

County Board  
April 14, 2016

The County Board of Jasper County met in regular session on Thursday, April 14, 2016. Members present were Miller, Fehrenbacher, Kerner, Leffler, Heltsley, Weber, Swick, Haskett, M. Smithenry, Hickox, J. Smithenry and Bierman.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by proclamation according to law by Sheriff Rick Britton. Sheriff Britton led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: Stephanie Westendorf representing E J Water appeared before the board. In March, E J Water honored Jasper County for the help with the funding for the IKE grant for the new water plant. No one could be present due to the meeting being held on the same day as the County Board meeting. Stephanie presented a very nice plaque to the County on behalf of the E J Water board members.

Miller moved to approve the agenda. J. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Fehrenbacher moved to enter into closed session. Weber seconded the motion at 7:35 pm. The motion carried on a roll call vote with Miller, Fehrenbacher, Kerner, Heltsley, Weber, Haskett, M. Smithenry, Hickox, J. Smithenry and Bierman voting yes. No votes were cast by Leffler and Swick.

The board entered open session at 7:48 pm.

Committee reports:

The Road and Bridge Committee met on April 11. The Committee discussed compensation for Dave Yaw, who was promoted to foreman. The department now needs to hire a new person to replace Yaw. Kerner moved to appoint David Yaw as Foreman of the County Highway Department with full foreman pay and back pay since February 29, 2016. Hickox seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. M. Smithenry moved to hire a replacement for Yaw. Fehrenbacher seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. J. Smithenry moved to approve the engineering agreement for the County Pavement Preservation Project. Kerner seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. Kerner moved to approve the bridge aid petition for Grandville Township. Hickox seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

The Sheriff's Committee met on March 30. Discussion was held on increasing the part time employees pay. Correctional Officers and Dispatchers would be increased from \$10 per hour to \$12 per hour without training and \$13 per hour if the employee is trained. J. Smithenry moved to approve the pay increases. Kerner seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes, save Bierman who voted no. Bierman commented the no vote was due to County policy. This type of salary

increase has traditionally gone before the Finance Committee. The Sheriff is looking to update 911 dispatch equipment. Bob's Hardware in Hidalgo gave the Sheriff's Department a donation for work on a theft case. The Sheriff would like to have a separate donation account to deposit funds like this to. Leffler moved to allow the donation account. J. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. The Sheriff discussed the deputy salaries. He would like to see the salaries of the deputies the same as the city officers. The Sheriff has hired two part time correctional officers. The 2006 Durango has been sold by sealed bids. The Ambulance Department has agreed to pay \$25,000 per year for dispatching services. M. Smithenry moved to approve the \$25,000 per year for dispatching services, to be paid monthly. Swick seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. Heltsley moved to have the County's attorney contact the Sheriff's Union attorney to revisit the last union proposal. Fehrenbacher seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with Miller, Fehrenbacher, Kerner, Leffler, Heltsley, Swick, M. Smithenry, Hickox and J. Smithenry voting yes. Weber, Bierman and Haskett voted no.

The Finance Committee met on April 11. They discussed the Sheriff's donation account and discussed the shared dispatch cost with the Ambulance and Sheriff's Departments. The County Coroner appeared before the committee and asked for a \$6,000 per year salary increase for the next term. The First Financial Bank has offered a commercial credit card to county office holders for use in their departments. Hickox moved to allow the department heads to apply for the credit card if so desired. M. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. Kerner moved to increase the salary of the Coroner from \$12,000 per year to \$18,000 per year for the next term. Heltsley seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes. The Circuit Clerk will hire part time help for the summer. The County Clerk needs to purchase 12 optical scan voting machines and 4 memory cards. The total cost will be \$8,420.00. Weber moved to allow the purchase. Swick seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes. Daniel Alzate's name needs to be added to petty cash checks due to banking requirements.

The Building Committee met on April 7. The North doors at the County Office Building need to be repaired. Quality Glass will do the work. The jury room in the courthouse is repaired. Jesse will repair the table in that room. The Sheriff's office needs a new ceiling fan. The walls in the Probation Department are wet again. Swick will have a contractor give an estimate for those repairs. The North doors at the County Office Building have been left unlocked two times in the past 2 weeks. The City Police will have a call list so the same person is not called to come and lock up each time this happens. The Courthouse roof will be checked for needed repairs by Martinsville Roofing Company. Miller moved to put new light fixtures up in the Probation Department and move the old fixtures to the jury room. M. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. Leffler moved to purchase the floor scrubber from Jesse Watkins at a cost of \$200. Swick seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. The Courtroom needs a floor mat at the table in front of the judge. This will be ordered.

The Ambulance Committee met on April 6. They discussed part time wages for paramedics and EMT's. It was decided to raise paramedics from \$12.50 to \$15.00 and EMT's from \$9.50 to \$11 and .05 cents per hour for each year of experience. Kerner moved to approve the wage increase. Heltsley seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with 11 yes votes. Bierman voted no and explained the no vote was due to policy. Wage increases are normally taken before the Finance Committee and this matter was not. The new department policies are ready for approval. Heltsley moved to approve the handbook. M. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. Unit 2357 is being repaired due to an accident.

The Animal Control report is in the Board packet.

JEDI met on April 5. The group toured Alliance Tractor.

The Health Department report is in the board packet.

Haskett moved to approve the County Clerk's report. M. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Weber moved to approve the appointment of Paul Johnson and Brian Ochs as Wade Fire Trustees for a 3 year term. M. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

J. Smithenry moved to approve Ken Larimore's attendance at the Enterprise Zone Conference in May at a cost of \$700. Leffler seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

The State's Attorney has prepared a delinquent accounts ordinance to help departments collect late bills. The Health Department has 100 to 150 late bills. This is too large of an amount for the State's Attorney to open small claims to collect and too costly to hire a collection agency. Swick moved to approve the ordinance. Heltsley seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

M. Smithenry moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Weber seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Fehrenbacher moved to enter closed session at 8:40 pm. Swick seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes. The board was back in open session at 9:10 pm.

Haskett moved to adopt an addendum to the Personnel Policy concerning sick time applied to service time at retirement. The amount allowed to apply to service time is 120 days. The motion carried on a roll call vote with Miller, Fehrenbacher, Weber, Haskett, M. Smithenry, Hickox, J. Smithenry and Bierman voting yes. No votes were cast by Kerner, Leffler, Heltsley and Swick.

M. Smithenry moved to allow the claims. Swick seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Committee service claims are due in the County Clerk's office by the Board meeting in May.

Leffler moved to adjourn at 9:12 pm. J. Smithenry seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Linda Huth, Jasper County Clerk