**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**

**February 13th, 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: Present
* L. Steve Essex: Present

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Essex second the approval of the January 30th, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Griggs re-appointed David Bell to the Alexander County Airport Authority board, with term limits being February 8, 2024 – February 8, 2029.

Tiffany George of Southern Five came to the board to advise them on how they could use ARPA funds to donate to businesses in the county. Ms. George stated there are two different ways they could go upon donating, based on how see has seen other communities donate. One option she mentioned was just a regular donation to the entity asking. Ms. George stated that with this that the word would get out and many other businesses might come asking for various amounts of money. The second option was for the board to setup a program where businesses fill out an application to apply for the donation. But the board will have to set policies on what businesses can apply. Ms. George explained that the board will have to decided if a one-man business qualifies, or if they set a policy stating a business has to have a set number of employees to apply.

Members of the Rise Community Market asked how much did the county receive from ARPA, the board answered 1.1 million. Member then asked why is a $25,000 donation to them so hard to get done. The board answered that the county received 1.1 million, but to keep the county running, and paying the bills they have had to use ARPA funds to replenish General Fund, and its down to $378,000, so $25,000 is a bigger number now.

The board tabled this topic until the March 12, 2024 meeting.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval of the reappointments of Jeffery Robinson, James Haney, and John A. Clarke to the Alexander County Board of Review. Motion passed by vote.

The board tabled the Mayer Network proposal, and asked Mr. Price if he could ask Mr. Mayer to come to the February 27, 2024 meeting.

**Claims:**

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval to pay claims between January 30th, 2024 – February 13th, 2024. 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. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by vote. Meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zachary C. Price, County Clerk