**Alexander County Board of Commissioners Minutes**

**2000 Washington Avenue**

**Cairo, IL 62914**

Chairman: Joe Griggs Vice Chairman: Bruce Sims

Commissioner: L. “Steve” Essex

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**January 16th, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Griggs @ 2:00 p.m.

**Roll Call of Board Members:**

* Joe E. Griggs: Present
* Bruce Sims: Absent
* L. Steve Essex: Present

Mr. Essex made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of the January 2, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Heather Rose with Southern Five appeared before the board to get approval on payment #7 and reimbursements for the ambulance base grant project. The payments were for Susan Bigham-$1,219.66 (reimbursement), RSP Heating and Cooling-$69,308.57, County of Alexander-Highway Dept.-$1,689.00 (reimbursement) and Wissinger Construction-$10,955.05. Mr. Essex made motion to approve payment #7 along with reimbursements and Mr. Griggs second the approval. Motion passed by vote.

The Central Alexander County Public Water District mailed a letter to the County Board regarding expired terms on their board. The board would like for CAPWD board member Chalen Tatum to be contacted to ask recommended appointees to possibly come to the board meeting. The appointments were tabled.

The Alexander County Building Commission wanted to discuss with the board their responsibilities and roles. They also had questions and concerns pertaining to the contract the County has with SmartWatt.

Nathan Bullard presented the board with a Road Use Agreement between Alexander County and Alexander Sun LLC for the purpose of a solar farm located on Schlamer Road. Motion to approve the Road Use Agreement was made by Mr. Essex and second by Mr. Griggs. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex motion to approve the agreement with IDOT to cover the County Engineer salary and second was made by Mr. Griggs. Motion passed by vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Essex to approve Resolution No. 01-16-2024 for the salary of the County Engineer for the period of January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024 and Mr. Griggs second the approval. Motion passed by vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Essex to approve Resolution No. 01-16-2024A for County Highway Expenditures regarding Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of $203,388.00 and second by Mr. Griggs. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex motion to approve Resolution 01-16-2024B for County Unit Road District expenditures regarding Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway code in the amount of $761,980.00 and second by Mr. Griggs. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex motion to approve an agreement for Local Public Agency Services for $42,819.00 on McDaniel School Road with Hutchinson Engineering and Mr. Griggs second the motion. Motion passed by vote.

**Old Business:**

Susan Bigham, Ambulance Director, addressed the board with several employees from her department regarding pay raises for the EMT’s. The board could not allow any raises at this time due to financial reasons but would look into it in the future.

Chalen Tatum sent the board a letter stating his resignation from the Cairo Mosquito Authority Board.

**Claims:**

Mr. Essex motion to approve claims from January 2, 2024 to January 16, 2024 and Mr. Griggs second the motion. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay EMA claims. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay Ambulance Department claims. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay Highway Department claims. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion and Mr. Sims second the approval to pay Alexander County Payroll. Motion passed by vote.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Essex made motion and Mr. Griggs second the motion to adjourn at 4:17 p.m. Motion passed by vote.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tara Harris, Chief Deputy County Clerk