

## JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING

May 21, 2026 @ 9:00AM

ANNEX BUILDING

Shane Boswell, Alex Zimmerman, and Charlie St. John were present. Shane opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

HR presented a travel request for Chasity Gerkin to attend the Rise 26 training in Nashville, TN. Travel expenses will be paid from Circuit Probation training. Charlie made a motion to approve, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The next travel request is for Jim Troiani, Brian Belding, Drew Dickerson, and Donna Marsh to attend the IPAC summer conference. The expenses will be paid by the county general fund due to it being a state-called conference. Charlie motioned to approve the request, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

In the last meeting policies 303 - vacation, 307-sick leave, and 315- personal days were briefly discussed, as well as changing the name of the Kronos time keeping system. An ordinance has been created to reflect the change of the time keeping system as well as vacation, sick leave, and personal days being used in minute-to-minute increments. Shane made a motion to adopt the changes; Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

HR presents two types of consulting services, from Wagner Irwin & Scheele. One is for a personal policy update. The quote is in the range of \$16,840 to \$19,600, plus expenses. The estimated fees include three in-person meetings to review the policy and one in-person training session with department heads. The second quote is for human resource consulting services. This will be billed on an hourly basis, as needed, plus travel expenses. Alex said “ WIS is great to work with, and I am not the knower of all things when it comes to employment law”. Shane said that he hates to spend that kind of money, but the employee handbook needs redone! Charlie made a motion to allow Nicci to move forward with contingent on the council finding the funding. Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The commissioner signs the consultant agreement and will wait to sign the contract until after the council meeting.

Seth Jones, Park Director, has come to ask commissioners to release funds from the 2024 Go Bond for gravel and Eco Lake water treatment. There is \$2000.00 allocated for gravel and \$10,000.00 for water treatment. Charlie made a motion to approve, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Whitney with ARA brings the invoice for grant administration and environmental review services via the contract approved last month. HUD guidelines must be followed so there are different requirements for completing the paperwork. So far twelve homeowners have been

income verified. The inspection process is ready to be started. The invoice will be paid for the Opioid settlement funds designated for abatement. Charlie made a motion to approve paying the invoice in the amount of \$60,000.00. Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

The Auditor tells the commissioners that there is a person interested in renting the community building. This person wants to bring 70-90 campers/RV's/Horse Trailers for camping. Charlie made a motion to deny the request, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

There was some discussion of the speed limit on base road, sand creek bridge. Charlie will investigate the speed limit of 45 and see if it can be dropped to 30. Shane said that it will be looked at and it will come back to the next meeting.

Tim Hunt asked the commissioners if they had any questions or concerns about the pay voucher that was submitted earlier in the week. Last year the commissioners signed a retainer to be able to work on the CCMG. Tim has two copies of the contract and additionally LTAP has required some additional QAQC steps and processes for a pavement asset management plan update. The plan that was submitted in the past by commissioners would not be approved due to these changes. The fee to cover this is included in the contract. Tim said that he wants the commissioners to look over it and see if they have questions to let him know.

Tim states that the nine roads that have been completed are on the pay voucher.

Brett Seals lives at 4980 W Co Rd 750 S. This is a dead-end road and when it rains heavily, the bridge washes out and they are stranded. Brett states that this has caused multiple problems. He can not get to work on time, bent rims, and damaged exhaust. Tony Gudgel lives down the road and has spoken to the commissioners. Charlie said that they have quotes on the bridge and are working on it. Brett said he is concerned about medical emergencies when the road is flooded. Brett has a bill where he had to replace his exhaust and asked about getting paid back. Charlie instructed him to go to the Auditors office and fill out a Tort Claim.

Charlie made a motion to approve payroll & claims, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Charlie made a motion to approve meeting minutes, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 9:38 am, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

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Sarah J. Abel, Auditor

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Charlie St. John

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Matt Sporleder, President

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Shane Boswell