

Minutes of  
Jackson County Commissioners  
April 7, 2015  
6:00 PM

Present: Commissioner Jerry Hounshel, Commissioner Matt Reedy & Commissioner Tom Joray  
Absent: All Present

Commissioner Jerry Hounshel called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a silent prayer observed.

Commissioner Matt Reedy made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2015 Commissioner Meeting. Commissioner Tom Joray seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve the payroll of March 20, 2015 & April 3, 2015 in the amount of \$707,016.05, and Claims for April 7, 2015 which included electronic checks in the amount of \$1,974,107.68. Commissioner Joray seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

**Reports from other Committees:** Commissioner Hounshel stated the the Fair Board met on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and that everything seems to be on track for the 2015 fair. Hounshel also stated that discussion was held regarding improvements that will be made once funds become available.

**End of Reports from other committees.**

Highway Supervisor, Warren Martin then came before Commissioners with recommendations regarding 2015 Paving bids and the 2015 Truck bids that were opened at the March 17, 2015 meeting.

Paving – Martin’s recommendation was to accept Dave O’Mara Contracting for all projects.

Commissioner Reedy made a motion to follow Martins recommendation and accept bids received from Dave O’Mara Contracting for 2015 paving projects. Commissioner Joray seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Martin then presented paperwork to be signed including the Contract for projects, an Acceptance letter and a Notice of Award. Commissioners signed these documents.

Truck – Martin’s recommendation was to accept JX Peterbilt bids for purchasing both trucks and snow equipment (which is provided by Clark Equipment). The cost for both trucks is \$265,878.00.

Commissioner Joray made a motion to accept Martin’s recommendation. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Morris Tippin, representing Friends of the Medora Covered Bridge, came before the Commissioners asking for approval to use the bridge on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 for a 6:30 pm dinner on the bridge. Tippin informed Commissioners that in 2014, 194 were served at the dinner. This year, the goal is to seat 300 people for the dinner. Tippin stated he has already provided a Certificate of Liability to the Jackson County Auditor. Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Joray seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Carl Shake, who had asked to be on the agenda was not present for the meeting.

Lloyd and Rita Kerkhof, Mr and Mrs Jack Newkirk & Scott and Monica Stuck spoke to Commissioners in regards to the paving concern at Martha’s Vineyard. Mr. Kerkhof presented a petition that was signed by 29 homeowners of Martha’s Vineyard. The petition was in regards to the county completing the paving issue or getting the developer to complete the paving problem. Mr. Kerkhof reminded the Commissioners that county taxes had been paid by the homeowners every year and felt this problem should resolved since this has been unresolved for 9 years. Highway Supervisor Martin explained that tax dollars received from property tax collections are not used for paving. The Commissioners, Highway

Supervisor Martin and County Attorney Susan Bevers discussed the condition of the subbase, the asphalt and the conversations that have already occurred with the developer. Attorney Bevers explained that the county has not accepted the roads in this development and that the developer has had his letter of credit expire and cannot get a new one issued. Commissioner Joray addressed the present homeowners stating that the commissioners understand their concern and that the commissioners are also concerned with the issue. He also stated that there are ongoing discussions with the developer and will continue so that a solution can be found for this problem. Commissioner Joray requested a representative from the home owners association so that the Commissioners can keep in contact.

Jim Wayman then came before Commissioners asking for a dedication of Right of Way for Shutters Minor Subdivision, 975 E north of CR 400 N. This is in addition to a previously accepted Right of Way for this subdivision. Commissioner Joray made the motion to accept the additional Right of Way, Commissioner Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Darlene Butt, representing Brownstown Main Street, came before Commissioners to ask for approval to use the courthouse and lawn on Saturday April 25, 2015 for the Arts Fest. Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Joray seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Commissioners advised her to provide a Certificate of Liability to the County Auditor.

Commissioner Reedy then made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Jackson County Visitor Center Board of Arann Banks as the Director of the Jackson County Visitors Center. Commissioner Joray seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Warren Martin then came before Commissioner in regards to the following issues:

1. Presented the Highway Annual Operating Report for signature. Commissioners had been given this report at the last meeting for review. Commissioners signed the report.
2. Road damage that has been done with recent logging at Black Swan Lake. Martin suggests putting an ordinance in place requiring permits to be granted before logging any areas in the county. This would help the county's position when damage is done to the roads.
3. The punch list for Bridge 228 (Rockford) – Pre Final Inspection, was presented.
4. Marting stated that the Shieldstown bridge will be done the summer of 2015 with a contract finish date of July 2016.
5. Martin stated that currently the Highway Dept is waiting on \$153,000 in reimbursements from the state regarding 80/20 bridge reimbursement.

Commissioner Hounshel stated that the Heating and Air System in the Plan Commission office is going out and needs replaced. Hounshel stated that a quote has been received from First Choice Heating and Cooling for \$3,650.00, for the unit and installation. Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve replacement of the unit by First Choice Heating and Cooling. Commissioner Joray seconded. Two yes votes, motion carried. Commissioner Hounshel abstained due to family conflict with the company.

Sheriff Mike Carothers presented the March 2015 Jail Report, Meal Expenditure Report and Dog Detention Report.

Commissioner Hounshel stated that the commissioners need to look for a replacement for Gary Myers on the Jackson County Ambulance Authority Board. Myers served as the representative from Schneck Medical Center and no longer qualifies for the board appointment.

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard, discussed the Greatest Loser Contest that he presented to commissioners at the last meeting. Hubbard stated he has had 17 employees call with interest. After

discussion, Commissioner Joray made a motion for \$10,000 to be put toward this project if two teams could be put together. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Reedy stated that the Juvenile Home is looking into a work release program.

Auditor, Kathy Hohenstreiter informed the Commissioners that three (3) properties have been removed from the April 15<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Certificate Sale. Two (2) properties were redeemed and the other property was removed per commissioner request.

Auditor Hohenstreiter then informed the Commissioners that a title for a 2002 4WD Jeep needs to be signed to allow for trade in. This is for Community Corrections, who received approval at the Dec 16, 2014 meeting for the trade in of this vehicle toward a Dodge Charger. Commissioner Hounshel signed the title to allow for trade in.

Commissioners recessed until April 21st, 2015 at 9:30AM.

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Jerry Hounshel – President

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Matt Reedy

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Thomas M. Joray

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Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest