

**MINUTES**  
**FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**MARCH 4, 2024**  
**9:00 A.M.**

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting: Brenda Hardy and Tim Shumaker. Andrew Hall was absent.

**Public Comment**

Carol Owens thanked the Highway Department for patching the potholes. She also asked if the proposed solar projects could be put on to the Beacon system. Kent Minnette stated that they could not be as they were private agreements between the land owner and the company. It would also not warrant the cost of an extra layer to the system.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the minutes of the Commissioner's meeting of February 20, 2024 as presented. Vote: 2-0

**CLAIMS 1-124 (\$389,498.97), Unpublished Claims and Payroll Claims**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve all claims. Vote: 2-0

**ADDITIONAL REQUEST**

**Co General-Jail**

1000-0380-10102	Matron	\$6,792.96
1000-0380-10107	Deputy Matron	\$2,024.60
1000-0380-10506	Jail Commander/Deputy 5	\$5,287.96

**Co General Circuit Court**

1000-0232-10801	Courthouse Safety Officer	\$10,788.34
-----------------	---------------------------	-------------

**LIT- Public Safety**

1170-0005-10100	Sheriff	\$11,306.26
1170-0005-10201	Chief Deputy	\$8,396.06
1170-0005-10302	Deputy Sgt/Detective	\$7,729.54
1170-0005-10404	SRO/Deputy 2	\$7,328.46
1170-0005-10501	Deputy 3	\$7,328.46
1170-0005-10601	Deputy 4	\$6,981.08
1170-0005-10800	Deputy 6	\$5,288.40
1170-0005-10802	Deputy 7	\$3,595.50
1170-0005-10901	Deputy 8	\$5,922.46
1170-0005-10902	Deputy 9	\$4,229.78
1170-0005-10903	Deputy 10	\$6,346.14
1170-0005-10152	Sheriff Incentive Pay	\$4,000.00

**2024 Comm Corr – Prob Grant**

9110-0000-10505	3 <sup>rd</sup> Probation Officer	\$5,786.00
9110-0000-1000	Social Security	\$ 446.00

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the additional request and send it on to the Council for approval. The Commissioner also stated that the Council approved the increase to deter employees to working for surrounding counties that were paying more. Vote: 2-0

**TRANSFER**

From:	1159-0000-33603	Housekeeping	
To:	1159-000-33490	Liability Insurance	\$210.00

The Health Dept is requesting this transfer due to the increase in their liability insurance for 2024.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the transfer and send it onto the Council for approval.

Vote: 2-0

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS****Ambulance – Garth Kagels**

Garth informed the Commissioners that the chassis for the new ambulances have been delivered. The 4<sup>th</sup> ambulance is up and running. He was able to hire some new employees to fill some of the vacant positions.

**Custodian – Rick Beck**

Rick updated the Commissioners on the E-911 bathroom. He stated that the bathroom toilet was replaced in the E-911 bathroom on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Since that time, it has started to leak causing some damage. Slider came into look at it and remove some of the wall. However, they will need to check for asbestos and have it removed.

**Sheriff – Terry Holt**

He currently has 70 inmates. There are 59 males and 11 females. Twelve are Department of Correction holds, 2 parole and 19 from Sullivan County.

**County Highway – Jason Lewis (via zoom)**

Jason stated he has three positions open. He will be conducting interviews this week. He and Travis will be going to road school next week. He had planned to do approximately 60 miles of paving this year but will cut it down to 40 miles due to the lack of employees and the availability of aggregate.

**ENVOY – Agreement for Professional Services**

The Commissioners have reviewed the agreement from Envoy. They have a few questions on the cost estimate for some of the proposed costs. The County has already had some of the work completed.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to accept the agreement and take it under advisement. The County attorney and Roger Azar will also review the agreement.

Vote: 2-0

**Architura – Michael Conly**

Michael Conly stated that he and his company had did a thorough investigation of the Courthouse for the Master Plan. Some of the issues is dangerous asbestos, accessibility and air quality. His advice would be to relocate the Courthouse employees during the renovation. It is not going to be an overnight fix as there a lot of issues. He has worked for the federal government for 15 years on projects and is very knowledgeable on historical buildings such as the Courthouse. He is currently working with Vermillion County. He has also worked with Posey & Hamilton Counties.

Tim Shumaker went on public records that they have the best interest of the County in mind. It is not always are not always easy or poplar with the residents especially when taxes may have to be increased. He also stated that the Highway garage needed replaced and is a part of the projects. It is in horrible shape.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY,  
MARCH 18, 2024  
AT 9:00 A.M.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to  
close the meeting. Vote: 2-0

Brenda Hardy

Tim Shumaker

Cassie Chambers

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_