

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Dennis Graves called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00 pm on September 14, 2023, at the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and Prayer was led by Morgan Henton. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Brian Vanblaricum, Present; Shawn Rose, Present; Travis Paddock, Present; Steve Schonert, Present; Cindy Given, Present.

Motion/Vote – Agenda

Cindy Given made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Travis Paddock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Information, Correspondence, Upcoming Meetings

Steve Schonert announced that the 708 will have a meeting September 20, 2023 at 12pm.

Open

The Jasper County Health Department employees were in attendance to discuss the need for more space and better security. They currently have 4 full time counselors and need room for 3-4 more. Steve Schonert explained that there are ARPA funds set aside for Public Health and the 708 committee has been looking into different buildings and speaking with landlords.

Motion/Vote – Consent Agenda

Travis Paddock made a motion to approve all items under the consent agenda. Brian Vanblaricum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Items approved were the minutes from the August 10, 2023 County Board Meeting as well as the Road and Bridge minutes from September 7, 2023; County Officer reports; County employee health/life insurance renewal; IDOT Resolution for Anticipation of Bridge Funds for Olney Township; Drainage Structure Joint Project No. 2023 for Claremont Township, Decker Township and Denver Township.

Motion/Vote – Finance Committee

Finance Chair discussed claims. The finance committee had 2 claims that they needed more information on. They felt one was a duplicate that accidentally was entered twice. Steve Schonert made a motion to approve all claims minus the two in question, Morgan Henton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Andrew Hires stated that the Sheriff's Office received forfeiture money and he discussed solving the radio problems with the money. He is also meeting with the City of Olney to try and fix issues with the radio system.

States Attorney's Report

States Attorney John Clark discussed the Safe T Act that will go into effect next week. No cash bond.

Animal Control

Andrea stated that she received the keys to the new Animal Control building. She also stated that she has an influx of dogs at the moment. She just took seven new dogs into rescue from a repeat offender outside of City limits and she feels that the County should have a county wide ordinance limiting the number of animals a person can have. Sheriff Hires thinks there would be heavy push back from rural dog owners if a county wide ordinance was created.

Highway Business

County Engineer Dan Colwell discussed improvements to Prairieton Road. The company would like to start stockpiling the rock this winter to get ready for the 2-mile project. They can give Claremont a better price if they are able to stockpile the rock. Dennis Graves and Steve Schonert both stated that they feel that would be fine.

Board Committee Reports

Shelly Herman with RCDC stated that the TJ Maxx project is still moving forward. She also stated that the Grant writer has been working with Steve Schonert and Andrea Edwards for Animal Control.

IT Business

Morgan Henton feels that there are some shortfalls regarding the County's current IT provider. The IT committee will meet soon to discuss this further.

Old Business

Steve Schonert stated there is no new updates with ARPA.

New Business

Nothing to discuss.

Motion/Vote – Executive Session

Travis Paddock made a motion to enter Executive Session. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The board entered Executive Session at 7:23pm.

Motion/Vote – Return to Open Session

Brian Vanblaricum made a motion to return to Open Session. Travis Paddock seconded the motion. The board re-entered into Open Session at 7:30pm.

Motion/Vote

Steve Schonert made a motion to accept Milano and Grunloh's bid for EJ Water Improvement Grant. Travis Paddock seconded the motion.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Cindy Given and seconded by Morgan Henton. The meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Dennis Graves
County Board Chairman

