

County Council Meeting
July 16th, 2019

Present: Aaron Benton, Todd Grundhoefer, Blake Bunner, David Gogel, Steve Haaff, Matt Knepper, Todd Ruxer, Attorney Andrew Foster, Auditor Heidi Greene

Meeting was called to order by President Blake Bunner at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Ruxer made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 18th, 2019, County Council meeting and Joint Insurance meeting. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Additional Appropriations

County General/Veterans Services

1000/Travel - \$2,000.00

VSO Meredith explains the travel fund for the 2019 budget is depleted. There are 12-15 veterans being transported on a regular basis. Benton made a motion to approve the \$2,000.00 out of County General Fund. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion was approved.

County General/Jail

1000/Prescriptions – \$58,000.00

Ann Garrett spoke on behalf of Kelli Reinke. The budget for 2019 was \$24,000.00. Because of overcrowding at the jail and the increase of medications a bill of \$31,197.27 has been accrued. The \$58,000.00 requested is to finish the year for prescriptions. Benton made a motion to approve the amount of \$13,000.00 out of county general. Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved.

County General/Coroner

1000/Autopsy - \$10,000.00

Coroner Gentry reports that the autopsy budget has been depleted. This year there has been a higher number of deaths than normal with many of these deaths an autopsy was required. Grundhoefer made a motion to approve the \$10,000.00 out of County General, Benton seconded the motion, motion approved.

County General-COIT-LIT/Assessor-Commissioners

1000/ Attorney Fees - \$252,701.00

McGinnis reports that this amount was previously approved but did not get advertised. This amount is for litigation through February in the Spencer County/AK Steel appeals. Benton made a motion to approve the \$252,701.00 out of County General-COIT-LIT, Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved.

County General-COIT-LIT/Assessor-Commissioners

1000/ Attorney Fees - \$48,557.00

McGinnis reports that this amount is for litigation fees through April 30th regarding the Spencer County/AK Steel appeals. Benton made a motion to approve the \$48,557.00 out of County General-COIT-LIT, Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved.

County General-COIT-LIT/ Commissioners

1000/ Courthouse Storm/Sanitary Water Separation - \$109,000.00

Ann Garrett spoke on behalf of the Commissioners. Commissioners contracted KovertHawkins regarding the storm/sanitary water separation. KovertHawkins has designed a plan for the water removal and will bid this process out to an individual contractor. The estimated cost of this project is \$109,000.00. Haaff made a motion to approve the \$109,000.00 out of County General-COIT-LIT, Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

County General-COIT-LIT/Commissioners

1000/ Luce Township Sewer - \$21,256.00

Ann Garrett spoke on behalf of the Commissioners. This request is to cover the Luce Township Sewer claim to be paid in December. The 1120-COIT account has been depleted. The request is for the amount of \$21,256.00 to be paid out of County General-COIT-LIT. Grundhoefer made a

motion to approve the **\$21,256.00** out of County General-COIT-LIT, Benton seconded the motion, motion approved.

Health Department - Grant

Emergencies Preparedness Projects - \$25,000.00

Etiene with the health department reports that the grant money will be used for a part-time Public Health Coordinator in preparedness for a natural disaster. This will be done as a contract laborer. This will not cost the county any money. Gogel made a motion to approve the **\$25,000.00**. Benton seconded the motion, motion approved.

Transfers

Coroner

Decrease Accounts: 1000-107-4222.00 **\$450.00**

Increase Account: 1000-107-4322.00 **\$450.00**

Coroner Gentry requests the money be transferred from body bags to travel. Gentry states she has a new deputy and will cost more for the travel. Ruxer made a motion to approve the transfer of **\$450.00**, Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved.

Community Corrections/GED Program

Decrease Accounts: 1122-001-4446.50 **\$567.00**

Increase Account: 1122-001-4210.50 **\$567.00**

Dick Hedrick with community corrections is requesting to transfer **\$567.00** from GED equipment to GED supplies. Benton made a motion to approve the transfer of **\$567.00**. Haaff seconded the motion, motion approved.

Auditor

Decrease Accounts: 1000-102-4321.00 **\$8091.21**

Increase Account: 1203-000-4010.00 **\$8091.21**

Ann Garrett represents the Auditors office regarding the monies requested. This request has been presented before in the spring. This is to pay SRI which is contracted to do the counties tax sale. This will bring the SRI account current. Knepper made a motion to approve the transfer of **\$8091.21**, Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

LEDC

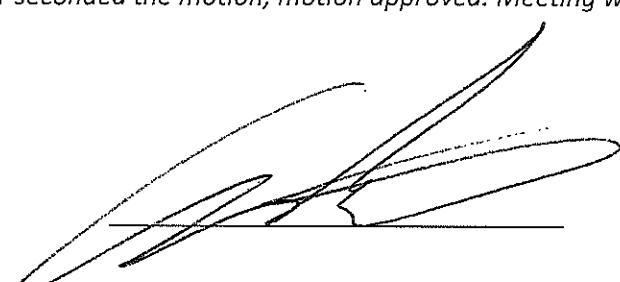
Ron Smith and Valerie Schmidt with LEDC came to request the amount of \$2000.00-\$2500.00 to help fund a housing study to be done in Spencer County. Smith states there needs to be affordable housing and housing for the elderly. Smith states this study would be done in order to help Spencer County grow. There was much discussion on whether the county needs the housing study and if the council will give the money requested. Bunner thanks Smith for bringing this in front of the council, but he thinks there are studies sometimes done that are not necessary. Bunner states it is obvious in Spencer County that there is a need for moderately priced homes. Gogel states there are seven incorporated communities in Spencer County. He believes people need to build inside those communities. Gogel believes we do not need to use agricultural land. Benton states there was a housing study completed in 2015. Bunner states he believes that LEDC could fund this because the county gives LEDC approximately \$140,000.00. Bunner thanked Schmidt for coming this evening.

Legal Report

Attorney Foster states he had been contacted by Umbal Baker and Tilley regarding Orion Solar. Orion is considering another solar facility in the county. They questioned abatements and how that would be handled. Bunner recommends to attorney Foster that if a company wants to add value to their company they can come to the Council and present an SBA1. The abatements need to be equal for all companies.

Ruxer made a motion to adjourn, Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:59 P.M.

President
Attest:



Heidi Greene
Auditor, Heidi Greene
1607

Matthew Myrick
St. 100
Daniel J. Dugan