

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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August 29, 2022

The Jefferson County Commissioners met in regular session on August 29, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Richard Malm, Lynn Luck and David Christy. Linda Buttron, County Clerk and Josh Ney were also present.

Vouchers were reviewed and approved by the Counselor and the Board. David moved that the minutes of August 22 be approved as presented. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Treasurer Lisa Buerman met with the Board. Lisa presented sealed bids for County lots. Donald Hendrix, Jr. bid \$329 on Lot 534, Lakewood Hills. He also bid \$329 on Lot 535, Lakewood Hills. Richard moved that the bids be accepted as presented. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Christine Vasquez and Cesar Vasques bid \$500 on Lot 11 Block N Lake Ridge Estates. Lynn moved that the Board accept the bid as presented. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Health Department Administrator Crystal Vanhoutan met with the Board. Crystal asked the Board to approve Amendment #3 to the loan agreement with KDHE regarding Jefferson County Sewer District #5. The loan agreement includes a modification to the estimated principal forgiveness for the project. David moved that the amendment be signed. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Crystal gave a COVID update. To date there have been 5,273 reported cases of COVID in the County. There have been 68 deaths. In the last 10 day report there have been 24 new cases. Crystal asked the Commissioners for approval of the 2023 Wellness Program for employees. She is asking that the points remain the same for the program. Lynn moved that the program be approved as presented. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Emergency Services Director James Tweed met with the Board. James reported that crews are ready for the bike rally to be held in the County this weekend. He also discussed quotes for flooring in the Meriden Ambulance Station with the

Board. Murray's Flooring (Meriden) and Midwest Flooring (Perry) offered quotes. Midwest Flooring had the low quote at \$7,095. Murray's quote was \$9,966.26. David moved that the quote of Midwest Flooring be accepted. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Community Development Director Dustin Parks met with the Board. Dustin reminded the Board that he will be attending a flood conference later this week. He also discussed upcoming Planning Commission cases and meetings .

Chief Information Officer Chris Schmeissner met with the Board. Chris reported that the County's Parcel Locator Map has been rewritten and will be demonstrated to the Board at next week's meeting. He also let the Board know that the 2022 aerial photography will be delivered later this week. The department will also begin work on a website redesign with Civic Plus.

Richard moved that the Board nominate Linda Buttron as a trustee for the KWOC (Worker's Compensation Pool) Board. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Public Works Director Ben Domann met with the Board. Ben reported that the courthouse roof replacement has been completed. He also reported that chip and seal crews are down to the last six miles to complete the 2022 projects. Other projects were discussed. Ben is working on an application for an "off bridge" grant.

Mary Luse, McLouth asked the Board to look into getting more money for the County from the Corp of Engineers for the ground taken when Perry Lake was put in.

At 1:30 p.m. Richard moved that the Board open Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) hearing for the County. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Approximately 30 people were present for the hearing. Richard asked for public comment. Comment was heard from many of those in attendance. An email communication was also received from a taxpayer. Speakers asked questions and expressed concern about the increase in property valuations and the proposed increase in property taxes. Appraiser Janet Allen explained why the valuations have increased so much this year. The Commissioners noted the high cost of fuel, rock, asphalt and health insurance as contributing factors for the tax increase.

After all public comment was heard, Richard moved that Resolution 2022-017 be approved regarding exceeding the revenue neutral rate for the 2023 budget. David seconded. Richard voted in favor of the motion. David voted in favor of the motion. Lynn voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Richard moved that the RNR hearing be closed. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

After the RNR Hearing, the regular budget hearing was opened. Richard asked for public comment. No comment was heard. Richard moved that the Board adopt the 2023 budget as published. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

There being no further business to come before the Board they adjourned to meet in regular session on Tuesday September 6th. (Monday September 5 is a holiday.)