

Minutes

PRESENT: Commissioner Harvell, Commissioner Carlton, Commissioner Brann

The meeting was held via: Zoom

Franklin County Commissioners' Meeting

October 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Harvell at 3:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Audience (Present): Jake Nichols, Nathan Hiltz, Doug Hiltz, Robert Lightbody, Fenwick Fowler, Jim Andrews, Claire Andres, Sarah Caton, Charlies Woodworth, Richard Morton, Donna Perry, Mt. Blue T.V., Amy Bernard, Tiffany Baker, Jamie Sullivan, and Brenda Bittle.

Audience (Zoom): Brad Timberlake, Calderwood Engineering, Jim Desjardins.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Consultation with legal counsel 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) – Legal – Motion to enter Executive Session - Consultation with legal counsel 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) – Legal at 3:33 p.m.: Bob/Terry (3/0). Motion to exit Executive Session - Consultation with legal counsel 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) – Legal at 4:50 p.m.: Bob/Terry (3/0)

- 1. APPOINTMENTS: Phillips Area Micro Loan Committee Appointment – Motion to appoint Ginni Robie as a member of the Phillips Area Micro Loan Committee Bob/Terry (3/0)**

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Clerk's Report - Motion to accept the Clerk's Report: Terry/Bob (3/0)**
- 2. Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept the Treasurer Report: Bob/Lance (3/0)**
- 3. UT Road Bids – We received bids from Harris Kubricky, LLC regarding the grading and shoulder restoration – Reeds Mill Road and the shoulder grading and ditch restoration – West Freeman Road. Upon further review and discussions, the Road Supervisor reached out to local contractors, J.R. Nune & Sons Excavation, Jordan Excavation and Fenwick Construction, LLC for quotes. Fenwick Construction indicated that they could do the Reeds Mill Road shoulder gravel work this fall for \$97,000 with crushed concrete or \$77,800 using “our good packing 3”. Fenwick Construction was not able to commit to the work required on the West Freeman due to the timing. Motion to reject bids from Harris Kubricky, LLC: Bob/Terry (3/0). Motion to contract with Fenwick Construction for the Reeds Mill Road work for \$77,800 using the 3” gravel: Bob/Terry (3/0)**
- 4. Post Authorization – USDA Request for Obligation of Funds – The County received a Letter of Conditions for a Community Facility Grant for Construction of the Emergency Operations Center located at County Way on September 20, 2024 requesting that we sign and return the Letter of Intent along with the Request for Obligation of Funds within ten (10) days if we want the USDA to further consider our application. A motion was made for Chairman Harvell to sign documents with respect to the obligation of funds from the USDA, however this letter came requesting Amy Bernard's signature. In order to avoid a**

delay with the funds, Amy signed the Letter of Intent on behalf of the County. **Motion for Post Authorization for County Administrator to sign the Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions from USDA: Terry/Bob (3/0)**

5. **Review of Reeds Mill Road Bridge from Calderwood Engineering** – A discussion was had regarding the Superstructure Rehabilitation or Superstructure Replacement of the Reeds Mill Road Bridge. The Superstructure Rehabilitation is approximately \$160,000 less than the Superstructure Replacement but will be more likely cost more to achieve the 75 year life span due the need for repainting of the structure in thirty years and inflation. **Motion to contract with Calderwood Engineering for the Superstructure Replacement in the amount of \$1,032,000: Bob/Lance (3/0).**
6. **Policy Prohibiting Pets in the Workplace** – The purpose of this policy is to ensure a safe, clean and productive workplace for all employees. The County recognizes the benefits of having pets in the workplace, however, the liability that comes with the privilege outweighs the benefits. Jim Andrews indicated that he understands the policy, however, he is asking for an exception for the DA's Office to allow dogs for support for victims and witnesses on an as needed basis. **Motion to adopt Policy Prohibiting Pets in the Workplace: Bob/Terry (No Vote). Motion to withdraw Motion to adopt Policy Prohibiting Pets in the Workplace: Bob/Terry (3/0). Motion to table matter: Lance/Bob (3/0)**
7. **Commissioner Meeting – Discuss Meeting Dates – The Commissioner's set the next few meeting dates as follows: October 24, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., November 12, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., and November 19, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.**

OLD BUSINESS:

None

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. **ARPA Update** – There are approximately \$700,000 of non-committed ARPA funds available. We received 16 applications requesting funding in the amount of \$1,196,381.38.
2. **Jail Expansion** – 3 bids were received for the medical expansion at the Detention Center. The bids received came in at 3 times more than what was anticipated. We had set aside \$250,000 in ARPA Funds. \$168,000 in additional ARPA funds are to be used to help fund this project if approved. Sue indicated that she would bring the full funding proposal to the next meeting. **Motion to accept the lowest bidder, E.J. Perry in the amount of \$698,798 for the medical expansion project at the jail: Bob/Terry (3/0).**
3. **Update of Opioid Settlement Committee** – The Opioid Committee Members (Tom Saviello, LeeAnna Lavioe, Stacy Austin, Ryan Close, Bob Carlton, Sue Pratt, facilitator and Jamie Sullivan, note taker) met on October 7, 2024. They reviewed and revised the Bylaw, Application and Rubric. They are requesting the Applicant to resubmit their application using the new form once it has been revised. The next meeting is December 2, 2024.

WARRANTS: AP, UT, and Payroll – Motion to sign Warrants: Terry/Bob (3/0)

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 5:21 p.m.: Bob/Terry (3/0)

A recording is available for this meeting.

Bob Calk

Terry Brann

[Signature]

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: Amy L B, CLERK