

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
July 25, 2024, 9:00 A.M.
Annex Building

Matt Sporleder, Shane Boswell, and Bob Wilhite were present. Matt opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Michelle with Animal Control is asking for a credit card limit increase from \$1000.00 to \$2500.00. Animal Control is paying spay and neuter fees with the credit card and \$1000.00 is not enough to pay for the fees. Matt asked if council approved the \$10,000 to assist with the pet adoption fees, and Michelle stated that she did not know. Matt asked if it was voted on and the Auditor replied that it had been tabled. Michelle said that she had only heard that 'they' wanted it to remain a kill facility. Shane asked if there was any other way to pay them. Shane made a motion to approve the request of a credit card limit increase to \$2500.00, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Michelle also has discussed with the sheriff the possibility of moving the Animal Control officers under the sheriff's department. Michelle is hoping for the commissioners blessing to make that transition. Matt said that he thinks the decision needs to be tabled so that the commissioners have more time to investigate. Shane said that he agrees also. Shane made a motion to table until the next meeting, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The county attorney asked Michelle to email him what she is proposing so that he can investigate further.

Sue Lamborn with Thrive Alliance is asking for their match funding in the amount of \$15,000.00. In 2023-24 Thrive Alliance used the Jennings County funds to leverage; \$830,941 in direct services, \$37,968 in non-taxable stipends for 13 foster grandparents, 8,344 home delivered meals, and 2,589 meals served at congregate meal sites. In addition to this direct investment, Thrive Alliance employed eight Jennings County residents. Thrive Alliance's goal is to provide more complete home-based support services for clients. Shane asked what the county gave them last year. Matt said he thought the county split the total with the Senior Center, but we did not do that last year. It is in the 2025 budget for \$7500.00. Matt said that he got a phone call from one of the council members and they said that the commissioners need to quit giving all the county's money away. Matt said with the recent developments that he is sending any budget request will be sent directly to the council. Shane made a motion to send Sue to the council to request the money, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Human Resources submitted multiple travel requests. The first one is for Shana Richmond and Cory Walker to attend a skills workshop. The expenses for this will be paid from the Probation User Fees. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The second travel request is from Andrea Sparkman and Ginny Brooks, (Prosecutors office) to attend a child support workshop. The expenses for this training will be paid by the Prosecutors Incentive Fund. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The last travel request is from Mary Kilgore (Recorder) to attend a Southern District meeting, and this will be paid from the Recorder training budget. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

In old business, The Dunlap contract renewal was tabled in a prior meeting. The county attorney reviewed the contract, and it looks good to him. Shane made a motion to approve the contract for another year, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

In review of the sheriff's health contract, there were changes that needed to be made. The contract needs to be in the commissioner's name, not the sheriff's department. The county attorney also said that MTA (Medical Team Administrator) needs to be spelled out on the contract. He has no problem approving the contract with these changes made. The sheriff said that the contract needs to be signed today because they will start this contract on August 1, 2024. Shane delegated power to the sheriff to sign the contract once the changes are made. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sheriff Freeman also states that the jail has a contract with Kellwell. Kellwell can contract a person instead of the county employing a full time cook. The sheriff said that this would save money. He is still thinking about this and wanted to give the commissioners a heads up. The county attorney will need to see the contract first.

Vickie McDaniel lives on Ascot Court in CSL and has lived there since 1988. Vickie is requesting that the commissioners pave this road. Vickie said there are many potholes in the road and her neighbor is trying to repair the potholes himself. There are five homes in the turnaround. Matt said that 3 miles of road in CSL would be paved yearly. The recommendation comes from Mike Miller on which ones need paved first. Vickie said that the new homes that are being built in CSL, and the roads are being paved. Vickie said she is blowing in the wind! The main roads are getting paved first and Ascot Circle is a small cul-de-sac with 5 lots. Shane said that the Auditor's office should not be taking these calls and to send them to Sherri at the highway.

Maintenance informed the commissioners that the carpet in the Annex would be started on July 30.

Shane asked if the sheriff's department would supervise the animal control workers if they were placed under the sheriff? Matt asked where the Animal Control Board would fall into play if Animal Control were placed under the sheriff. The Animal Control Board would be obsolete. The sheriff said that he doesn't need a board. Shane said that the people on the Animal Control Board are very passionate about their positions. Kenny said that he would supervise the Animal Control Officers training and qualifications.

Bob made a motion to approve prior meeting minutes, Shane seconded the motion, Matt was not in attendance to approve the minutes.

Bob made a motion to sign payroll and claims, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Matt asked Sherri to send someone to Ascot Court to review the condition of the road. Sherri acknowledged Matt's request.

Bob made a motion to adjourn; Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sarah Abel

Sarah J. Abel, Auditor

Bob Wilhite

Bob Wilhite

Matt Sporleder

Matt Sporleder, President

Shane Boswell

Shane Boswell