**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**

**November 7th, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Griggs @ 10:00 a.m.

**Roll Call of Board Members:**

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

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval of the October 24th, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval of Trustee Deed Resolution 10-23-001. Motion passed by vote.

Tom Cummings with Robertson Ryan & Associates presented the board with the 2024 IPRF Workers Compensation Insurance proposal of $192,734. The board agreed this proposal was good.

Bob Glonek with Robertson Ryan & Associates gave a brief history on the county’s risk management insurance. Mr. Glonek explained that he was the broker for the county’s risk management insurance, and then the county switched to ICRMT through Snedeker Risk Management. Mr. Glonek stated that last year the county tried to switch back to Robertson Ryan, but there is an agreement in the Snedeker Risk Management contract that we cannot just switch carriers whenever we like, and the county has to provide SRM with a 90 days’ notice that they are just looking. Mr. Glonek has asked the board that in 2024, they provide that 90 days’ notice to SRM just for Mr. Glonek to search for other insurance carries for the county. The board was okay with this, and asked Mr. Glonek to reach out in 2024.

Heather Rose with Southern Five came before the board to discuss the Ambulance base grant, and change orders. Ms. Rose stated that pay estimate #5 to Wissinger Construction was $33,338.14, and that Highway Engineer Nate Bullard has approved of the work done for this estimate.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval of pay estimate #5 to Wissinger Construction for $33,338.14. Motion passed by vote.

Ms. Rose explained that the Highway Department paid for kitchen counter tops, and cabinets for the Ambulance base grant project, in the amount of $7,032.07. Ms. Rose explained that they needed approval for a check to reimburse the Highway Department for this expense.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval of the reimbursing the Highway Department $7,032.07 for kitchen counter tops, and cabinets for the Ambulance base project. Motion passed by vote.

Ms. Rose explained that she has four change orders for the board to approve for the Ambulance base grant, and three Mr. Bullard had approved, and one was for the board to approve.

The three that Mr. Bullard gave his approval on was $1,260 for a replacement wall, $360 for raising the AC condenser, and $2,424 for replacement of old sewer lines. Total amount of $4,044.

The board approved these three change orders.

Ms. Rose brought up the last change order that Mr. Bullard would not approve and stated it should be taken to the board. Ms. Rose explained that in the original bid there was no listing of a Letter of Credit for the project, which should have been in all biding projects. Mr. Wissinger brought it up and was asking for that reimbursement, since it wasn’t in the bidding. The board stated that Mr. Wissinger being a experienced contractor should have known he would need that, and they denied the change of order for the Letter of Credit for Wissinger Construction in the amount of $2,591.72.

Miteshkumar Patel submitted a liquor license application for the Fill-Up-mart in Olive Branch. Dorris Hodges came to the board meeting to talk on behalf of Mr. Patel. Ms. Hodges explained that she is selling the property to Mr. Patel, but needs his approval for liquor license from the county to do so, and Mr. Patel needs to get the county liquor license submitted to the state before the end of month to get approved for the insurance, bonding, and state liquor license. Ms. Hodges explained that Mr. Patel is not changing the cooperation, it will stay as the Fill-Up-Mart cooperation, and that the owner is basically changing, Mr. Patel is going to serve food, and get the gas pumps up and running again, which is something she could not afford.

County Clerk Price presented the board with the ARPA agreement he drew up between his office and the board, for him to borrow $27,376 from ARPA to pay for his part of the parking lot being paved.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval of the ARPA agreement between the County Clerks office, and the County Board to borrow $27,376 from ARPA.

Judge Farris stepped in to present the board with a Joint Resolution of Alexnader County and Pulaski County Illinois, for the new full-time Public Defender they will be sharing. Judge Farris stated that he doesn’t need anything approved today, but wanted to give it to them to review. The board thanked him, and asked for it to be on the agenda for the next meeting on 11/20.

Treasurer Watkins presented the board with the Treasurers Report. Mrs. Watkins stated that her 1st distribution was coming up and it is $4.6 million this year.

The board asked how payroll was going to get paid this week since General Fund had $40,092.56 in it right now. Mrs. Watkins explained that there will be another $120,000 of income from that state, and forestry that day or the next day.

The board called a special board meeting to discuss the 1st draft of the 2023-2024 budget.

**Claims:**

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval to pay claims between October 24th – November 7th, 2023. Motion passed by vote.

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

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

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims 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. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by vote. Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zachary C. Price, County Clerk