

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting

Clark County

March 18, 2022

The regular meeting of the County Board met March 18, 2022 at 8:00 A.M. and was called to Order by Chairman Rex Goble. County Clerk Laura Lee led the pledge of allegiance. Jim Bolin led the meeting with a prayer.

ROLL CALL	8:00 A.M.
Rex Goble	District #1
Brandon Burkybile	District #2
Jim Bolin	District #3
Randal Stephens	District #4
Susan Guinnip	District #5
Todd Kuhn	District #6 via phone
Mike Parsons	District #7

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Susan Guinnip to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2022 Special Ambulance meeting and the February 18, 2022 regular Board Meeting. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Randy Stephens to approve the General Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye" with the exception of Jim Bolin who abstained. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Brandon Burkybile to approve the County Highway Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye" with the exception of Jim Bolin who abstained. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

County Highway Engineer, Dallas Richardson, proceeded through his agenda. The first item is the HSIP Clarksville Rd / Angling Rd. He is trying to finalize getting all unit prices put together. These are miscellaneous items that he did not get bids for. Dallas is asking for the board to accept the Resolution accepting Material Quotes.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Jim Bolin to approve the Resolution to accept quotations for materials for section #17-00277-00-GR, HSIP Project. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

The second resolution is accepting bids for the culverts for the HSIP Clarksville Rd / Angling Rd project.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Brandon Burkybile to approve the Resolution to accept Bids for Section #17-00277-00-GR, HSIP Project. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

The Hogue Town – 400th Rd Project, IDOT requested that they would push through the review quicker if we would split the Day Labor contract out into a separate set of plans so it could be bid

separately. This is an addendum to split those plans into 2 separate plans.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to approve the Resolution to execute the Engineering Services Agreement Addendum for the additional plan set for Section#21-00272-01-RS, Hoguetown Road. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

Chad Thompson and Phil Romano with ENGIE were present to answer any questions regarding The River Ferry Solar Farm, which will be in the Darwin / York area toward the river. Dallas is presenting the road use agreement, which is for our protection for the roads that they will be using. A few changes have been made on the agreement. Mainly what has been changed is that it was changed to a Surety Bond as the financial assurance now, rather than a letter of credit. Also, a couple of names have been added to the contact list. The townships of Darwin and York will have to approve this road use agreement as well. A pre-construction inventory of all the roads affected by the solar farm will be conducted by a third party consultant. They will check bridges, structures and culverts. An inventory and condition rating will be completed on them as well. If there are any super loads, all structures checked to see if anything additionally needs to be done. Clerk Lee asked when they were going to go full tilt. Once the road use agreement is in place, ENGIE will start building a switch yard pad with Fisher Excavating. That will mostly be hauling gravel from the quarry in Darwin or one closer to Marshall and will take about 2 months. Once that is done the project does not get ramped back up until about this time next year. They are expecting to receive the pre-construction inventory within the next few weeks. Dallas recommends that the board approves the road use agreement for the county. Darwin Township commissioner, John Smith has contacted TORMA to have them look at it. York Township commissioner Ben Morgan has not had a chance to read thru the agreement yet. Dallas recommends that the board approve it pending their approval.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Mike Parsons to approve the Resolution Road Use Agreement based on township approval. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

The 2022 MFT Maintenance had their rock letting. There are a few quotes along with it. Dallas is asking to accept the bids and quotes on this resolution.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Brandon Burkybile voting to approve the Resolution to accept low bids and quotes for the 2022 MFT Maintenance. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Randy Stephens to accept all Office Reports for February 2022. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See attached).

New Business:

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Brandon Burkybile to change the Board Meeting for next month to April 14th, 2022 (because of Good Friday Holiday) The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Tony Trimble with Clark County Farm Bureau introduced Brad Daugherty and Lindsey Vogt, who is

the new assistant manager. Tony is presenting the Pro Ag Resolution. He said it is just a statement that defines the economic impact that agriculture provides to Clark County. It is just stating that we as a county support agriculture and the importance of it. It talks about all the taxable income generated by agriculture. It is saying that we support agriculture and we recognize what agriculture is doing in the county.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to approve Pro Ag Resolution. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See attached).

