

**FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**MAY 19, 2008**  
**6:30 P.M.**

The Fountain County Commissioners met on May 19, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse with the following members present: Janet Shoaf, Lowell Osborn and Terry Ellingwood. The meeting was a joint meeting with the Council: The following councilmen were present: Ron Howard, James Robinson, Jim Hershberger, Dale Clawson, Tom Freas, Norman Martin and Richard Klage.

The minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting was approved as read.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Janet Shoaf and seconded by Lowell Osborn to approve the claims 1 – 139. Vote: 3-0

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

The Commissioners reviewed the monthly report from the Treasurer for April 2008.

**HEALTH DEPT/T FOUST**

Ron Howard stated that he had been contacted by Tom Hetrick and a councilman from Warren County regarding the repairs that Terry Foust was hired to do on the Health Department building. Mr. Foust has still not finished the work a year and a half later. Warren County is asking the Commissioners for their approval to pursue Mr. Foust to provide a timeline for the repairs to be completed.

Janet Shoaf made a motion to give Warren County the approval to contact Mr. Foust to finish the repairs with a timeline. Lowell Osborn seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

**JAIL**

Ron Howard stated that the council wants to do everything they can do to keep the Department of Corrections from shutting down the Jail. The Council would like to form a committee of Janet Shoaf, Ron Howard, Jim Robinson and Sheriff Bass. This Committee would go to Commissioner Donahue to seek approval for an extension of time to repair the jail. Ron Howard stated that there is no guarantee it will be granted. Janet Shoaf is all for this proposal if we show a good faith effort by getting the repairs started.

The Commissioners disagreed as to the priority of the repairs and if they should replace the ductwork or repair the roof.

Ron Howard stated the repairs could cost approximately 1 million dollars. He asked if the Commissioners were planning on paying for the repairs from the County General fund. Mr. Howard suggested using the Cumulative Capital Development fund. This fund generates approximately \$140,000.00 per year. It would not be an increase to the taxpayers if financed over a 10 year period. The Council needs time to get financing. Ron Howard also stated that the Council was concerned about the ductwork.

Janet Shoaf made motion to come up with a plan to bring to the Council at their next meeting. Lowell Osborn seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

The Commissioners will meet on Friday, May 23, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. to come up with a plan. The Auditor will not be in attendance. Janet Shoaf stated that she could take the minutes.

## **E-911**

Janet Shoaf made a motion and was seconded by Lowell Osborn to approve the additional in the E-911 budget in the amount of \$12,072.00 for office equipment (1156-0000-04-441.010)

Vote: 3-0

## **INSURANCE CONSULTANT**

A motion was made by Janet Shoaf and seconded by Lowell Osborn to retain Pete Franzman as the insurance consultant for the remainder of 2008.

Vote: 3-0

## **HENRIOTT INSURANCE**

Randy Bailey of Henriott Insurance would like a chance to bid on our Health Insurance for 2009. His company is based in Lafayette specializing in government and municipalities. Units of government form a trust to save dollars on health insurance benefits. Janet Shoaf stated that they will be sending out requests in the fall if they should decide to seek bids/proposals for health insurance in 2009.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Terry Ellingwood signed the letter for the transfer of ownership on the five reader boards from Parke County as this was approved at the April 7, 2008 meeting.

## **DEPOSITORY**

The decision to choose a depository was tabled until Friday, May 23, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. so the Treasurer, Susan Coffing, could be in attendance. Janet Shoaf will call all parties who submitted proposals so they also could attend the meeting.

## **GENE ALDRIDGE**

Gene Aldridge asked if the jail repairs had been prioritized. He stated if his bid was accepted he could start on the roof repair immediately.

## **WILLIAM APPEGATE**

William Applegate stated that it looked like to him the County had three options: 1): fix the jail; 2) Build a new jail elsewhere; or 3) decriminalize activity so we don't have criminals.

## **COUNTY HIGHWAY**

Walt Wilson stated that there are serious problems with Bridge #104. The State has also acknowledged some responsibility for the damage. Walt would like to replace the bridge with a truss bridge. An engineer has been out to look at the bridge. Walt also updated the Commissioners on Bridge #5.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M.**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
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