

**County Council Meeting
February 21, 2017**

Present: Jack Kroeger, Blake Bunner, David Gogel, Matt Knepper, Todd Ruxer, Attorney Andrew Foster, Auditor Autumn Winkler
Absent: Aaron Benton, Steve Winsett

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

Minutes

Knepper made a motion to approve the minutes from January 17th with a correction of the wording under new business to state "pass through" instead of "pass thought". Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Additional Appropriations

Riverboat – Drainage Board

Drainage Plan - \$25,000.00

Bunner stated that Drainage Board President Logsdon came before the board at the last meeting and explained the need for the request. The Drainage Board has been requesting an additional at the beginning of each year for the drainage plan for many years. Most years they do not have to come back and request any additional funding. Ruxer made a motion to approve the \$25,000.00 additional appropriation for the drainage plan. Gogel seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Cum Cap – Commissioners

Computers - \$2,500.00

Commissioner Seiler explained that the board is requesting laptop computers for the 3 commissioners and Auditor Winkler. This would eliminate the Auditor's office sending hard copy packets to the board, all information would be emailed and they would bring their laptops to the meetings. Seiler stated that they receive an over abundance of papers each year and they don't have room to store everything. Ruxer asked if a laptop is the way to go or would a tablet or something be better and Brown stated that a laptop would be better for working on Microsoft programs and printing documents. Bunner stated that his concern is that this is a piece of equipment that will probably need upgraded every 4-5 years and will be an ongoing expense. Kroeger stated that he has a personal computer that he does all the county business and every other board and organizations business on at home. He cannot imagine having a laptop to use during a meeting instead of hard copies. Bunner stated that where he works has one laptop that employees can check out do presentations on and then return, but each person does not have their own. He also does work on a personal computer or uses his smart phone. Knepper stated that he has a computer that was given to him for one specific purpose and he's found that he does the work for that specific task on his other computer, because it's easier than getting the separate computer for one specific job. Seiler and Brown stated that many counties have switched over to using laptops and they feel it's time for us to do so also. The board recommended the commissioners use their own laptops to see if they like using them and if it's something they really feel they need they can come back and request again. Bunner stated that right now its \$2,500.00, but it will continue to increase with upgrades and we will never be able to get that spending under control again. Knepper made a motion to table the request of \$2,500.00 for computers. Kroeger seconded the motion, motion was approved.

LIT Economic Development – Highway

Paving Projects - \$2,000,000.00

Kenney came before the board requesting \$2,000,000.00 for the 2017 paving projects. LIT Economic Development is formerly known as CEDIT. Gogel asked about the CEDIT money in Rainy Day and the LOIT fund that is funding for roads and Auditor Winkler stated that she and Hwy. Administrator Mullen had discussed leaving that money alone until we know the specifics of the Community Crossing Grant and where our match will have to come from. We don't want to transfer the money out of the Rainy Day Fund when there is a possibility that our match could have to come from there. Kroeger asked why the report doesn't show the breakdown of what money is included in the Rainy Day fund balance and Auditor Winkler stated that the report only shows the overall fund balance not broke down by separate accounts. There are 25% of LOIT

funds that were not restricted in the Rainy Day fund, approximately \$500,000.00 in CEDIT money and the actual Rainy Day money all in the overall Rainy Day fund balance. Kroeger requested a report that shows the breakdown of the 3 sources of funding included in the Rainy Day fund for future meetings. Kroeger also requested a report that shows the LIT funding formerly known as COIT that now goes into County General be shown separate from the overall County General balance. Auditor Winkler will create the reports requested for the next meeting. Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$2,000,000.00 additional appropriation requested for paving projects from the LIT Economic Development fund. Gogel seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Cum Cap – Sheriff

Jail Repairs - \$40,000.00

Sheriff McDurmon came to request an additional appropriation for jail repairs due to the hot water heaters going out at the end of the year. We do not have enough money in the budget for 2017 to even pay the bill, so McDurmon has not turned in the bill yet waiting on this additional to be approved. Gogel asked if we are also addressing the water softener system, because the poor water quality is what is causing so many issues with the hot water heaters. McDurmon stated that he does not have a quote, but has been given a ballpark figure of \$20,000.00 to replace the water softener. McDurmon stated that the fire alarm system panel needs to be replaced and they are having numerous issues with the door locks also. It was an emergency job and we have to pay the bill. Ruxer made a motion to approve the \$40,000.00 additional appropriation for jail repairs. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

E911 – Dispatch

911 Maintenance - \$16,000.00

Communications Director Kati Richard came before the council to request funding for a contract with Affinity Communications for 24 hour 911 maintenance service. The contract amount is \$19,000.00 for unlimited 24 hour IT service for the dispatch center. Richard explained that this contract would save us a lot of money compared to them billing us their hourly rate. The employee that would be assigned as our IT person lives in Rockport a few minutes from the dispatch center and would be available to show up very quickly at anytime day or night. We are currently contracting a certain number of hours for a flat rate, which saves us some money. Ruxer asked approximately how many times in a month they have to call for IT work and Richard stated it just depends. When the server went down it was many hours of IT work. We do have a new server now and will hopefully not have problems, but if we do it must be fixed immediately. The emergency communication system cannot be down for any length of time. Bunner asked if we have ever incurred \$16,000.00 worth of bills for IT service, if not why would we lock something in if we've never paid that much. Richard will look at our previous invoices to see what we've been spending for IT services. Bunner asked if there is any other company available to provide these services and Richard stated with a 10 minute response time; No. Kroeger made a motion to table the \$16,000.00 request for additional. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved. Richard will do some research of our cost over the last 3 to 4 years and report back.

Annual Appropriations

Auditor's Ineligible Deductions	\$10,000.00
Misdemeanant Cell Phone	\$16,566.00
Firearms Training	\$21,397.00
LEPC	\$7,011.00
EMA Hazmat	\$776.00
EMA Search and Rescue	\$5,840.00
Co. Law Enforcement Continuing Education	\$1,119.00
Health Clinic	\$43,423.00
Clerk Perpetuation	\$18,549.00
Accident Report	\$15,364.00
Clerk IV-D	\$7,206.00
Sex & Violent Offender	\$1,417.00
Medical Care for Inmate	\$7,941.00
Prisoner Reimbursement	\$6,019.00
COIT – Santa Claus Water Project	\$100,000.00
COIT – Luce Township Sewer Project	\$150,000.00
Jury Pay	\$887.00
County IV-D	\$38,175.00
County User Fee	\$56,197.00
Emergency Preparedness Grant	\$2,737.00

Photo ID	\$40.00
Prosecutor IV-D	\$66,630.00
Cum Cap – Website Upgrades	\$5,181.00
Sheriff Sales	\$4,746.00
Drug Free Community	\$15,188.00
Ebola Grant	\$1,384.00

Kroeger stated that we need to look at some of these funds that carry an unused balance year after year and the possibility of utilizing them.

Kroeger made a motion to approve the annual appropriations as presented. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

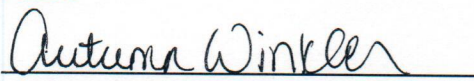
New Business

Hwy Superintendent Kenney stated that they have discussed hiring some equipment operators part time during the busy season. Kroeger asked if the commissioners are on board with this and Brown stated all 3 commissioners approve of this. Kenney stated they would be paid the same hourly rate as our full time equipment operators and work approximately 28 hours a week during paving season. Kroeger stated we could amend the salary ordinance to address the part time equipment operator's rate of pay. An amended salary ordinance will be presented at the next meeting.

Kroeger made a motion to adjourn. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 P.M.

President

Attest:


Auditor, Autumn Winkler