The next item on the agenda is approving a Wind Farm Ordinance. Chairman Goble asked if there were any questions on the ordinance and then asked State's Attorney Hutson his thoughts regarding it. Hutson stated that it is the ordinance that was sent out by Farm Bureau. Basically, it allows the County to approve the site of a Wind Farm. Board member Burkybile felt that "more teeth" is needed to be added with the wind farm company having cash in the deal, not just bonds. The cost of remediation could be significantly more at that time and to re-visit the plan every so many years. Board member Bolin said that the size of the Wind Farm could impact the cost. Engineer Richardson was asking for clarification if this ordinance refers to the landowners or the County. There is a statute that pertains to wind farms whereas the County has a say in where the wind farms can be set up. It does not apply to solar farms. The Board decided to table this issue until next month.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Mike Parsons to appoint Nora Swalls to replace Harley Bennett on the Rides Mass Transit Board. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See attached).

Clerk Lee reported that the American Fiscal Recovery Funds committee met and had estimates for a project at the jail and equipment for the ambulances. As we know expenses are going up on materials. This is something that would improve the jail. For example, this would provide separation for sick inmates and to separate female inmates from male inmates. Susan Guinnip asked if the outdoor recreation area is around the jail. County Clerk Laura Lee told her that it is and that they have not been able to go outside for over a year now. Chairman Goble said in order to use the American Rescue funds there needs to be an Ordinance to be passed at the Board meeting.

Motion by Randy Stephens and second by Mike Parsons to approve Ordinance to upgrade the Jail to allow for Separation of Inmates and Create a Secure Outdoor Area Using American Rescue Plan Act Funds. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See attached).

Chairman Rex Goble said that there needs to be an ordinance in place to upgrade Equipment and Ventilation Systems in Ambulances using the American Rescue Plan. Jason Wimbley stated they currently do not have ventilators.

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Susan Guinnip to approve Ordinance to Upgrade Equipment and Ventilation Systems in Ambulances, Using American Rescue Plan Act Funds. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See attached).

Public Comments:

Warren LeFever gave all board members a paper on sales tax figures. Warren reported that the County Sheriff got an email from the county auditor saying that the .01 cent sales tax does not cover

the sheriff's jail and operation costs, therefore, the County would have to dip into the general fund to totally pay for department cost. LeFever continued with that if you put a .25 percent sales tax item down, as a starter, it does not mean that you are going to stop property taxes from rising. The starter only covers the initial expenses, and then you just keep on raising property taxes. LeFever also reported that the City of Marshall currently pays on the jail sales tax 81% of the county .01 cent sales tax. That is the City of Marshall, not the Marshall Fire District. The Marshall Fire District probably got another 3 or 4 percent, he was not sure of that. Warren said he has talked to several people and he does not think the quarter percent will fly if you put it in a referendum. For the residents in Marshall Township, it amounts to a double tax. LeFever said that Marshall already pays for a full-time ambulance system with our property tax. Warren just wanted everyone to be aware of this, because it could be a problem. Chairman Rex Goble mentioned that the rest of the county pays for an ambulance service with property taxes too. Rex said his remedy was that when we met with the ambulance board of the fire department, was that if we go together, they would eliminate their tax for ambulance and just let us tax at the county rate. Goble said he does not think the two services will merge at this time. Goble said that if they do merge, a five-member board would be created for the ambulance district only, not the fire district. Susan Guinnip asked Warren if the city tax was included in the county tax. LeFever clarified that these are 2 different taxing bodies and are not combined. Jim Bolin stated that if we do a county wide .25% tax, then that makes it to be a double tax on the city of Marshall residents because the property tax has been increased and then a potential public safety tax increase. Guinnip asked is it worth that .25% to save someone life. Susan said that we have to do something. Rex Goble said that if we would join with Marshall, we would eliminate one of the taxes. The City would quit levying for the ambulance and let the County levy your people at the county rate. Brandon Burkybile stated that at the last meeting they were not going to go ahead with the quarter percent and see how we do. We can always go back to it, if we had too. Tony Trimble commented that he lives in Jasper County and works in Clark County. He pays property tax for ambulance service in Jasper County, but if he would get sick, or needs an ambulance while working in Clark County, he feels that he has contributed to the service. He says we need to look at that, that people not from Marshall do come and shop here. Dave Taylor voiced his concerns about the perception of double taxation on property taxes. If the Marshall ambulance does not agree the taxes stay the same as far as Marshall People are concerned.

