurse should concentrate on nursing and moving the financial duties to the administrator. The change in wages will be presented to Council. Diane will go back down to a nurse’s salary and the difference will go to Juli. She then told Commissioner’s that Nick Ivy is up for reappointment. She stated they had been short a physician and now have offered the position to Melissa Johnson. Dr. Brink will continue in his present role as Health Officer. Commissioner Key motioned to approve all changes presented by Director Hornby and the Health Board, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Asset Management Ordinance – Mike Watkins – Attorney Spindler and Auditor Watkins have been working on this ordinance and hope to present at the next meeting to meet state guidelines.

Major Medical Leave (1) was approved by the Commissioners with a motion from Commissioner Key seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. The vote was 3-0.

Year-end Meeting on 12/27/2022 Rescheduled - Attorney Spindler requests Commissioner's move the year-end meeting to December 29, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Engineer Holden Awarded Engineer of Year - Commissioner Key told the audience that AIC awarded Matt Holden with County Engineer of Year.

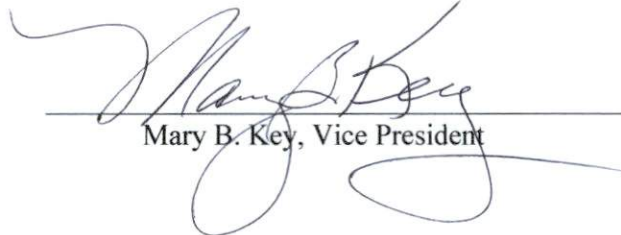
Meeting Reminder – Commissioner Key reminded other Commissioners of the 12/20/22 executive session meeting at 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Fleetwood would prefer to have the hospitals intent in writing, prior to meeting with them. He does not feel he wants to be involved in an executive session meeting without knowing the hospital's plan. Commissioner Key feels hospital officials will disseminate the information at the meeting to both bodies at one time.

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

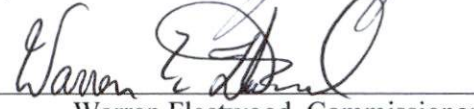
Minutes from the December 06, 2022, Meeting.



Kenneth Montgomery, President



Mary B. Key, Vice President



Warren Fleetwood, Commissioner



ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor