

**MINUTES
JOINT FOUNTAIN COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS & COUNCIL
MAY 19, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting:
Aaron Fruits, KW Rice, and Tim Shumaker.

The following Fountain County Council members were present at the meeting: Kelly Carlson, Denise Crowder, Jim McKee, Jeff Fishero, and Jeff Carver. Todd Hegg was absent.

Call meeting to Order:

Fountain County Commissioners – Aaron Fruits
Fountain County Council – Kelly Carlson

Judge Campbell- Tradecraft Specialty Contractor, LLC

A quote was made by Tradecraft Specialty Contractor, LLC to do work in the Court Records Office, Juror's Room and Bailiff's Office for \$26,750.00.

A motion was made by KW Rice and seconded by Tim Shumaker to acknowledge the quote from Tradecraft.

Vote: 3-0

A motion was made by Dudley Cruea and seconded by Denise Crowder to pay out of the Council's building repair budget.

Vote: 6-0

Contract for Michelle C. Harter

Several members of the Council had questions. Jim McKee felt like there was not enough information on her background and qualifications. Also, she said she had no experience with zoning. Kelly Carlson had given Jon Schrock some names from local attorneys. Jon had talked to a few other attorneys, but no one showed interest. Michelle is from Greenwood so there would be quite a bit of travel time. Aaron Fruits said he had no concerns with her as the attorney.

A motion was made by KW Rice and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve Michelle C. Harter as the attorney for the APC and BZA.

Vote: 2-1

911 Floater Position

Dana Stonebraker has been asking about a floater position for 911. She does have someone who would be able to start right away. This employee would not receive benefits or overtime.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by KW Rice to approve the floater position for 911.

Vote: 3-0

Floodplain Administrator

Roger Azar received an email stating Tina Holmes had contacted DNR stating she is no longer the floodplain administrator. Roger was unaware of the change, but willing to take this position. The Commissioners stated they would like to discuss with Tina. She will remain the floodplain administrator until further discussion.

Health Dept Building Agreement

Ethan Myers stated he has negotiated the interest rate down to 8% with \$35,000 down. This includes ½ acre along with the building. Ethan said the

seller would fix everything on the inspection before the county takes possession. Ethan would like a public hearing on June 2nd before signing the contract. Dudley Cruea stated he would like to hear the public's opinion on this purchase. The goal is to have the purchase done by July 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Brewer discussed SB425. He also contacted the author to get clarification. He stated that local authority would not be able to extend the moratorium more than 1 year. Tim Shumaker stated they needed to contact an attorney to see if this was retroactive or would begin on July 1st. Dudley stated in the meeting some Council members attended, they were informed that the county would be grandfathered in.

Bill also stated that County does not care about land owners rights. He stated he has talked to Ranger power and was informed that the assessment has already went up.

Sue Anderson stated she is unable to find minutes or agendas on the website. She also wondered if a copy of the contract would be available on the website. Ethan Myers stated this would be available in his office.

Jason Semler is still working on getting copies of the bonds for the council to review.

Jeff Fishero said SB1 is going to be a radical change for property taxes and LIT. Tim said this would be a good reason to have the Solar Farm money.

**THE NEXT FOUNTAIN COUNTY COUNCIL
MEETING WILL BE
MONDAY, June 09, 2025
AT 9:00 A.M.**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by KW Rice to close the meeting for the Commissioners.

Vote: 3-0

A motion was made by Denise Crowder and seconded by Dudley Cruea to close the meeting for the Council.

Vote: 6-0


ATTEST