Old Business: Approve Referendum for Public Safety Tax Increase was tabled. Rex talked with Carol Holbert our county auditor. He wants to ear mark \$250,000 to go toward ambulance. Carol thought that was doable.

Appointments:

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Jim Bolin to reappoint the following to the Farmland assessment Board: John Yeley, Ron Simonton and Dave Gross. This is a 2-year term and will expire on 4/1/2024. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Jim Bolin to reappoint William Garver to the Casey Fire Protection District Board. This is a 3-year term and will expire on 4/30/2025. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Old Business Continued:

Todd Kuhn via phone asked that with the 911 Union deals going on, he is wondering why the county is doing negotiations for the 911 Board when they have never done that before. 911 does not get any property tax money. Kuhn is questioning why we are even getting involved in setting their wages? He

stated that it should be up to the 911 board, and not the county board. Jim Bolin said basically the main reason is continuity. If the 911 Board wants to give a raise to their employees at 4.25 % for the next 3 years in their contract, it automatically puts the County in a situation that with ICOPS and IRON Workers we have to follow suit or they can file a grievance against us. This would take us thru the whole scenario that we went thru a couple of years ago. Bolin agrees that 911 is a separate entity, but whatever you do reflects on the County Board. If 911 would do their negotiations with in the 36 months prior to other negotiations, the precedent you set will affect what the board does. The County is responsible for what goes on within the entities in the County. Bolin's concern that he voiced to Rex, is that if 911 is going to do their own negotiations, then they need to pick up the Iron Workers and ICOPS because it has to be able to flow or we are going to be fighting against each other. If there are 2 different boards, Jim says he sees conflicts. States Attorney Kyle Hutson said that the County was named the employer in the petition for the 911 employees to become a Union.

Executive Session: None

Committee Reports:

Jim Bolin reported that they went thru the IRON Workers Contract and got it passed. Bolin said that we had an executive session a couple months before that and Dallas relayed what he was faced with. They discussed different ways to get him back where they hoped. Jim felt like the board commissioned Rex and Jim to try to get the Iron Workers in play with where the ICOPS are. They are reasonably similar now. Mike Parsons said what he remembered from that meeting was, that we were going to talk to the labor attorney to see if it was possible to do that. Stephens remembers everything when Dallas spoke, but did not know that we were going to actively negotiate. Stephens was not against what happened, but felt like Mike. So, if you go to committee meetings, you need to report. Mike Parsons felt like he was kind of blindsided. Mike had a person come to him and tell him he had heard you are giving the highway department a raise. Mike told this person that he did not know about that. Bolin said that you have the right to vote no during the meeting when it was brought up. Bolin said that this needs to be brought up in an executive session. This way Jim and Rex are not giving up their bargaining tools in a public meeting. Mike Parsons is not against what was done. Parsons says something needs to be done. Something needs to be done with other things in the county pay wise. The employees in the court house need raises.

Brandon and Rex met with the Marshall Board. This was to let them know we are going to start transitioning to full time. Marshall Fire supported that idea. They want to see how we function for 6 months before they get in or get out. Brandon told them that at that time we are waiting on them to figure out if we are going to be in Casey or if we need to build a facility that makes it logistically friendly to serve the whole county. Marshall told them that they are going to stay like they are for a little while. Brandon said that we are probably at that point until we get going; we are going to stay in Casey and put trucks in Martinsville and West Union as we can staff them. Rex was thinking that we would have 2 full time crews in Casey and try to staff one in West Union with volunteers. Jim Bolin has a building that will work perfectly for the ambulance. The county would just be on a lease while using it. The building needs to have some work done to it. Hopefully, by August or September we will be able to move into it. Also, a coordinator will need to be hired and a few other people. What Rex told the committee Tuesday night was, we have 2 full time crews in Marshall and 2 full time crews in Casey to service the whole county. Rex also told Marshall that if they were going to stay over here, we are probably going to have to build in Martinsville. Then run our crews out of Martinsville to service the rest of the county. Jim Bolin added that he presented the building to Jason as a temporary solution until we can figure out what we will be doing and to figure out where the location would be. It is just a band aid for a place to go. Todd Kuhn asked if we had enough people to go full time and have a part time paramedic in West Union. Rex Goble said that right now they can man an

