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Gibson County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Session  
January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

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

President Fleetwood thanked all the Healthcare Workers and asked for the roll call by Auditor Watkins.

**Roll Call by Auditor Watkins:**

President Warren Fleetwood – Present  
Vice-President Kenneth Montgomery – Present  
Commissioner Mary B. Key – Present

Also, in attendance were Administrative Assistant Kay Vore, County Attorney Jason Spindler.

This meeting was broadcast via Zoom; social distancing was observed, and masks were required.

**Minutes:** The minutes from January 5, 2021 Regular Meeting were approved with a motion by **Commissioner Key**; seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Claims:**

County General - \$296,887.79  
Courts - \$2,257.18  
Highway - \$34,203.40  
Sheriff - \$303,730.05  
ACH - \$49,972.88  
CAW-1 - \$13,285.11  
CAW-2 - \$17,698.86  
CAW-3 - \$24,269.83  
Pauper Claims - \$995.00  
Payroll for 1/08/2021 - \$368,600.98  
Additional Payroll for 1/08/2021 - \$1,380.00  
Payroll Deductions - \$168,234.90  
Payroll Deductions - \$3,093.36  
Payroll Deductions - \$140,645.20  
December Health Insurance - \$319,206.50  
Miscellaneous Claims - \$101,933.98  
LIT, Wheel & Surtax Distributions - \$600,702.62

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to approve the claims; seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

### **Department Reports:**

The only departments reporting to the Commissioners was EMS and Sheriff.

EMS asked permission to join forces with a new Collections Agency to boost their unpaid collections. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to join forces with Collection Agency, seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

The Sheriff Department presented a report to the Commissioners without question.

**Treasurer's Report** ending December 2020 was acknowledged by Commissioners.

**Clerk's Report** ending November 2020 was acknowledged by Commissioners.

### **Commissioners Old Business:**

**COVID 19 – Leave** – President Fleetwood proposed extension of the Family First Coronavirus Response Act since the federal leave guidelines expired on 12/31/2020. The leave is extended to any employee that has not used their 10 days for COVID related leave. Doctor's paperwork will be required to qualify for the leave. An employee is eligible to take leave for their own COVID sickness or for being quarantined due to exposure or the care of anyone living in their household that has contracted COVID. The extension will terminate on March 31, 2021. Anyone on COVID leave at the time of the policy termination will continue to be paid until the end of their 10 days. No new COVID or quarantine leaves on or after April 1, 2021 will be eligible for the paid COVID leave. Commissioners will continue to monitor the COVID situation and may make changes to the policy, if needed. The policy may be subject to change or early termination should the federal or state government issue subsequent regulations concerning COVID leave. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the extension of this COVID leave, seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

### **Gibson County Phase II COVID 19 Grants –Closeout Monitoring Documents**

Commissioner Key motioned to officially close out this grant, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Visitors and Tourism Appointments** Hanna Whitehead was appointed as the Ex-Officio Member to the Tourism Bureau by a motion from Commissioner Montgomery, seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

### **New Business:**

**County Attorney Contract** – This Contract presented is the same as the 2020 contract; without any questions, the contract was approved with a motion from Commissioner Key, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Motion to Recess the Commissioners Meeting for the Annual Finance Committee Meeting** - A motion to recess the Commissioner's Meeting was made by Commissioner Key, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote,

The Finance Committee met.

**Motion to Reconvene Commissioners' Meeting** A motion to reconvene the Commissioner's meeting was made by Commissioner Key, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Establish Road Bonding Committee:** Engineer Holden explained the purpose of this committee is to hear and oversee the needs of larger industry in Gibson County on road matters and bonds (requirements and releases). Gibson County Coal currently has some pressing matters. This commission is comprised of 3 members; it is necessary the County Engineer sit on this commission, as well as the County Attorney. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to appoint Commissioner Montgomery as the third member of the committee due to his prior employment/knowledge with the Highway Department, seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Equipment Purchase** – The County Highway Department requested permission to purchase a new grader and part's truck. The truck they wish to replace has over 300,000 miles on it. The grader purchase was pushed back in 2020 due to revenue drop with COVID. Two quotes were received on the grader; one used and one new. The County would like to use Sourcewell, which is a public agency that offers competitively solicited purchasing contracts for products and equipment to member agencies, so those members do not have to duplicate the solicitation process. The Grader they are reviewing for purchase is the same make and model as the County's other graders. They will be trading an older grader in for the new. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the purchase of both the grader and truck, however Commissioner Key, does not feel a new truck is necessary; she worries if funds are available for this item, as employee raises were not given in the 2021 budget. Superintendent Johnson advised Commissioner Key that he will take the new truck and move his truck, with a little over 20,000 miles, onto the part's truck. Commissioner Key feels January is a bad time to purchase a vehicle; she feels another truck is not necessary, nor is she aware of a new truck being on the replacement list. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to purchase the new John Deere Grader in the amount of \$219,184.55 (after \$30,000 allowance for the old grader trade-in). This new grader would be compatible with the County's grader fleet. The replacement pricing is at or below the federal database pricing. With the motion on the table to purchase this new grader, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Byron Sanders - County's Representative to Review Pre-Design Work for the Jail Project**  
Commissioner Fleetwood advised everyone that the County has 6 Engineering Firms vying for


this project. The County Council, represented by Councilman Stillwell, is recommending the Commissioners contract with Mr. Sanders to oversee the pre-design work on the jail project as Mr. Sanders has been involved with other local county's jail projects. He is aware of the County's needs, finances, and goals. They would like Mr. Sanders to use his expertise to vet these Engineering Firms. Mr. Sanders has been in contact with the County's Attorney representing the jail lawsuit; the Attorney feels Mr. Sanders is a good addition to the group and will be able to steer the County in the right direction and meet future deadlines. Commissioner Key was not aware of this change; she has concerns with Mr. Sanders' work in Posey County. She is very concerned that the interview process was not conducted. President Fleetwood explained that Mr. Sanders has made himself available to all Commissioners and Council; he feels certain Mr. Sanders could provide a statement of qualifications. Councilman Stillwell appreciated Commissioner Key's concern. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to follow the Council's suggestion to contract with Mr. Sanders as the County's Pre-Design Consultant of the Jail Project, seconded by President Fleetwood. Attorney Spindler conducted a roll call vote. President Fleetwood – Aye; Commissioner Montgomery – Aye; Commissioner Key – No, the motion passed on a 2-1 vote.


**Business Communication Solutions Agreements – Phone Equipment** – Attorney Spindler has reviewed the contract, which is a continuation of the 2020 contract for the Courthouse/Annex and a separate contract for the Highway Department. BCS is involved with the Courthouse Security as well as the Probation Building. Commissioner Key motioned to approve these two contracts, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

With no further business, Commissioner Key motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

Minutes from the January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting.

  
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Warren Fleetwood, President

  
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Kenneth Montgomery, Vice-President

  
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Mary B. Key, Commissioner

  
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ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor