

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and County Clerk present. Ulysses News Reporter, Tammie Hensley was in attendance. Commissioner McGaughey led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Stewart provided prayer.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator; James Biddle, Sheriff; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager; and John Crosby, Fire Chief.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, requested consideration for ARPA funding for 23 sets of bunker gear, boots, and gloves at a cost of \$88,550.00; extractor for washing bunker gear at a cost of \$7,268.00; dryer rack for bunker gear at a cost of \$5,000.00; 16 air packs at a cost of \$128,988.00; total needs \$229,806.00. Kevin Shapland made motion to approve bunker gear, extractor, dryer rack, and air packs at a cost not to exceed \$229,806.00 with \$224,317.00 coming from ARPA funding and \$5,489.00 coming from the Fire Equipment fund. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, requested new Fair displays to replace current wooden coffin displays. Janet Stewart motioned to allocate \$6,000.00 for supplies to build new wooden coffin displays, and for this expense to come from the Special Equipment fund. Kevin Shapland seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Kelly Premer Chavez, County Attorney, met with commissioners. Ms. Premer Chavez requested an executive session. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes with the County Attorney and Fire Chief to discuss employee matters under the justification of consultation with the governing body's attorney which is deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 5 minutes the Fire Chief left the meeting, no action was taken. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess back into executive session for 5 minutes with the County Attorney to discuss employee matters under the justification of consultation with the governing body's attorney which is deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 5 minutes the meeting resumed in open session with no action taken. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess back into executive session for 5 minutes with the County Attorney to discuss employee matters under the justification of consultation with the governing body's attorney which is deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 5 minutes the meeting resumed in open session, Commissioner McGaughey recused himself from the meeting. Marisa Koehn, citizen, met with commissioners. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess back into executive session for 5 minutes with the County Attorney and Marisa Koehn to discuss employee matters under the justification of consultation with the governing body's attorney which is deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 5 minutes Marisa Koehn left the meeting and the meeting resumed in open session with no action taken.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess into executive session for 20 minutes with the County Attorney to discuss contractual matters under the justification of consultation with the governing body's attorney which is deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 10 minutes the County Clerk was asked to join the executive session. After 20 minutes the meeting resumed in open session with no action taken.

Kevin Shapland motioned to approve the wage increases as recommended by the Sheriff for a jailer and road deputy. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Kevin Shapland motioned to approve minutes for April 19, 2022, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County, excluding the voucher for dues to Rotary Club: payroll total \$145,865.83 dated April 20, 2022, and voucher numbers ending 166871 totaling \$447,228.13. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, met to request her wage increase be considered. After discussion, Ms. Trotman questioned why her wage could not be raised to at least what her predecessor was making when she left office. Commissioners tabled discussion of salary increases until after reviewing the 2022 county valuation and department budget requests.

Road crossing permits were presented, after review were approved.

The clerk presented a letter from New York Life relaying Garrett Harper was no longer affiliated with their company. Discussion was held on the New York Life 457 deferred compensation retirement plan the county offered through Mr. Harper. It was the consensus of commissioners to continue the retirement option changing the carrier from New York Life to Security Benefit, and to retain Garrett Harper as broker.

Commissioners adjourned at 11:35 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Mark McGaughey, Chairman