evening ambulance and most weekends. Susan mentioned that the board just kind of made a general agreement to go full time. At some time will we have to vote on? Rex stated that we just have to approve a full-time budget. Kyle said that we would have to change the current budget/ vote on that when next year budget comes up. Susan mentioned an article she had read about training kids for first responders. Brandon is working with the high school, that if we had full time crew, students could jump in and go on runs for training. Brandon has reached out to the guidance counselor at Casey, but has not heard back from them yet. Rex said the first step is to get the building. This way we can advertise and hire a full-time coordinator and at some time get a larger committee. Mike Parsons voiced his concern as to what Marshall is doing wrong? Why can they not get help? What make us think we are going to start a full-time ambulance service and do any better than them? Everywhere you look, people are having trouble keeping help. Mike does not know if we are fixing the problem, we are just spending money. Rex said what got Marshall financially in trouble from what he was told, is that they had a billing issue. They were not collecting for 6 months or more. Mike said that with not having a crew is not a financial problem. Goble said we don't know what happened there. Jason was just called early in the morning by 911 that there were in Marshall for that day and to be prepared, so Jason called Rex to see if he could call out a crew to post in Marshall for the day? Rex gave the ok. Rex said that with the numbers that Ben laid out to us at the meeting we are just going to break even. Randy asked that the numbers laid out here are what we will use to go forward? Rex said the equipment cost is on the high end. He talked to the County Auditor, Carol Holbert, about this and she finally agreed with him. The problem on our equipment and why it looks like money last year was that equipment was purchased using the Covid relief funds. That money went out as an expense, but never came back into the ambulances as income. We showed a deficit at the end of the year. Carol agreed with Rex. Carol said the Covid relief money is in the General Fund. Laurie said that happens with all our grants. Rex said that throws off all the numbers that Ben Lueken gave us. It shows us spending large numbers on equipment every year. If it had not been for the Covid money we would not have bought those items. Rex is glad we did buy the Lucas, and was able to do it. That is why Ben Lueken projected such high equipment expenses every year. Rex is thinking that with full time crews, they will be able to pick up transfers, and possibly increase income. Warren mentioned that one thing when you are talking about abolishing property taxes in both places and replace with a single one, because of the legal technicalities involved, we need to have somebody early on say what are the legal steps to accomplish when combining the 2 ambulances and property taxes into one. Rex said what he is thinking right now is that we need to fix our side. We are fixing our side, and then whenever Marshall decides what they are going to do, they can come to us and we can legally figure it out. Right now we have to fix our side. Brandon agrees with Mike that we are not fixing the problem hopefully this is a remedy to make it a little bit easier on everyone and staffing an ambulance. Mike Parsons voiced his concern about salaries. We projected a salary but it could cost quite a bit more than that. If you look around, it is a problem to keep help.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to approve Preceding Bills. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye" except for Todd Kuhn who abstained. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Mike Parsons to approve One Day and Mileage Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Mike Parsons that the meeting be adjourned until April 14, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. The meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jason Wimbley - Clark County Ambulance; Dallas Richardson - County Engineer;

Ami Shaw - Circuit Clerk; Laurie Lee -County Clerk; Loretta Nelson- Clerk's Office; Michelle Blankenship – Probation; Kim Kannmacher – Treasurer; Warren LeFever—Marshall City Alderman; Gary Strohm – Marshall Advocate; Dave Taylor; Lindsey Vogt; Tony Trimble; Brad Daugherty – Farm Bureau; Chad Thompson – ENGIE; Philip Romano – ENGIE.